

# SOTA *Speak*

School of the Air Newsletter



September 2023 Term 3

## Message from the Head of Campus



As we head towards the end of term 3, we are grateful for a positive term of learning together.

We are pleased to report the encouraging results of the mandated Phonics Screening Check on year 1 students. Their result is a testament to the dedication of our teachers and the hard work of our students and supervisors. Phonics is the foundation of strong reading skills, and we are pleased to see our students making steady strides in this important area of literacy.

At SOTA, most, if not all achievements are the result of a collective effort by students, supervisors, parents and teachers. When we work together, we gain momentum in making a positive impact on student learning and wellbeing.

Our capacity to work together is a critical strength in enabling us to nurture and develop our children with the knowledge, skills and capabilities they need for high school and more importantly, to create a fulfilling life of their choosing. This strength will serve us well in working towards the four foci areas: wellbeing, equity and excellence, learner agency and effective learners identified in the new strategy for public education in South Australia.

We look forward to seeing everyone in week 10 for Mini-School. We expect a fun week of learning and activities including art workshop with Adnyamathanha and Luritja artist Juanella Mckenzie, a visit to Ramsay Retirement Village for the upper primary students, whole-of-school workshare and after-school circus activities provided by Lolly Jar Circus.

We invite you to join us and make this event a memorable experience for everyone. Keep an eye out for more details and updates in the coming weeks.

Thank you for being an integral part of the SOTA community. Your involvement and support play a crucial role in sustaining a positive school culture. We look forward to seeing you in Port Augusta.

Best wishes  
Lai Kuan Lim



## EVENTS

Mini Schools: 25 - 29 September

End of Term 3: 29 September

Premier's Be Active Challenge ends:  
29 September

Public Holiday: 2 October

Start of Term 4: 16 October

World Teacher's Day: 27 October

Get Together: 8 - 9 December

## OPFA and SOTA CGC

### Outback Parents and Friends Association (OPFA)

An opportunity for the parents, supervisors and staff of students enrolled with the Port Augusta School of the Air (SOTA) to discuss any aspects associated with the school.

### SOTA Committee of Governing Council (CGC)

The SOTA CGC discuss governance issues that require further discussion from OPFA meetings.

### OPFA/CGC upcoming meeting dates

All meetings at 3:30pm

CGC: Week 8 (T3) Wednesday 13 September  
(post-poned)

OPFA: Week 3 (T4) Wednesday 1 November

## STUDENT COUNCIL

### JOKES

- What do you call a pig that does karate?  
A pork chop.
- What starts with E, ends with E, and has only 1 letter in it?  
An Envelope.
- What type of candy is always late?  
A chocolate.
- Roses are red, violets are blue. I can row a rowboat.  
Canoe? (can you)

### Quote of the day!

If you can dream it, you can do it - Walt Disney

### Funny poem!

I eat my peas with honey, I've done it all my life.  
It makes the peas taste funny, but it keeps them on the knife!

### Craft idea for the weekend

Make some flowers out of hands or paint some rocks for the garden!





## LIBRARY NEWS

### Overdue Readers

Please return readers to the library (and any other items you are not using) as there are some levels in which we are short (we are very low with pm level 28-30). We need them for other Students.

**If you have readers that are overdue from SOTA - please return to SOTA.**

### RED BAGS - SOTA has only 1 large red bag - please bring all excess red bags to Mini-School

Well term 3 is full of action in the library where the biggest event of the library – BOOKWEEK – is held. The theme this year is: *Read, Grow, Inspire*. Bookweek is a great opportunity to expose students to a variety of new material written by Australian authors. So many great books this year, it was hard to choose a favourite! This year, we hosted an author visit from Tristan Bancks which the students thoroughly enjoyed. He really captivated the students (particularly the boys) with his stories. This week we are treated to our term 3 visit from Amy Adeney who will be sharing with students about her journey from starting writing to the publication. SOTA students are so lucky to have first-hand experiences with these authors. Our hope is that they are inspired by their stories and experiences.

This year, the dress up day was a highlight, with both staff and families getting in on the act. We hope you enjoy the photos...

Congratulations to:

Stella – best themed

Williams Family – best themed family

Nelson – Most imaginative

Emmett – Original design

Annastasia – Highly Commended (pet award)

Eli R. – Highly Commended (most photogenic)

Eli C.– Encouragement award

At the time of writing this, we are judging the Bookweek competitions – Author of the Year, Illustrator of the Year and Creator of the Year. The entries are of a very high quality, and it is going to be hard to decide. We look forward to showcasing the talent amongst our students. For winners, watch this space.

Enjoy the sunshine -spring is in the air!

From your fabulous library team

Zoe Elliott

Library Manager



# LIBRARY NEWS

SOTA Staff  
22 responses



- Winnie the Pooh
- Brown Bear
- Mrs Fizzle
- Herrione Granger
- Argh a Pirate
- Christopher Robin
- Piglet

## 3rd



## 2nd



## Winnie the Pooh



### Teacher - Best Costume

### WINNER: Miss Emma

# Family Theme Award



The Williams Family





## LIBRARY NEWS

Thanks for celebrating with us...





## Term 3 Week 4

### Miss Emma:

Roy for his fantastic effort in follow up tasks and for being a welcoming host to Miss Megan.

### Miss Jo & Ms Kiah:

Honey-May for using her creative superpowers in Media Arts to create thoughtful and funny photo stories that she is always willing to share with her peers.

### Miss Morley:

Bonnie has been awarded this certificate for putting in an outstanding effort this term and being dedicated in her learning.

### Miss Kaur:

Cody for actively engaging in his learning and always taking the initiative to share amazing ideas during class discussions.

### Ms Mel:

Abby for her outstanding effort demonstrated in her Science Assignment!

## Term 3 Week 6

### Miss Emma:

Eli for his amazing work in his English follow up task writing facts about sugar gliders.

### Miss Jo & Ms Kiah:

Alex for creating a thoughtful, detailed and entertaining photo story in Media Arts.

### Miss Morley:

Annastasia for using feedback and working hard to create an extensive and creative persuasive text in this week's Big Write!

### Miss Kaur:

Lily for doing her best persuasive writing by using lots of connectives and topic-specific vocabulary.

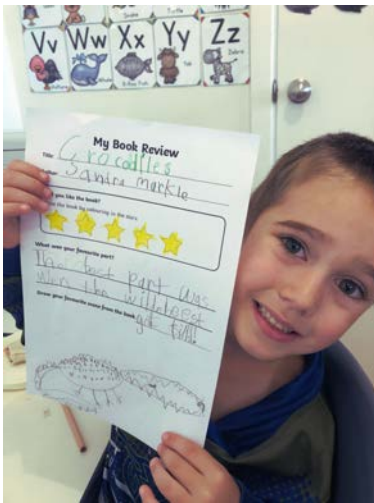
### Ms Mel:

Ryder for his excellent work ethic and diligence in completing tasks, particularly with Miss Megan during her visit.

# Miss Megan's Home Visits

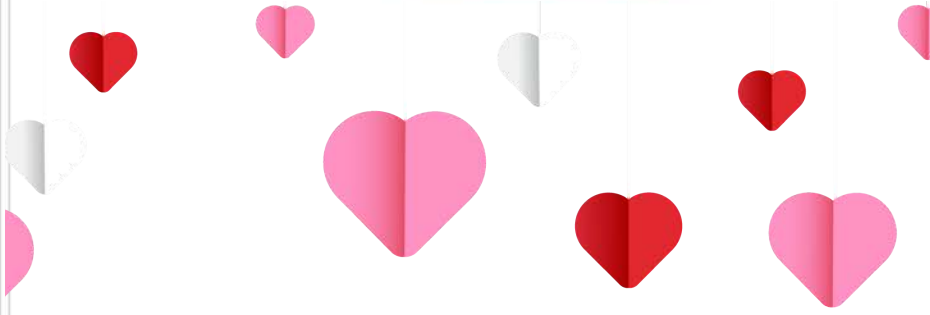


Term 3 has taken me on many rewarding visits to stations where the grass is really green and all of our students are busy with their learning. The animals are fat and healthy and the students' brains are full of ideas, information, imagination and pathways forward! We had so much fun both in the the school rooms and after hours with activities like cooking, playing games, sport and exploring the environment. It was a special treat to share the visit to The Twins with Miss Morley. The boys loved having her there.









On Thursday of Week 6, Nilpinna and The Peake Stations met up in Oodnadatta at the Pink Roadhouse to join in a special event hosted by the RFDS.

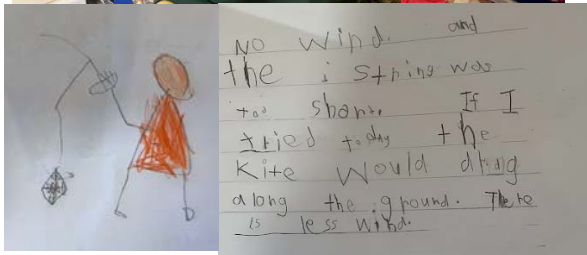
The evening was organised to celebrate Women's Health Week and the RFDS crew, shared some important messages about health. It was a great night.



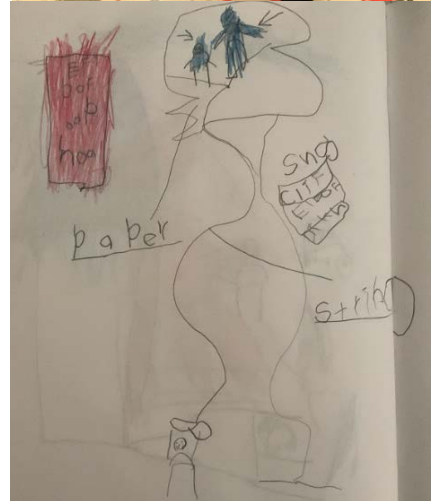
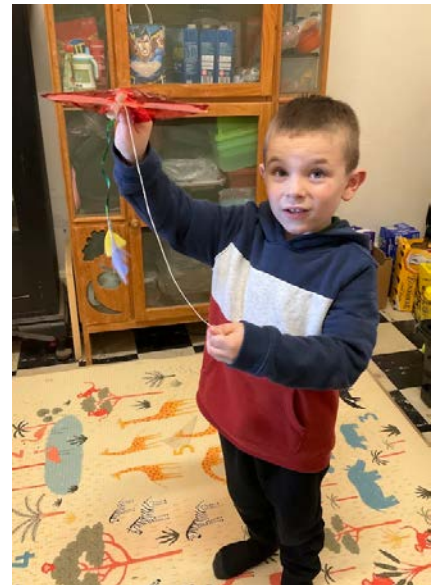
# Miss Emma - Reception

This term in Design and Technologies our students have been learning about the design process. They have been able to plan, build, modify and reflect on designs for kites. It has been fantastic to see the amazing kites they have created.

## ROY



## ELI



## EDWARD



# EMMETT

# BEAU



**DESIGN PROCESS**

Draw a picture of your final test flight

How do you feel about your design?

☹️ ☹️ 😊 😊 😊

Did your design work?  Yes / No (Circle)

Why/Why not?  
 Twin tails are good  
 they catch the wind

How could you improve your design for next time?  
 I will cross a very long string



How did you feel the kite flying experience? To draw the kite and the kite bag

wool kite

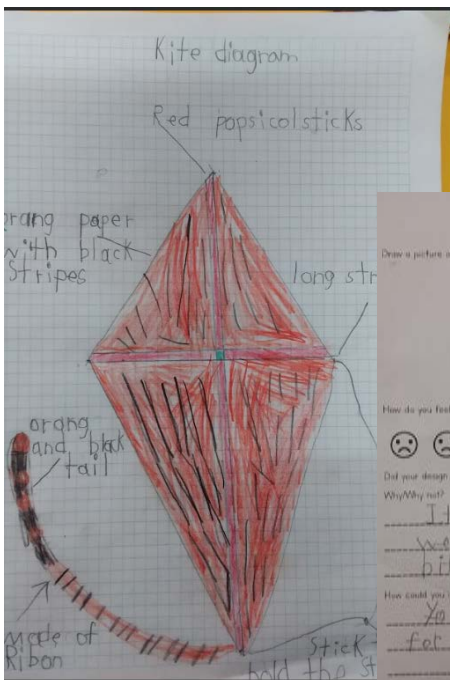
kite bag

wool

Scatter bags to be reflective

# SIMBA

# REMY



**DESIGN PROCESS**

Draw a picture of your final test flight

How do you feel about your design?

☹️ ☹️ 😊 😊 😊

Did your design work?  Yes / No (Circle)

Why/Why not?  
 It worked because we changed some bits

How could you improve your design for next time?  
 to use paper for next time



**DESIGN PROCESS**

Draw a picture of your final test flight

How do you feel about your design?

☹️ ☹️ 😊 😊 😊

Did your design work?  Yes / No (Circle)

Why/Why not?  
 because it was lighter and the string was longer

How could you improve your design for next time?  
 making the edges stronger so they don't rip



## Miss Jo & Ms Kiah - Year 1/2

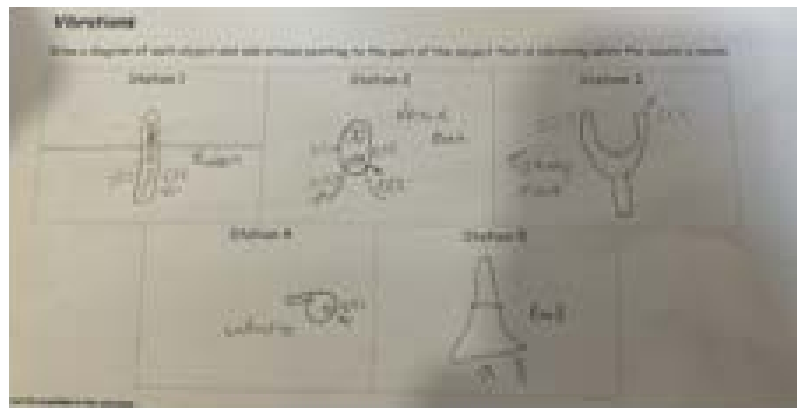
This term in Science our students have been learning about the science of sound. They have been able to explore how sounds are made, heard and manipulated through a series of different experiments and explorative activities.

### DAN

**Making sound**

Objects used	How did you make sound? (blowing, scraping, shaking, striking, plucking, body percussion)
	glass jar and paint brush
	RECORDER
	My brother's guitar
	glass stick and vase
	marble jar
	clapping, pat and stomping

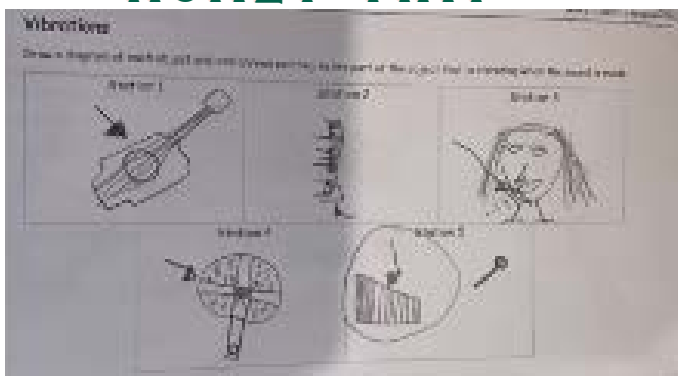
### SANAISHA



### CLEM



### HONEY-MAY



**Observing sound**

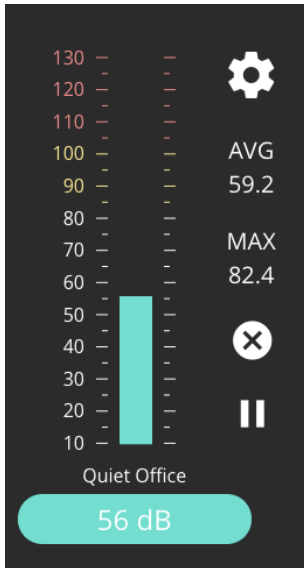
Record the different sounds you hear from locations around the school in the following table. You may like to draw or write your examples.

Stop	Location	Sounds
1	Classroom	computer PEPOL PTMgkkg cebo las noise
2	Homestead	pele wind birds kers
3	kitchen	OVON people.
4	Halls	mbm PRTV Dad

### LISMA



We also measured how many decibels some common sounds were.



Recording results (the data you collected and measured)  
Record the numbers from the loudness meter in the table below.

Object	Volume
clapping	87 94
laughing	120
Stamping + hearing	100
hearing	55

Explaining your results  
Using the results and evidence from your investigation answer to your question?  
Our investigation showed the loudest volume measured was laughing. The softest volume measured was hearing.  
Therefore all / none / some of the sounds measured loudness. (Circle the correct word.)

JACK

Evaluating your prediction  
How do your results compare with your prediction? Explain your answer.  
My answer was laughing because you can laugh very loud. If I heard every one laugh in the world sooner loud my ears would explode because of the vibrations.  
Moving forward  
Name 2 other sounds you would like to measure the volume of and explain why you would like to measure them?  
1. Finger tapping: I think finger tapping would be very quiet because if you do it on the end of your finger it makes a sound.  
2. Toe tapping: Toe tapping is louder than finger tapping a toe tapping would maybe be about a 260 dB I reckon, wait.

LILY

Station 2  
Position your hand over your throat and talk.  
What do you feel?  
I feel my throat vibrate  
When I touch.

Is there a difference between where you feel movement and where you hear the sound coming from?  
yes

Try using your voice differently (hum, whisper, growl, make animal sounds).  
When you talk differently, what do you notice about the feeling of movement from your throat?  
you make throat move to different sounds.

CHARLOTTE

How Sound Travels, Using Phone Reflection

Does the string need to be held tight to hear someone talking on the phone?  
Yes

Does the telephone work when someone is holding the string with their hand?  
Yes

Does the telephone work when someone is holding the string with a rubber band?  
No

Why do you think the telephone is able to work sometimes but not at others?  
I don't know in respect to the rubber bands.

How is the sound able to move from one end to the other?  
with a string.



Recording results (the data you collected and measured)  
Record the numbers from the loudness meter in the table below.

Object	Volume
clapping	95
laughing	100
recorder	125
whistling	115

Explaining your results  
Using the results and evidence from your investigation, what is the loudest volume measured was clapping.  
The softest volume measured was clapping.  
Some of the sounds measured were the same (circle the correct word).

Evaluating your prediction  
How do your results compare with your prediction? Explain your answer.  
They were right the recorder was definitely the loudest.

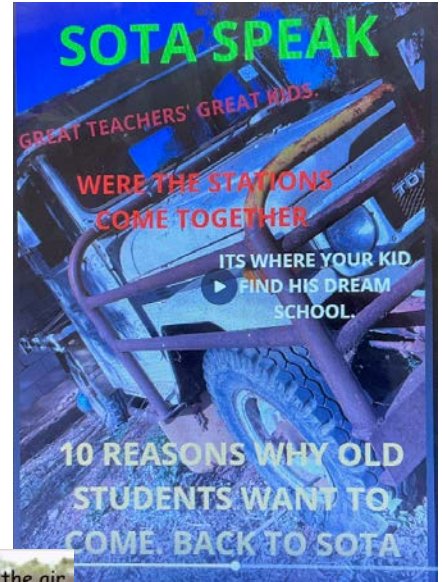
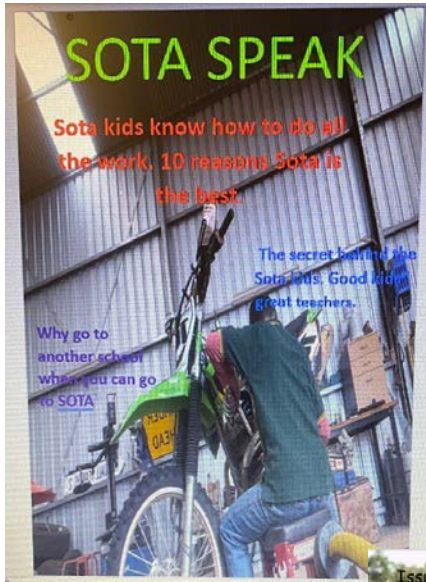
Moving forward  
Name 2 other sounds you would like to measure the volume of and explain why you would like to measure them?  
1. Singing because I wonder if singing is louder than clapping.  
2. A dog because I want to see if it is louder than a recorder.

ALEX



# Miss Morley - Year 3/4

This term in Media Arts the 3-4 students have been learning how to design magazine covers and advertisements. Our class have had a go designing their own magazine cover for SOTA Speak!



**ELI**



**LAWSON**



**ANNASTASIA**



**GEORGE**



**JAYDEN**



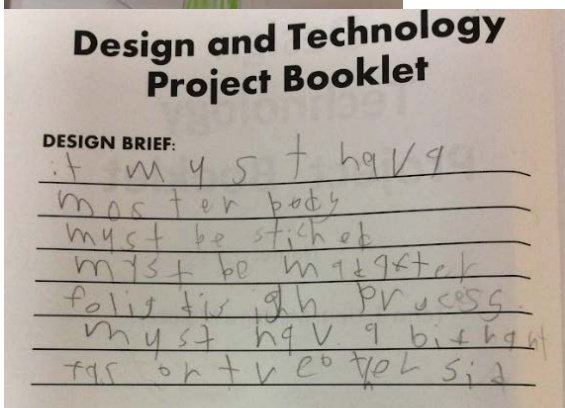
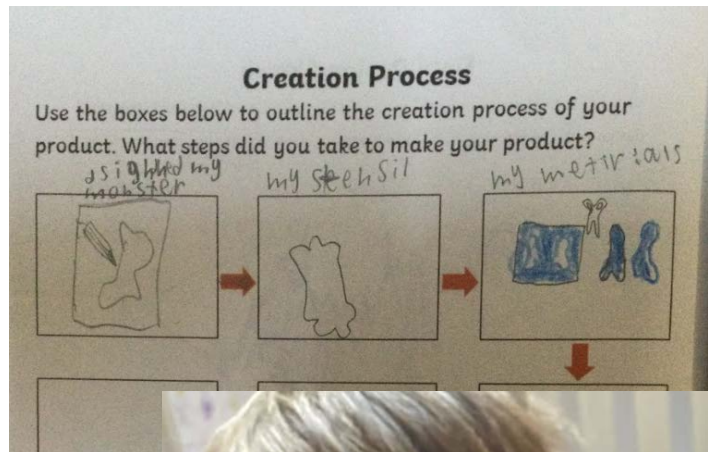
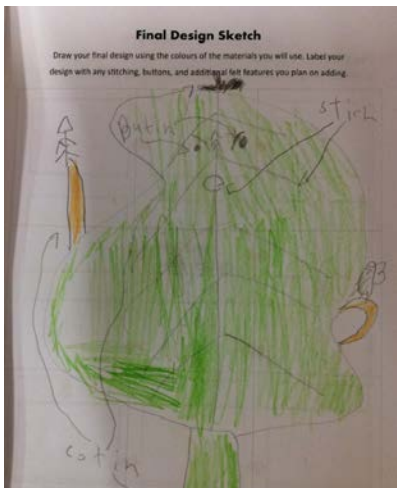
LARA



BONNIE

This term in Design and Technology our class has been learning to sew. Students have practised their stitching by making bookmarks and bracelets, and are now in the process of creating their very own unique monster toys!

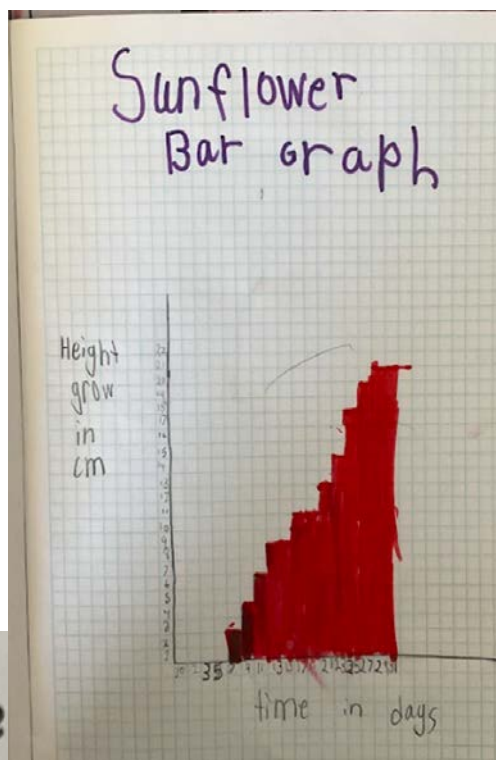
# JASE



SHAQUILLE

## Miss Kaur - Year 5/6

This term, in Maths, we have been learning about different ways to collect, interpret, and display data.



Magenta

PJ

### Sunflower Line

Questions

- How many days did the plant take to grow 18cm?  
26
- What is the height difference between Friday 19th and Thursday 25th?  
80m
- What is the height of the plant on these days:
 

a) Thursday 11th	<u>70m</u>
b) Friday 19th	<u>10cm</u>
c) Monday 29th	<u>19cm</u>

James

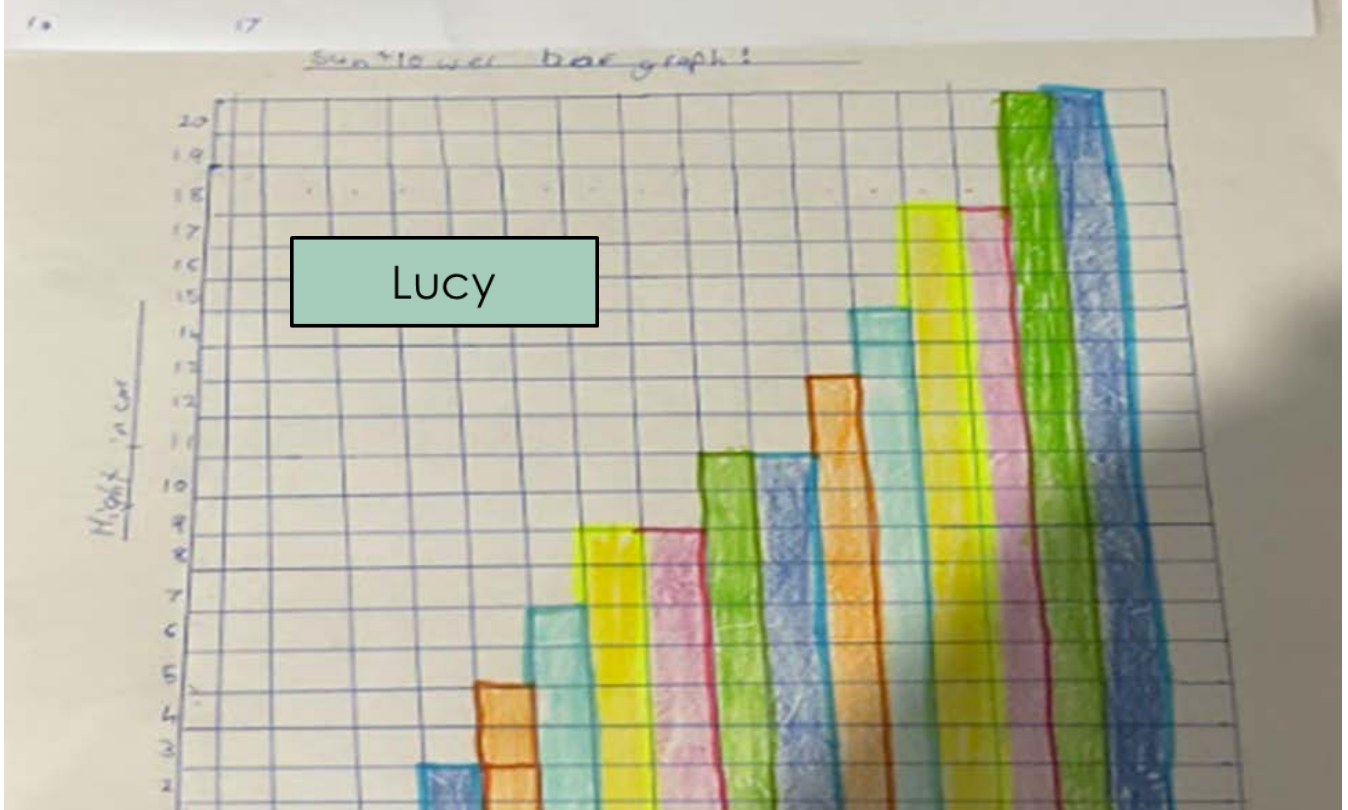
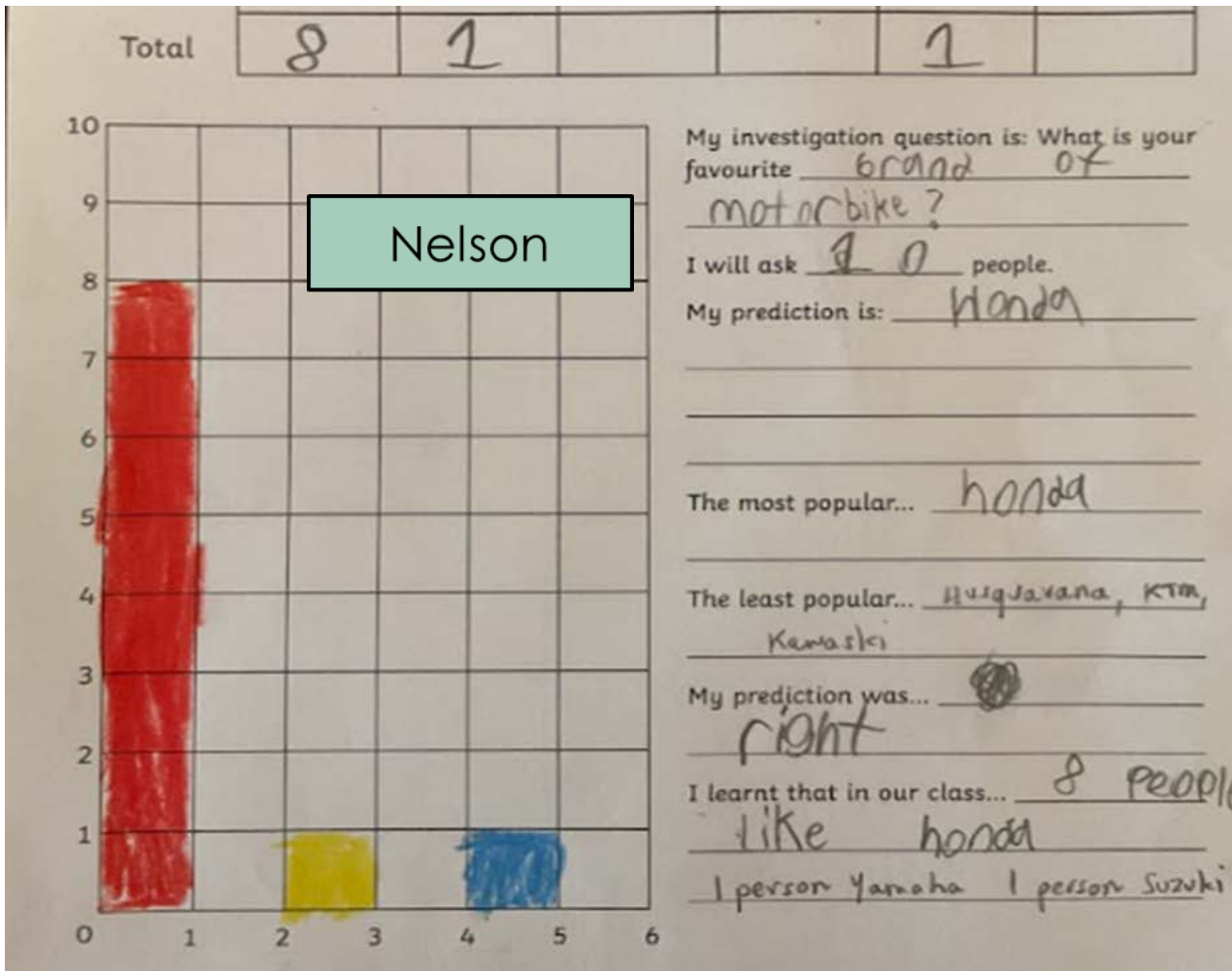
### Sunflower Line Graph

Questions









- How many days did the plant take to grow 8cm?  
14 days
- What is the height difference between Wednesday 17th and Tuesday 23rd?  
47cm
- What is the height of the plant on these days:
 

a) Thursday 11th	<u>80cm</u>
b) Friday 19th	<u>10cm</u>
c) Monday 29th	<u>20cm</u>

















In HASS, we have been learning about different types of industries and sorting businesses into Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and Quaternary industries.









Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Quaternary
Cattle farmer 	Meat works 	ringer 	Apple 
Miners 	Woolworths 	builder 	Nasa 

Lachie

Cody

Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Quaternary
			
			
			

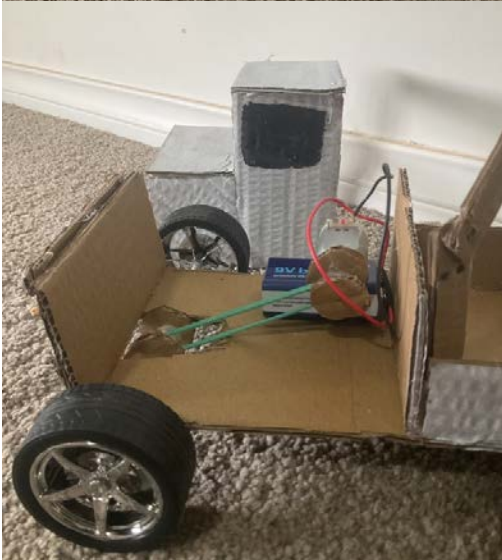
Micah

Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Quaternary
			
			

Winsome

Primary industry	Secondary industry	Tertiary industry	Quaternary industry
Dairy farming	Cheese factory	Pharmacy	Apple
Wool farming	Wool factory	Mass media	Facebook
Crop farming	Cereal factory	Hospital	Google
Chicken farming	Egg factory	Waste disposal	fund managers
Fishing	Seafood factory	Broadcasting	research
Mining	Car manufacturing	Consulting	Statisticians
Forestry	Paper factory	tourism	IT services

## Ms Mel - Year 7



**Abby – Design & Technology**

### Cave Story

The day we decided to go on our first solo-cave dive it was a warm summer day. We had suited up our wetsuits with my two friends, John and Will. My friend Leah couldn't come. "Damn I need to move countries I think, if my parents found out I lost my diving gear they'll kill me." "Haha!" I said, "be quiet Evan, I'd love to see you try". So, we left her, and we headed into the wet sea. Our target was the underground cave known as 'Nino'. We splashed about in the water before heading into the deep underwater cave.

We took a deep dive and then swam through the cave entrance. John and will are experienced divers but me, I was only a new diver, and they were teaching me the ropes. Our tanks could last us one and a half hours at most. So, we had to hurry. After about half an hour John signaled me something. He looked like he was freaking out. It looked like he was saying 'I don't know'. I looked over at Will, he just stared at John. We were lost.

We started to panic then John signaled us to follow him, so we did. We swam for about ten more minutes until we found an air pocket. We all took our masks off and started discussing. "I don't know where we are or what way we came from," John said. Will dropped his mask by accident making a massive DRIP! "Ok, how about we just swim up the cave for about five minutes and see if we can find anything, if not, we come back here ok?" Everyone agreed.

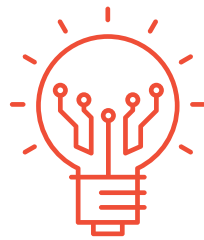
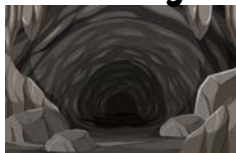
The tunnel seemed like it would go on forever. Will started to slow down heaps, he started to rush back to the air pocket we chased after him. "My tanks are empty!" he gasped. "Ok, how about you stay here. And I'll head up further to find the way out," said John. He was a natural in caves, practically born in them. We all agreed, and he rushed off down the tunnel.

Almost an hour later John wasn't back. There's no way his tank was still going. "Evan, you had the fullest tank, you need to find him, I'll wait here, go!" Will said.

I did as he said as I raced down the tunnel, it was pitch-black, and I hadn't brought a torch. So, I had to depend on my senses to feel where I was. I was going to hard, and I was using more oxygen. After about an hour I finally found the way out. I saw a small air pocket that led to a lake. I swam back to a small boathouse and raced inside. John was there refueling a tank. "Evan! What are you doing here!" I explained where I had come from.

John and I led some older divers down the cave and got Will and came out alive. With a massive sploosh we escaped the cave and we're free at last.

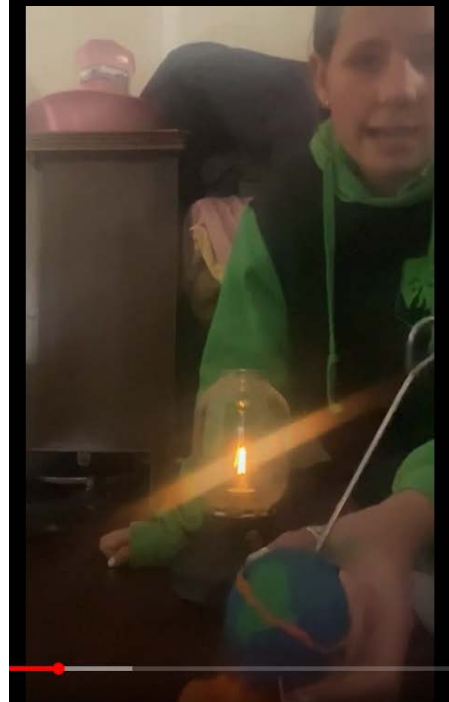
### Jacob – English



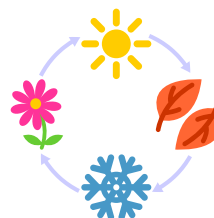
This term we investigated the relationship between the Earth and the Sun and how it causes the seasons. We explored packaging on snacks in our Health lessons. In English we have been experimenting with WOW words and connectives when writing narratives.

**Why the earth's tilt affects the seasons and the amount of light that the northern and southern hemispheres get.**

By Aurelia Reynolds



**Aurelia – Science**



## HEALTH AND PE Ruby

YEAR 7 H | UNIT 3 | RESOURCE 9

### Choosing snack foods

**Instructions:**

- What are some examples of snack foods you consume?  
Chips, fruit, biscuits, chocolate, yoghurt, celery, sushi, jerky, pop corn, sandwiches and icecream.
- Where can you find nutrition information about different snacks?  
You can find information on the front, sides or the back of packets.
- What do you take into consideration when choosing snack foods?  
Will it taste good? Is it healthy? Is it affordable?
- Select 3 snack foods that have nutrition information panels and list them below. Transfer the nutrition information from the 3 snack foods into the table below.

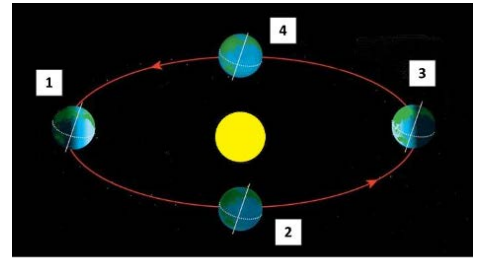
Nutrition information (per 100g)	Snack food 1	Snack food 2	Snack food 3
Energy (kJ)	2110kJ	1450kJ	2070kJ
Protein (g)	7.4g	7.5g	7.9g
Fats			
- Total (g)	27.8g	less than 1g	23.1g
- Saturated (g)	11.0g	less than 1g	5.6g
Carbohydrate			
- Total (g)	14.1g	77.4g	61.8g
- Sugars (g)	2.0g	55.6g	1.2g
Dietary fibre (g)	-	-	3.5g
Sodium (g)	0.447g	0.077g	0.625g

6. Which of the 3 snacks you selected to analyse would be the best choice to include in a healthy diet? Give reasons to support your choice.  
 Snack food 3 is pizza shapes. They are the healthiest because they have lots of protein, energy and dietary fibre. The pizza shapes have the least amount of sugar which is good because your not consuming too much of sugar.

7. Recommend 2 alternative snack foods, other than those selected in Question 5, which would be better choices for a healthy diet. Explain why you have selected these alternative snacks.

Snack 1  
 Why? My first recommended snack is a mango. Mangoes are really good for you as it has lots of protein and fibre. The recommended intake for mangoes is 330g per day.

Snack 2  
 Why? My second recommended snack is rice crackers. They have lots of energy and protein. Rice crackers are low in sugar which is good for your body.



Source: Department for Education

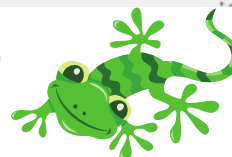
- With the Earth in position 3, the Southern Hemisphere would generally be warmer than the Northern Hemisphere. Give 2 reasons for the temperature difference.  
 1: More sunlight hits the Southern Hemisphere, therefore there is more warmth.  
 2: There is more daylight time in the Southern Hemisphere.
- What does this tell you about the number of daylight hours in each hemisphere when the Northern Hemisphere tilts towards the Sun?  
 Because of the earth's axis tilt, the sun's light shines on the North Pole but not the South Pole, therefore there is much more daylight in the Northern Hemisphere than in the Southern. When the earth is at this angle there are some places, eg Northern Norway, where there is always daylight, even at midnight. However in the Southern Hemisphere in the South Pole there is several months of complete darkness.
- What is the approximate length of day and night at the equator in each season?  
 The length of the day remains at roughly 12 hours on the equator at all times throughout the year.
- Suggest why the Sun never sets at certain times of year at the North and South Poles. What season is the Southern Hemisphere experiencing when the South Pole has several months of darkness?  
 Winter.
- Use your observations of an Earth-Sun model to write and draw an explanation of what causes the seasons. Explain how seasonal changes in temperature and hours of daylight relate to changes in Earth's position as it moves around the Sun.  
 When the northern hemisphere is tilted towards the sun it is experiencing summer, as there is much more sunlight. When it is tilted away, the southern hemisphere experiences summer, whilst the northern hemisphere is in winter, as there is less hours of sunlight which causes a chill. When the hemispheres are tilted neither toward the sun nor away from it, they are in spring and autumn. On the equator the seasons are quite similar all year round, like an eternal autumn or spring, as the sun's hours rarely differ.
- Identify what are the 2 major motions of Earth as it travels through space?  
 Rotation and revolution.
- Explain which motion causes day and night?



Ruby - HPE



Ryder - Science video



# R.I.C.E



This year has been the first mid-year intake for Preschool, we welcome Airlie, Asher, James, Jovie, and Memphis to our sessions. Children had the opportunity to attend Induction Days in week 1, with 2 families attending. Group 2 children have been busy getting to know each other and moved into fairy tales as we progressed through term 3. Abu has been doing the rounds visiting the new children and sharing the expectations of RICE Preschool. Children share Abu’s adventures in his travel book after each visit.

Group 1, Lenny, Cameron, and Thomas have investigated mini beasts, earth and space and became scientists predicting and conducting experiments. Their topic for the final weeks of term will be dinosaurs. Tuesday and Wednesday of Week 10 will be Kindy Experience Days at the RICE office, followed by a Meet and Greet at Aridlands at 10am on Thursday 28th September, everyone is welcome to join us for a coffee and chat.

If your child turns 4 years of age before 1st May 2024, please contact me ([preschool@rice.org.au](mailto:preschool@rice.org.au)) to discuss pre-entry in term 4.



Tania George



## SOTA BOOKCLUB

Reviewer: Magenta – Eagles

Title: Grace back on the Court

Rating: 10/10

Age Recommendation: 9-30 years

Grace back on the court is such a great book. It is about Grace who is 14 years old trialing for the South Australian State Netball team. Her relationship with her brother's best friend Sebastian grew in the second book. I really loved how Grace made new friends and overcame her troubles with a few girls who were trialing as well. Will Grace make it to finals and win against the NSW champions? Or are they just too good?

Title: COWZAT!

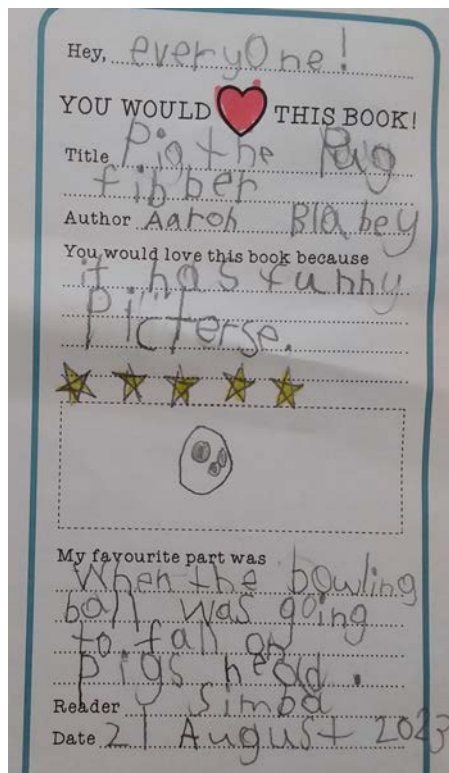
Author and illustrator: The author is Bruce Atherton and the illustrator is Ben Redlich

Reviewer: Jack Williams - Eagles

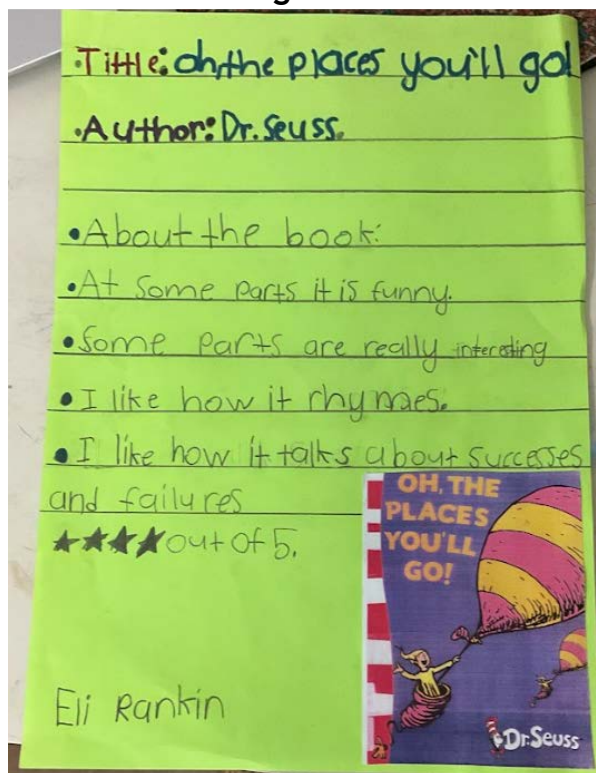
What's it about: It's about some cows that made up cricket when a cow sniffed a cricket up her nose and sneezed out a ball of grass. It headed straight for Daisy Lou who grabbed a stick and hit it hard and it made a sound like CLICK. They kept playing for hours and made a game and they made it a tie and they had lemonade for 10cents.

I would recommend this book to 6 to 9 year olds and if you don't like cricket think you will still find this book funny. Little kids would like the pictures but it would be too hard to read.

Reviewer: Simba - Brumbies



Reviewer: Eli - Eagles



Reviewer: George - Eagles

## The Kaboom Kid

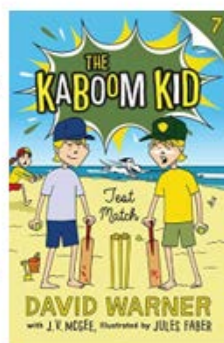
Author - J.V McGee

Illustrator-Jules Faber

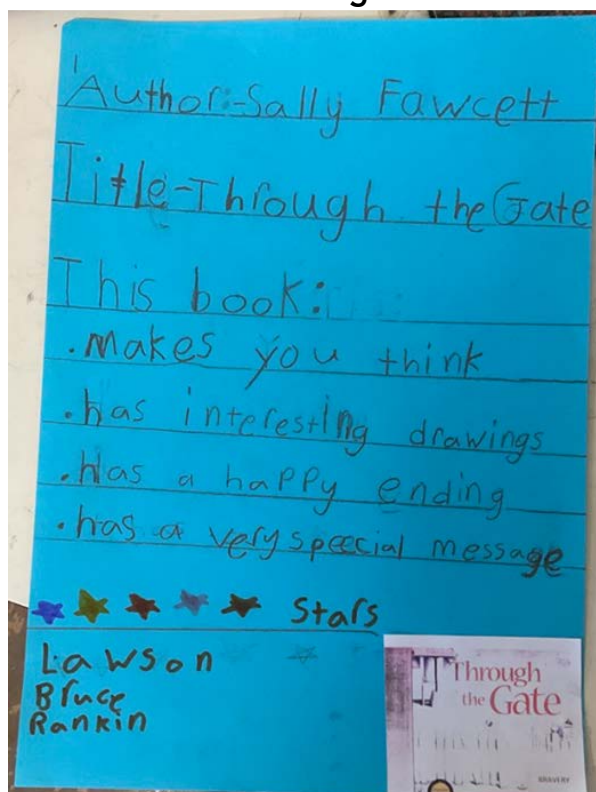
Reviewed by George Williams

Recommended for children aged 7 to 12 years old.

When David Warner was a kid he used to run cricket games with his friends. This book makes me want to be just like him!



Reviewer: Lawson - Eagles



Reviewer: Stella - Brumbies

Title: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Author: Rick Riordan

What's it about: Percy Jackson is about a boy who finds out that he is a demigod, son of Poseidon the sea god, and has to go on a quest to save Zeus' magic lightning bolt.

Rating: I rate this book 9/10 because it is funny and suspenseful.

Recommendation: It's a bit scary, so I'd recommend it for year 6 and up.

This is available as an audio book which is very good, and you can borrow it from the public library.

Title: George's marvelous medicine

Author: Roald Dahl.

Reviewer: Micah Beard - dingoes

What's it about: I liked this book because George always got into trouble with his grandma when his mum went shopping in the town.

His grandma made him make her a cup of tea and get her food.

Recommendation: I would recommend this book for kids over the age of 11 so they don't try to make the medicine at home because it can be deadly.



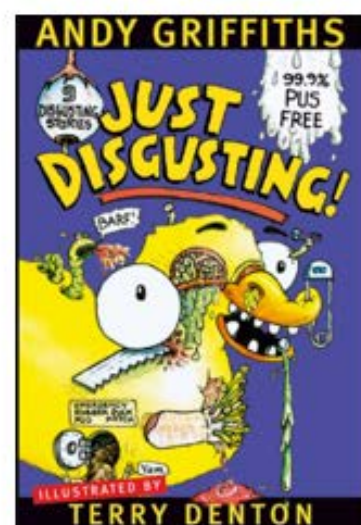
Reviewer: Clem – dingoes

Title: Just Disgusting

Author: Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton

Review: I would recommend this book because it has lots of short stories which are really funny. My favourite part is when Andy stuffed brussel sprouts down his pants so he wouldn't have to eat them.

I think kids from 5 and up would like it.





## Connellan Airways Trust

A big thank you is extended to Connellan Airways Trust for the generous grant to assist families with accommodation costs in 2023.

### Reminder:

Accommodation receipts in one PDF document to be emailed to [kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:kristy.harding435@schools.sa.edu.au) by end of day Monday 3rd October 2023.

Families can also individually apply for General Grants. Please refer to their website for further details <https://www.connellanairwaystrust.org.au/>



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