

FREEBIES FOR JUNIOR READERS

Fun stuff for ages 6-10



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AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS FACT SHEET

In *Wombat, Mudlark and Other Stories*, we learn a lot about different kinds of Australian animals and birds. Through research or from your own knowledge, write down three facts about each of the creatures shown below. These could be about where they live, whether they have feathers or fur, or whether they have claws or paws. Write your facts in the spaces provided. Start by reading the quotes in the boxes below – what fact do they tell you about each animal?



Wombat

'Every night Wombat crawled into his burrow ready to begin his dreaming.'



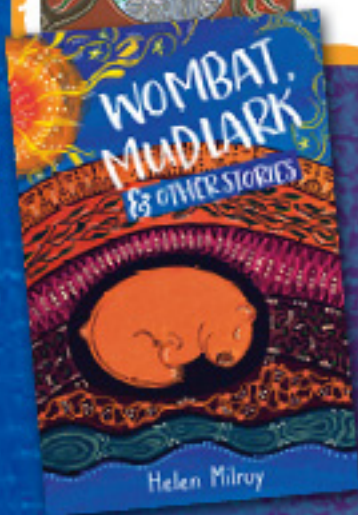
Dingo

'Little Dingo ... howled and howled and howled long into the night.'




Brolga

'Brolga was a very energetic bird. She was always running around and getting into trouble.'



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Inside the human body!



In *Gastronauts*, my brother Joe swallows my latest invention! My friend Charli and I shrink down and go into Joe's body to get the invention back.



Sally Tinker



Your mission:

Help Sally and Charli find their way around Joe's body by writing the names of the body parts in their correct locations.

oesophagus

small intestine

large intestine

bottom

heart

brain

stomach

© From the book *Gastronauts* by James Foley.

Catch up with Sally Tinker and her adventures in inventing on her YouTube site: Stinker Tube.

Diagnose the WWI ailment

WWI soldiers suffered many injuries and illnesses. Antibiotics hadn't been discovered and minor ailments, if not treated, often led to death. During the war years more soldiers died from illness than from bullets or shellfire. Help Rose from *In the Lamplight* diagnose each patient's illness (patients could present with some or all of the signs listed).

Patient one has had a rapid onset of fever, nausea, aches, sneezing, chills, a sore throat and a cough. His lungs have filled with fluid and his skin looks blue. Death seems imminent and it's only been a day.

Diagnosis _____

Patient two complains of numb feet and the skin on his feet is bluish and swollen. He has skin blisters and open sores that are in danger of becoming gangrenous.

Diagnosis _____

Patient three has a high fever and a headache. His eyes are inflamed and his skin is itchy with a blotchy rash. He is complaining of serious leg and back pain.

Diagnosis _____

Patient four has been vomiting all day. He seems to be choking and it is obvious he has lung congestion. There is a blistering of his skin and airways. He has eye pain and seems highly sensitive to light.

Diagnosis _____

Patient seven is in severe pain with swelling and red, tender and blistered skin. In fact the skin has changed colour and is blackened, blotchy, wet and shiny-looking.

Diagnosis _____

Patient six is afraid of loud noises and is prone to irritability, hysteria and sometimes even catatonia. Often fatigued, he also has facial tics.

Diagnosis _____

Patient five has a high temperature and sweating. He has diarrhea and is unable to eat or drink.

Diagnosis _____

WWI ILLNESSES

- Burns
- Gas Poisoning
- Shell Shock
- Spanish Influenza
- Trench Fever
- Trench Foot
- Typhoid Fever



In the Lamplight

Dianne Wolfer
Illustrated by Brian Simmonds

© From the book *In the Lamplight* by Dianne Wolfer and Brian Simmonds.



MAKE YOUR OWN SURVIVAL WHISTLE

In *Off the Track*, Harry's perfect life strays way off-track and into the Australian bush for a weekend of tramping around stinking-hot, snake-filled scrub. Harry doesn't have a phone, but you can help him and his new friend Deepika by creating this handy survival whistle instead. You never know, it might just save your life.



STEP ONE: cut out the rectangle

STEP TWO:

fold it in half and then fold the two outside edges towards the centre to form a concertina shape

STEP THREE:

cut two triangles into the middle fold

STEP FOUR:

with your fingers pressing it flat to your face, squeeze the two sides of the whistle together and blow hard*

*Can't make a sound? Make sure you're holding the whistle firmly against your face. Start with the whistle squeezed closed between your fingers, then slowly open. Why does it work? As the air escapes through the hole in your whistle, it causes the two layers of paper to vibrate back and forth very quickly. This is what makes the sound. Investigate! Design your own survival whistle. Try different sizes, a different number of holes or different blowing techniques. Which whistle works best?

© From the book *Off the Track* by Cristy Burne with illustrations by Amanda Burnett.

