

# Lamont Books Standing Order

May 2014

*Teacher Notes and Activities*

## **The Hairy-Nosed Wombats Find a New Home**

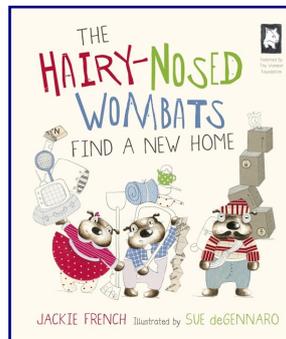
**By Jackie French & Illustrated by Sue deGennaro**

**Publisher: Harper Collins**

**ISBN 9780732295486**

**\$24.99**

Once upon a time, deep underground, there was a colony of wonderfully whiskery wombats who all had hairy noses. They lived in the only home for Hairy-nosed Wombats in the world. Could there ever be another home for Hairy-noses? Created by wombat-loving and award-winning duo, author and Australian Children's Laureate Jackie French and illustrator Sue deGennaro, this is the (almost) true story of how finding a happy new home for Hairy-nosed Wombats helped one of the world's most endangered species to breed and thrive again. All author royalties are being donated towards wombat research and care.



### Themes:

- Hairy-nosed Wombats
- Endangered animals

### Discussion Points & Activities:

- Had you ever heard of a Hairy-nosed Wombat before reading this story? Did you think that all wombats were the same? What makes this type of wombat unique?
- The Hairy-nosed Wombats needed a new home. What did the new home need to have?
- How do you think the wombats felt when they had to find a new home? Discuss.
- Have you ever moved house? What things did your new home need to have?
- Look closely at the illustrations in the book. What are the wombats wearing? To make the illustrations, the illustrator painted the wombats and then dressed them in paper clothes. Draw your own Hairy-nose Wombat, cut it out and dress it in some wonderful paper clothes.

There is a large amount of information at the back of the book about Hairy-nosed Wombats. You may wish to read through this before discussing the following:

- The Hairy-nosed Wombats were endangered and on the verge of extinction. How does this happen? What were the main things that contributed to the wombats becoming endangered?
- How can we ensure that other animals don't suffer the same fate? What are practical things that we can do to protect our native wildlife?
- Why is it important to save our endangered animals?
- By 1930, it looked like Hairy-nose Wombats might be extinct, until a few wombats were found. What role do scientists and researchers play in protecting our wildlife? How do they know what creatures exist? How do they identify that ones are under threat of extinction? (The students might need to do some research of their own!)