

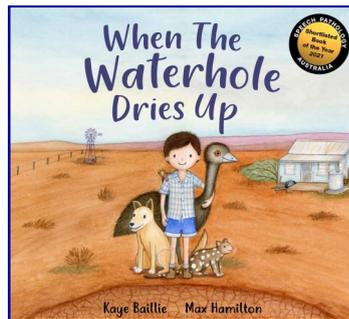
When The Waterhole Dries Up

By Kaye Baillie & Illustrated by Max Hamilton

Publisher: Windy Hollow Books

ISBN 9781922081971 SCIS: 5357629

It's bath time in the outback, and a dusty boy is waiting, but so are some very dusty and very cheeky animals. Will this boy ever get clean? A rollicking tale about togetherness and fun!



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- The Outback
- Australian Animals
- Togetherness
- Drought

Discussion Questions and Activities:

Before Reading:

- Can you tell from the cover where this book is set?
- Read the first page and ask, what do you think the dusty boy is waiting for?

After Reading:

- The story ends with the waterhole filling with water. What may have happened if it didn't rain?
- This is a story about a boy and his bath but is also about drought and how scarce water can be in the Australian outback. What other books do you know that are about a similar theme. Can you make a class collection of books on this theme and share them?

Writing activities:

- The author uses alliteration throughout the book. What other animal alliterations can you come up with?
- What are some of the animals not used this story? What actions might they do if they were part of the book?
- The author uses a familiar cumulative narrative. What other stories do you know that use the same literary device. Share them with the class. For example, The House That Jack Built. Come up with your own class cumulative story.

Art activities:

- The illustrator has given some visual clues as to what animals will be entering the bath. Can you find them?
- What other books do you know that use a similar visual narrative device?
- The colours in the book are limited to the palate of the outback. Experiment with using only reds and blues to create artwork.
- The illustrator has created cracked mud on the endpapers using pencil and watercolour. Experiment with using actual mud to create a background.

Drama:

- The pace and action of this story lends itself to acting out as a class.
- Take individual animals and act out their characteristics. How would a rollicking roo act?
- The author uses great language to describe the actions and personality of the animals. Can you come up with instrument sounds to match with each animal and their actions?