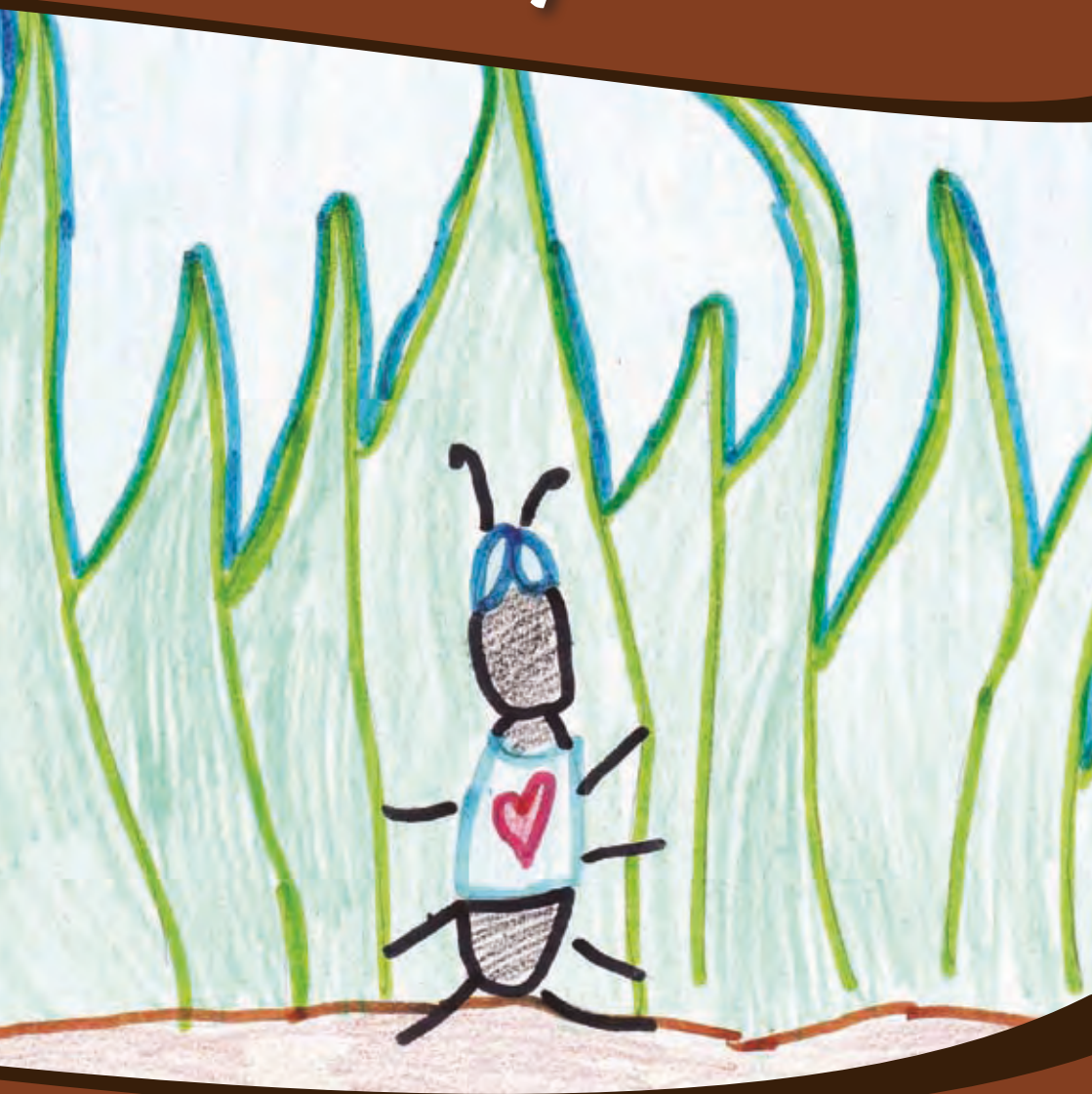


Emily Ant

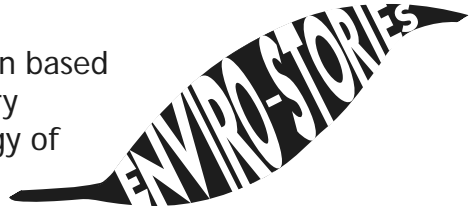


Author: Class 3/4
School: Wongarboron Public School



Enviro-Stories Competition

Enviro-Stories is a competition based education program for Primary Schools based on the pedagogy of Kids Teaching Kids. Students where given the opportunity to learn about their local environment, write a story about it, then get their story published. These stories provide an educational experience that creates readers, written about local issues, by local kids, for local kids.



In 2009, the Central West Catchment Management Authority, in conjunction with the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC, has provided local kids with the opportunity to join in on this exciting and innovative competition.

Central West Catchment Management Authority

The Central West Catchment is committed to work with the community to conserve, improve and manage natural and cultural resources. The catchment is located in central western New South Wales, flanked by the Barwon and Darling Catchments to the north and west, Lachlan to the south and the Sydney/Shoalhaven Basin to the east.

Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

The Cotton Catchment Communities CRC is an industry partnership leading research, education and commercialisation in the Australian cotton industry. The Cotton CRC aims to provide innovative knowledge to stimulate economic, social and environmental outcomes at farm, regional and national levels.

Emily Ant

Author: Grade 3/4 Class

Teacher: Megan Rich

School: Wongarbron Public School

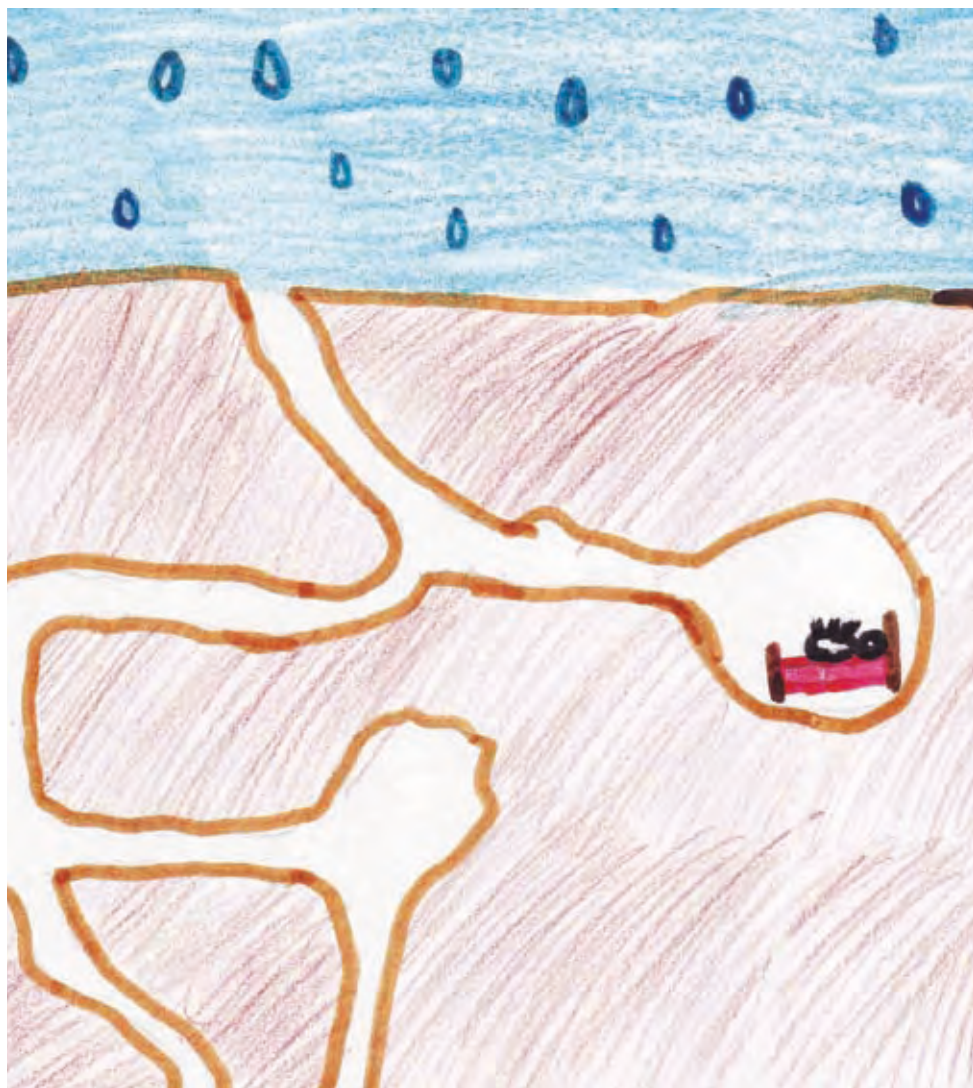
The Central West Catchment Management Authority 2009 "Creepy Crawlies... life underground" Enviro-Stories Competition consists of the following books:

- Holly the Honey Pot Ant
- Ethan the Earthworm Saves the Day
- Emily Ant
- Edwina's Choice
- The War of the Wasps

Published by Peekdesigns: Environmental and Educational Designs and Publications, www.peekdesigns.com.au

Printed by Greenridge Press, www.greenridgepress.com.au

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One wet and stormy afternoon Emily Ant was lying on her bed crying. She was very depressed, because she couldn't play outside.



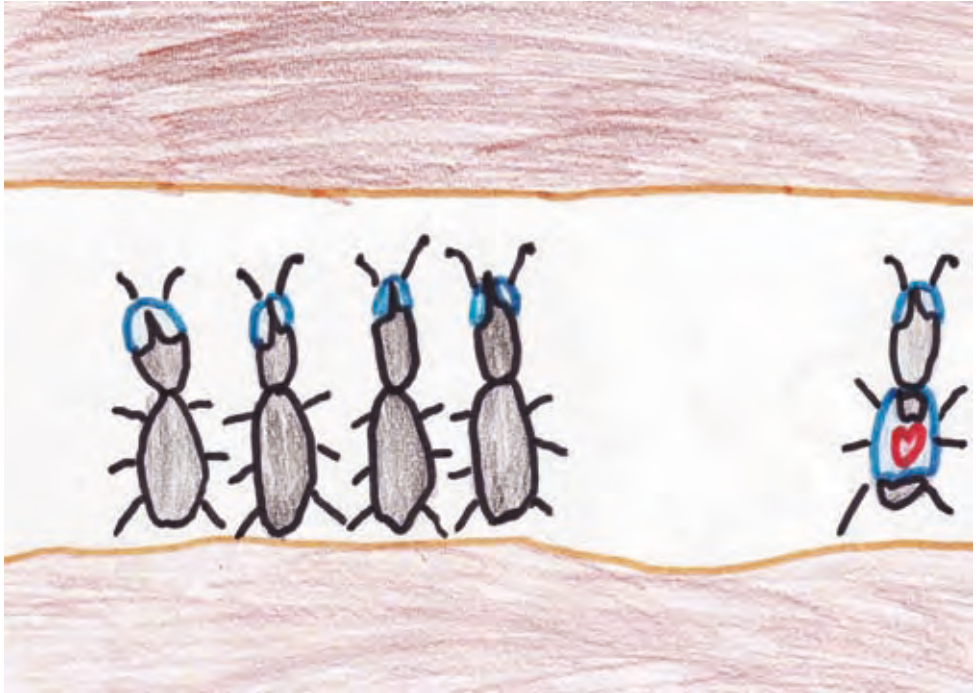
Emily Ant's mother came into her room and inquired, "What's the matter dear?"

"I can't go outside and play because it is too wet," sniffed Emily Ant.

"Why don't you go around the ant nest and find some friends to play with," suggested her mother.



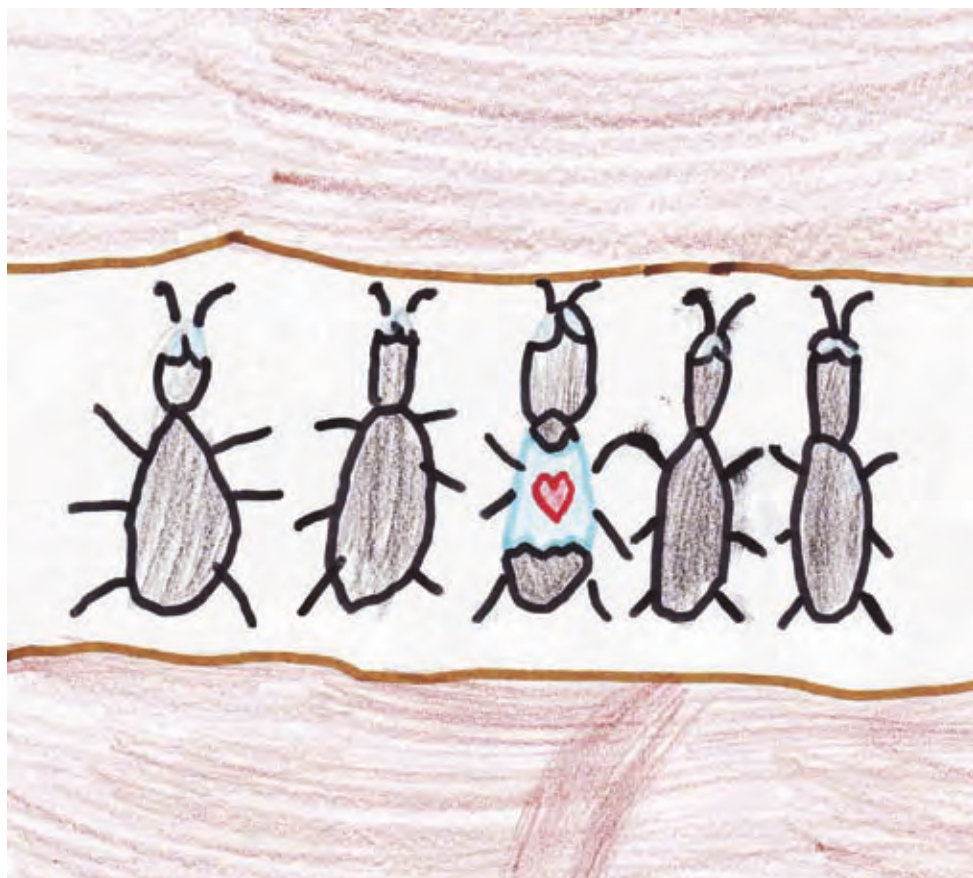
Emily Ant jumped off her bed and began to explore the ant nest looking for friends.



As Emily Ant walked through a dark tunnel that led to the rest of the colony she heard...

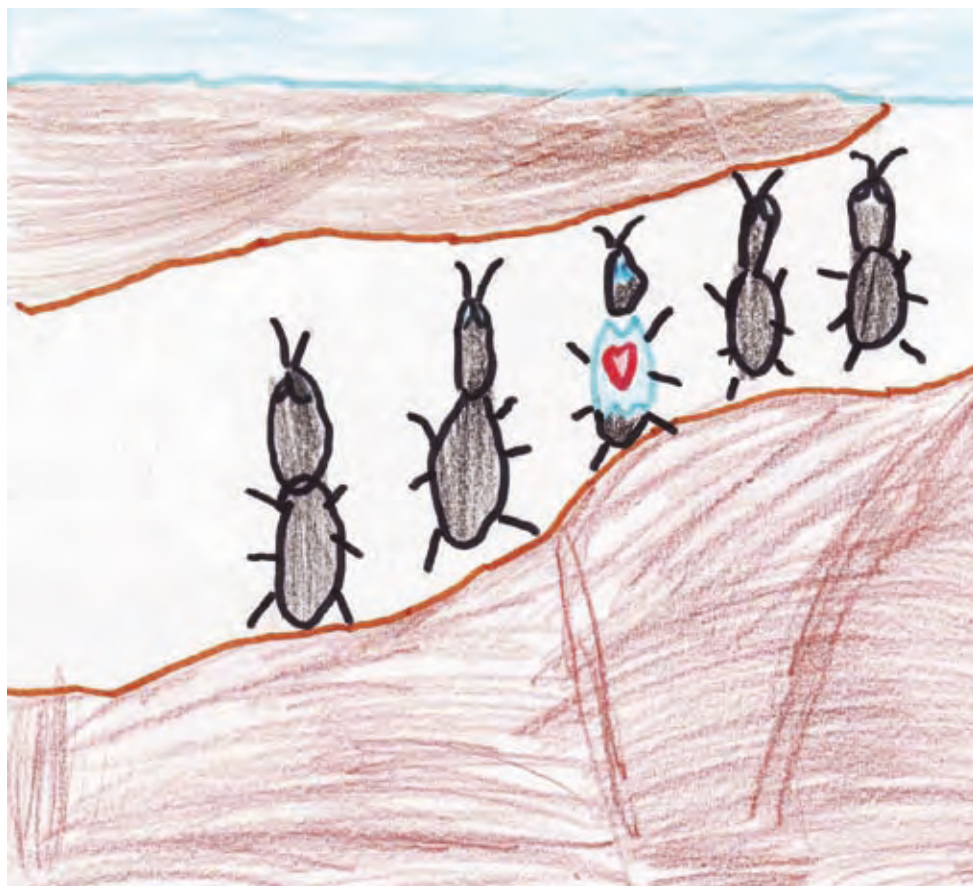
‘Stomp! Stomp! Stomp! Stomp!’

Emily peered around the corner and was almost trodden on by a long marching line of soldier ants. They were on their way to the surface to collect food for the colony.



As Emily peered around the corner she leaned too far out and was swept up into the line of marching ants.

Now Emily was in line and on her way to the surface.



Emily had never been out of the ant nest with the soldier ants before. She was scared! Especially because she knew that soldier ants always argue and fight.

“What have I gotten myself into,” she thought.



To Emily's surprise the rain had stopped when she reached the surface.

She gazed up and saw long green blades of grass that glistened with rain drops.

She heard the chirping of birds high above her.



In the distance Emily Ant could see the sparkling shine of something she had never seen before, but she knew that smell...cupcake!

She had only ever seen a cupcake in tiny pieces that the soldier ants brought back to the nest, not a whole cupcake! WOW! It was beautiful!





All of a sudden Emily Ant noticed all of the soldier ants running over to the edge of the cupcake.

She could hear chanting, "Fight! Fight! Fight!"

Emily ran over to see what was happening. In the centre of the circle she could see two soldier ants yelling at each other. They were arguing about who was going to take the icing back to the nest to eat.

"I'm taking the icing."

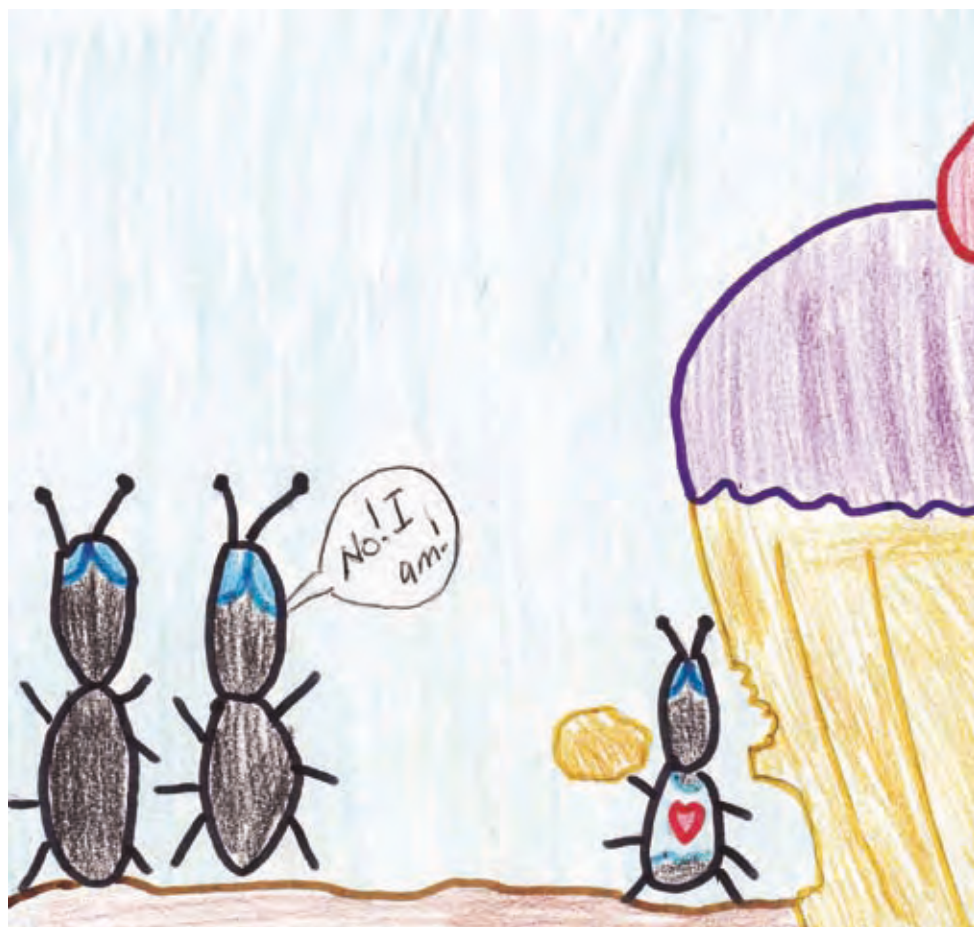
"No I am!" they argued.

The argument seemed to go on forever.

While the soldier ants were distracted, Emily Ant went over to the cupcake and took a little nibble.

"Yum, that's delicious," she said to herself.





Emily decided that she would take a piece of the cupcake and sneak away while the soldier ants were still fighting.

She tiptoed past them.



Emily kept walking down the path being careful to follow the footprints that the soldier ants had left in the mud.

Finally she came to the nest and she quickly ran back to her family's home.

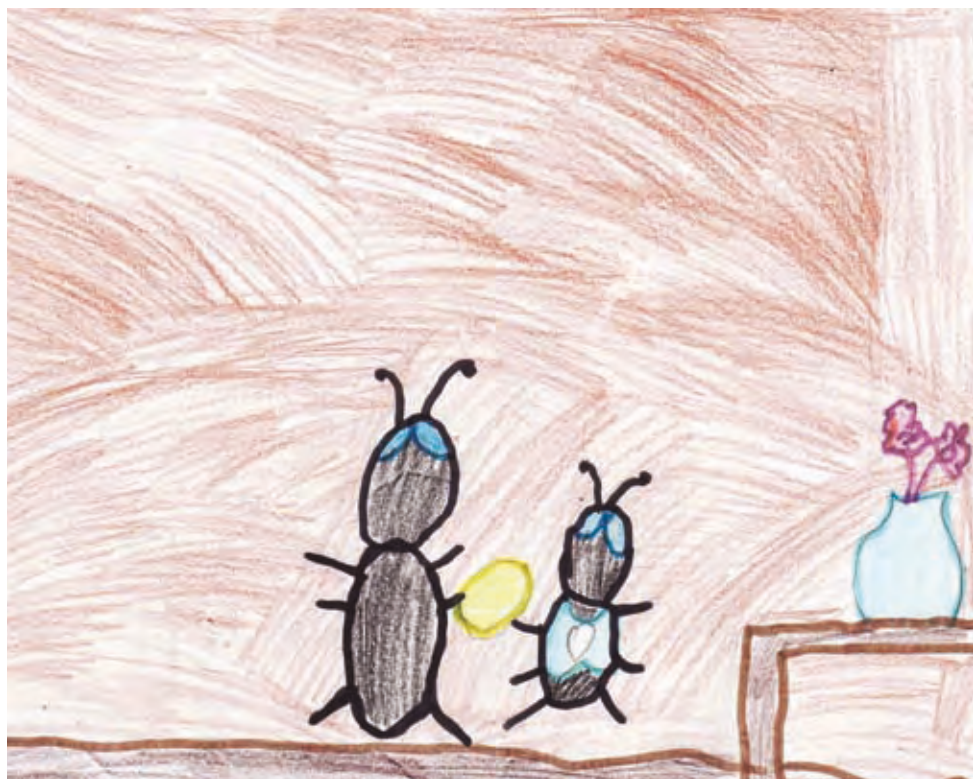


When she arrived, her mother was waiting for her.

“Did you find some nice friends to play with?” her mother asked.

Emily Ant started to tell her mother of the things she had done that day with the soldier ants.

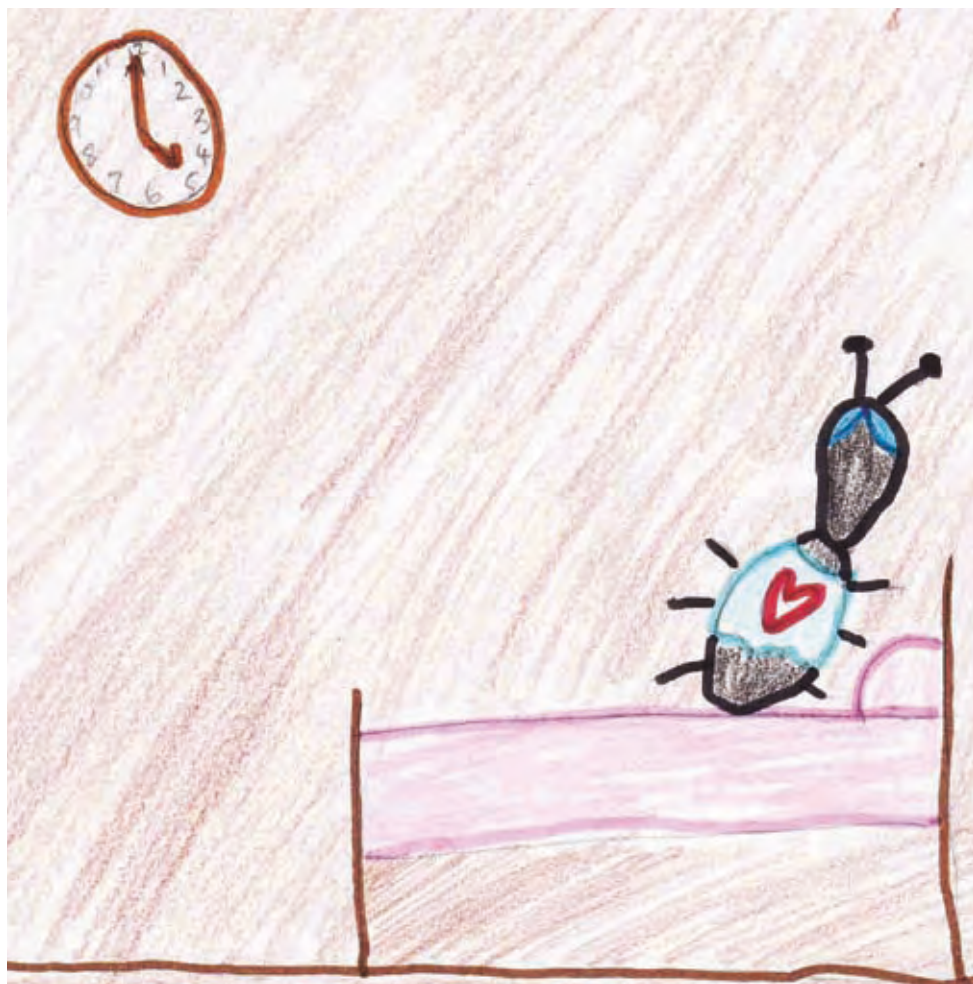
“You didn’t really do that Emily. Don’t make up lies,” replied her mother.



Emily pulled out the piece of cupcake that she had taken.

“See Mum! It really did happen. This is the piece of cupcake I took when the soldier ants were fighting.”

Emily’s mum was surprised! But also very happy to see such a lovely piece of cupcake for their family to share. They called for Emily’s family all to come and eat the cupcake together.



From that day Emily Ant was very careful when walking around the ant nest so that she wouldn't get caught up with the arguing soldier ants.



Class 3/4
Wongarbon Public School, 2009



Central West
catchment
management authority



Cotton Catchment Communities CRC



This project was funded by the Central West Catchment Management Authority through the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program.



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