

Mrs Webber and the Storm



Author: Grade 4 Class
School: Wee Waa 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 Cotton Catchment Communities CRC, in conjunction with the Central West Catchment Management Authority, has provided local kids with the opportunity to join in on this exciting and innovative competition.

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.

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.

Mrs Webber and the Storm

Author: Grade 4 Class

(Douglas Anderson, Brooke Boland, Tyson Cooper, Jordan Ferguson, Maddison Galagher, Tyson Gilmore, Dale Griffiths, Britney Haverhoek, Darcy Lang, Georgia McKenzie, Clay Mitchell, Dean Platt, Annabelle Russell, Taricha Scaysbrook, Patrick Small, Tyrell Toomey and Cassandra Hicks)

Teacher: Jennifer Treverrow

School: Wee Waa Public School

The Cotton Catchment Communities CRC 2009 “Creepy Crawlies...life underground” Enviro-Stories Competition consists of the following books:

- Holly the Honey Pot Ant
- Timmy Termite Saves the Day
- Squiggles’ Big Day
- Angus Ant
- Cameron’s Birthday
- Eric the Earthworm
- Mrs Webber and the Storm
- Danny the Dung Beetle
- Jack the Spider

ISBN: 978-0-9775317-5-2

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

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

Copyright © 2009 Cotton Catchment Communities CRC, www.cottoncrc.org.au

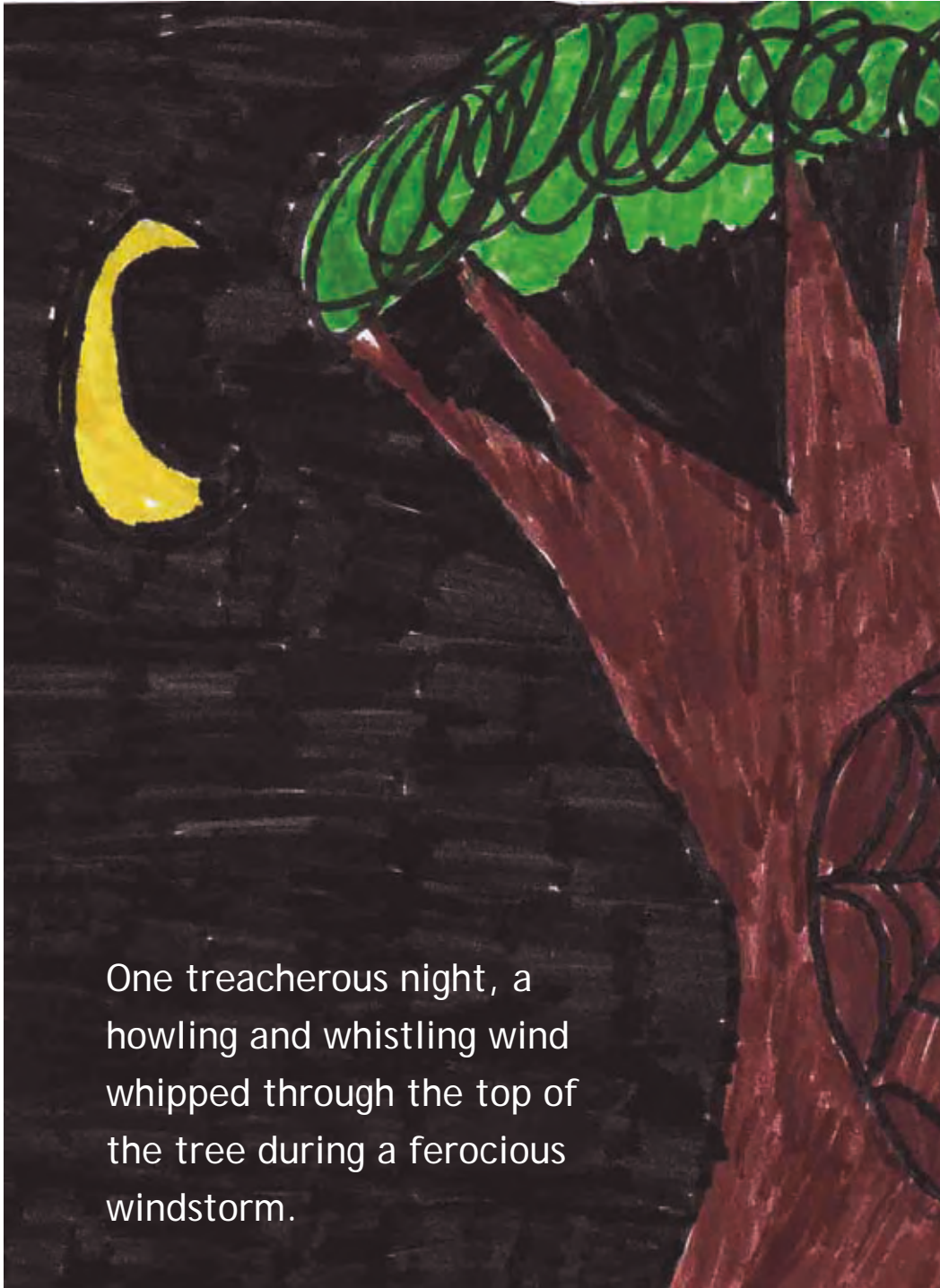
Mrs Webber was a fantastic redback spider. She was a loyal friend among her peers, a caring mother and a terrific hunter.

She lived in an old gum tree, on a busy cotton farm near Wee Waa. Headers and cotton pickers were crammed in the nearby shed.

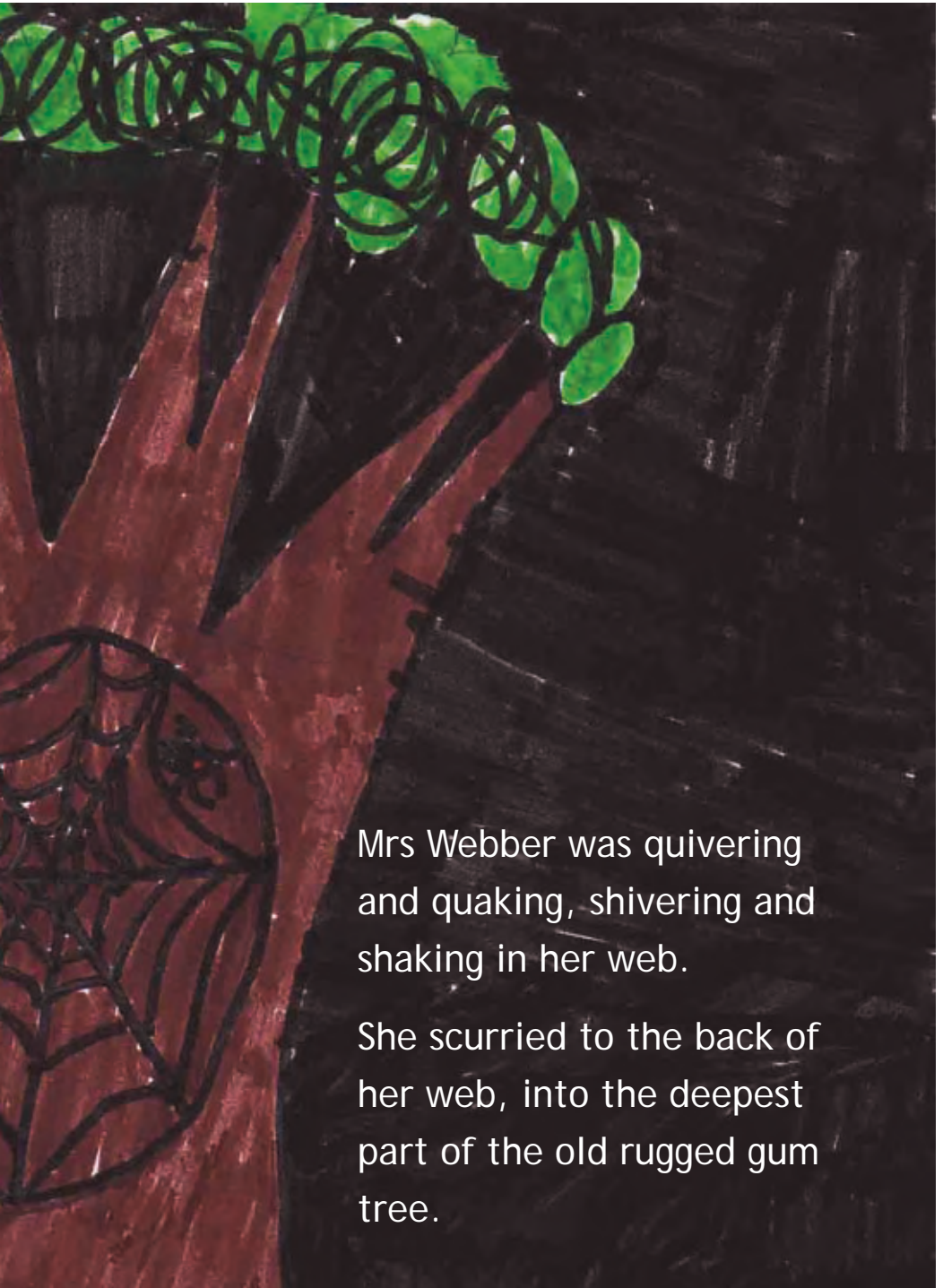


Mrs Webber had lived there since she had left her own mother, brothers and sisters. She was comfortable in her tree and happy to live in such a fantastic place.





One treacherous night, a howling and whistling wind whipped through the top of the tree during a ferocious windstorm.



Mrs Webber was quivering and quaking, shivering and shaking in her web.

She scurried to the back of her web, into the deepest part of the old rugged gum tree.



Yellow beams lit up the dark clouds that moved towards Wee Waa.

Lightning snapped the tree in two,
like a tooth pick and ignited the
brown dry leaves of the old gum tree.





Mrs Webber was terrified, like a cat afraid of water.



She scurried to the old rusty shed that was behind the tree for shelter.



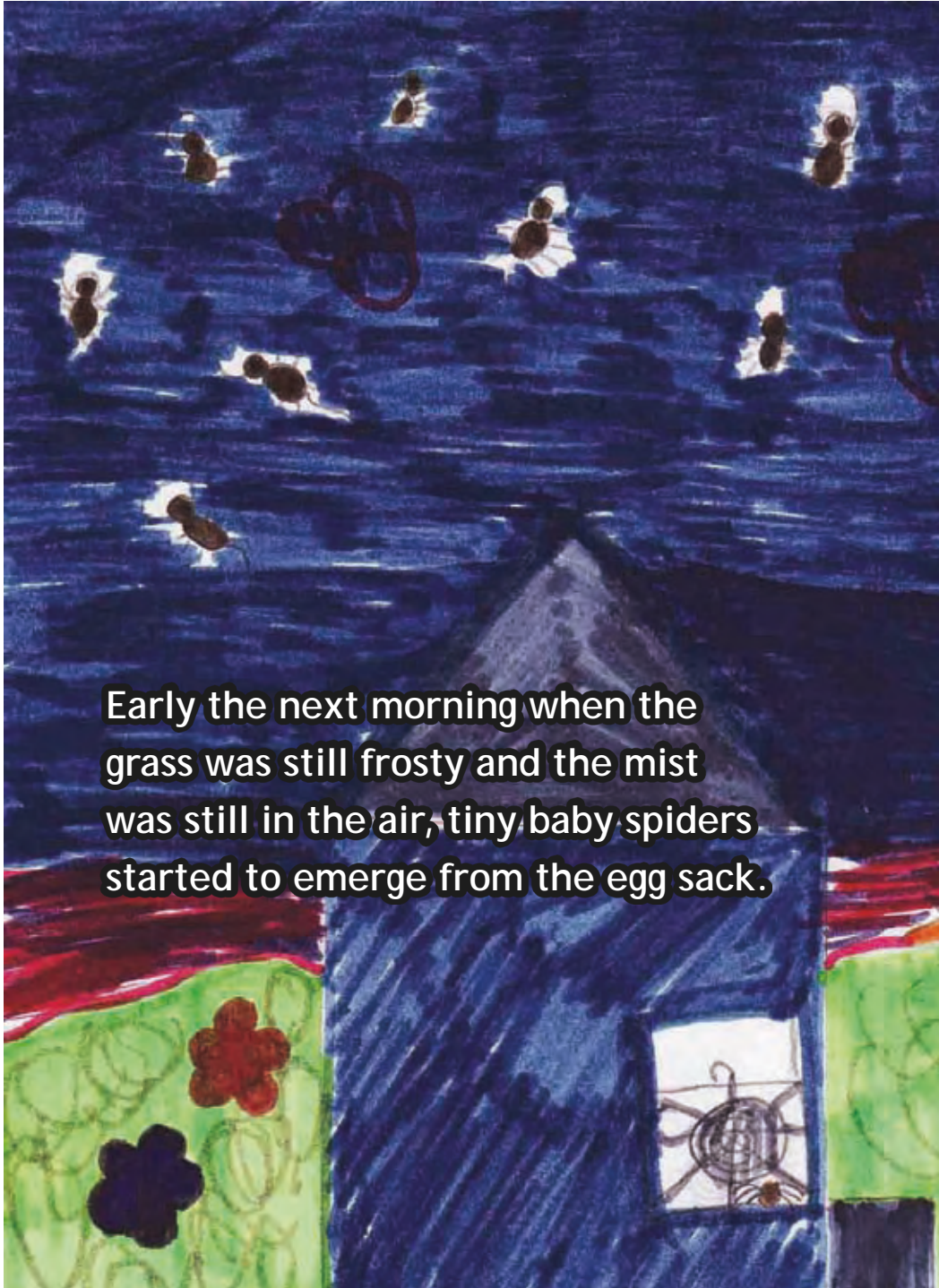
Mrs Webber found a nice cosy corner in the shed. She settled in and began to make her silk web.

When she had finished she laid some eggs in a creamy-white sack.

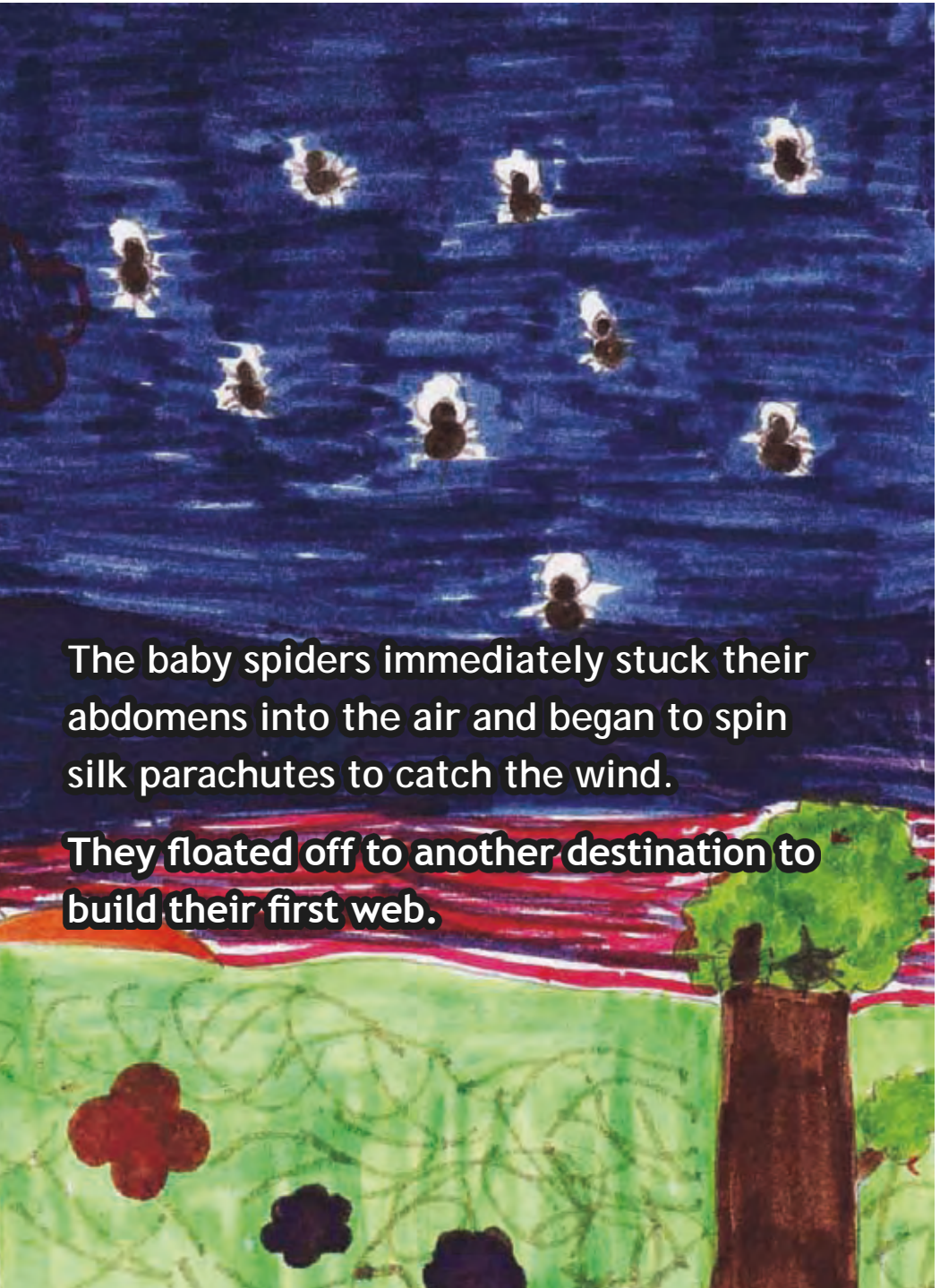


A month later, heavy rain fell onto the shed's roof.

Mrs Webber suspected that her babies would emerge from the egg sack shortly.

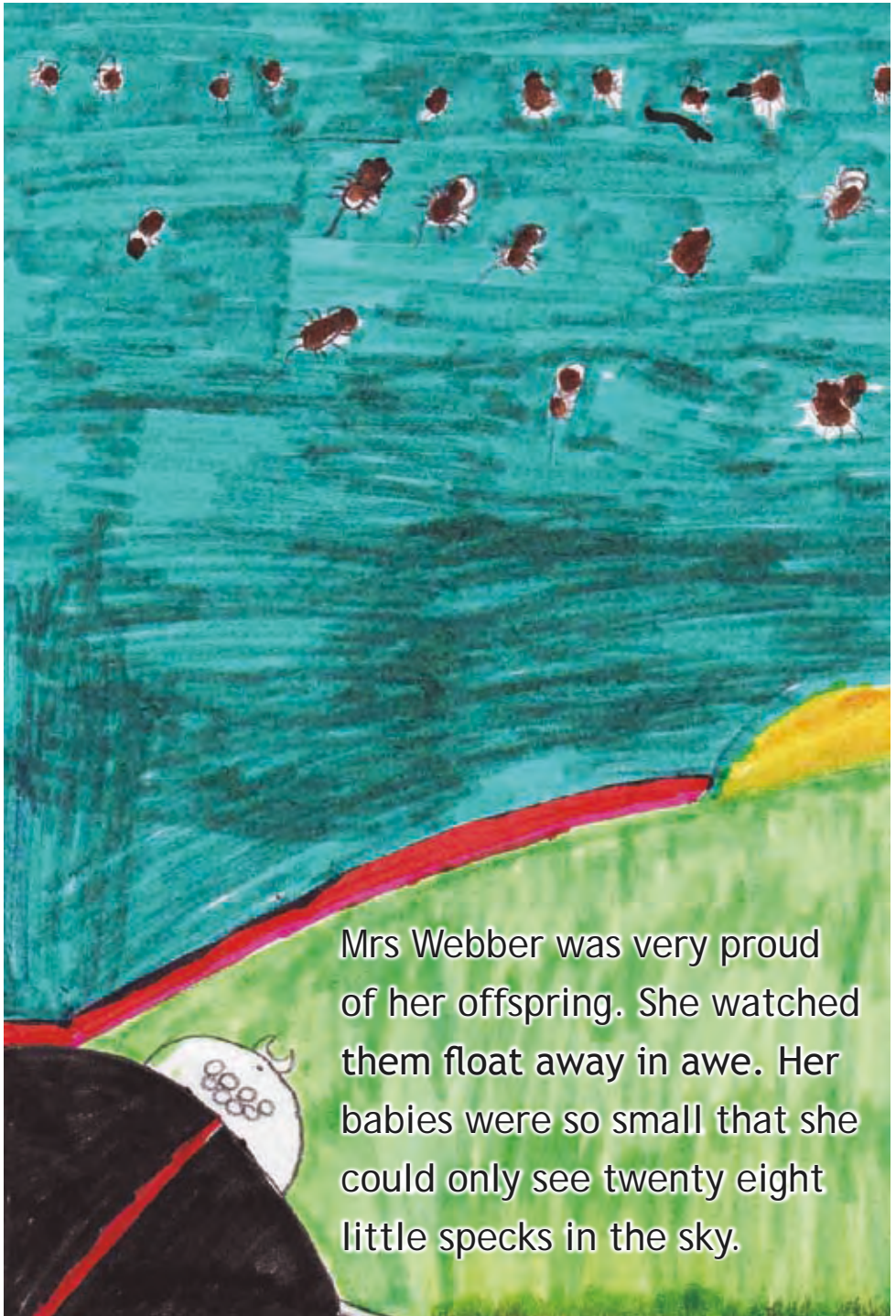


Early the next morning when the grass was still frosty and the mist was still in the air, tiny baby spiders started to emerge from the egg sack.



The baby spiders immediately stuck their abdomens into the air and began to spin silk parachutes to catch the wind.

They floated off to another destination to build their first web.



Mrs Webber was very proud of her offspring. She watched them float away in awe. Her babies were so small that she could only see twenty eight little specks in the sky.



Mrs Webber spent the rest of the day untangling, repairing and weaving her web. When she had finished, she quietly crawled up into the corner of her silky web and settled down for a well deserved rest.



The end





(Back L-R) Brooke Boland, Clay Mitchell, Darcy Lang, Maddison Galagher, Jordan Ferguson, Dean Platt and Taricha Scaysbrook. (Front L-R) Tyrell Toomey, Patrick Small, Georgia McKenzie, Dale Griffiths, Annabelle Russell, Tyson Gilmore, Douglas Anderson.
Teacher Jennifer Treverrow

Wee Waa School, Grade 4 2009



Central West
catchment
management authority



Cotton Catchment Communities CRC



Environmental & Educational designs & publications