

The New Farm



Lucinda Caton
Narrabri Public School

Enviro-Stories Education Program

Enviro-Stories is a competition based education program for primary schools that was developed by PeeKdesigns.



www.envirostories.com.au

This program provides an education and learning experience for kids through their active engagement with natural resource and catchment management issues. The final product is a published story written about local issues, by local kids, for local kids and future generations.

In 2012, the “Our Farmers, Our Future” Enviro-Stories Education Program provided local kids with the opportunity to write and illustrate stories about life on the farm. This program was sponsored by the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC, Australian Government’s Caring for our Country, Central West and Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authorities and Cotton Australia.

Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

The Cotton Catchment Communities CRC is an industry partnership leading research, education and commercialisation in the Australian cotton industry.

www.cottoncrc.org.au

Australian Government’s Caring for our Country

Caring for our Country is one way the Australian Government funds environmental management of our natural resources by supporting communities, farmers and other land managers to protect Australia’s natural environment and sustainability.

www.nrm.gov.au

Central West CMA

The Central West CMA 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.

www.cw.cma.nsw.gov.au

Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA

The Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA strives for balanced production and conservation within resilient landscapes. The catchment is located in northern New South Wales, just west of the Great Diving Range.

www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au

Cotton Australia

Cotton Australia is the peak body for Australia’s cotton growing industry, supporting over 1500 cotton farming families in New South Wales and Queensland.

www.cottonaustralia.com.au

The New Farm

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School: Narrabri Public School

The “Our Farmers, Our Future” Enviro-Stories Education Program consists of the following books:

Sponsored by Cotton Catchment Communities CRC and Caring for our Country

- Fluffy’s Getting Shorn
- A Great Turnaround
- The New Farm
- The Farmer Changes His Ways
- I Own it All
- Drought and Flooding Rains

Sponsored by Central West CMA

- My Life on a Sheep Farm
- A Weekend on our Farm
- Farm Animals
- Life on the Farm

Sponsored by both the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC and the Central West CMA

- Euchareena School Gardening

Sponsored by Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA

- Hoot the Owl Saves the Day
- Our Farms are Our Future
- Life as a Sheep
- What we have on Farms

Sponsored by Cotton Australia

- Cotton on ‘Koramba’

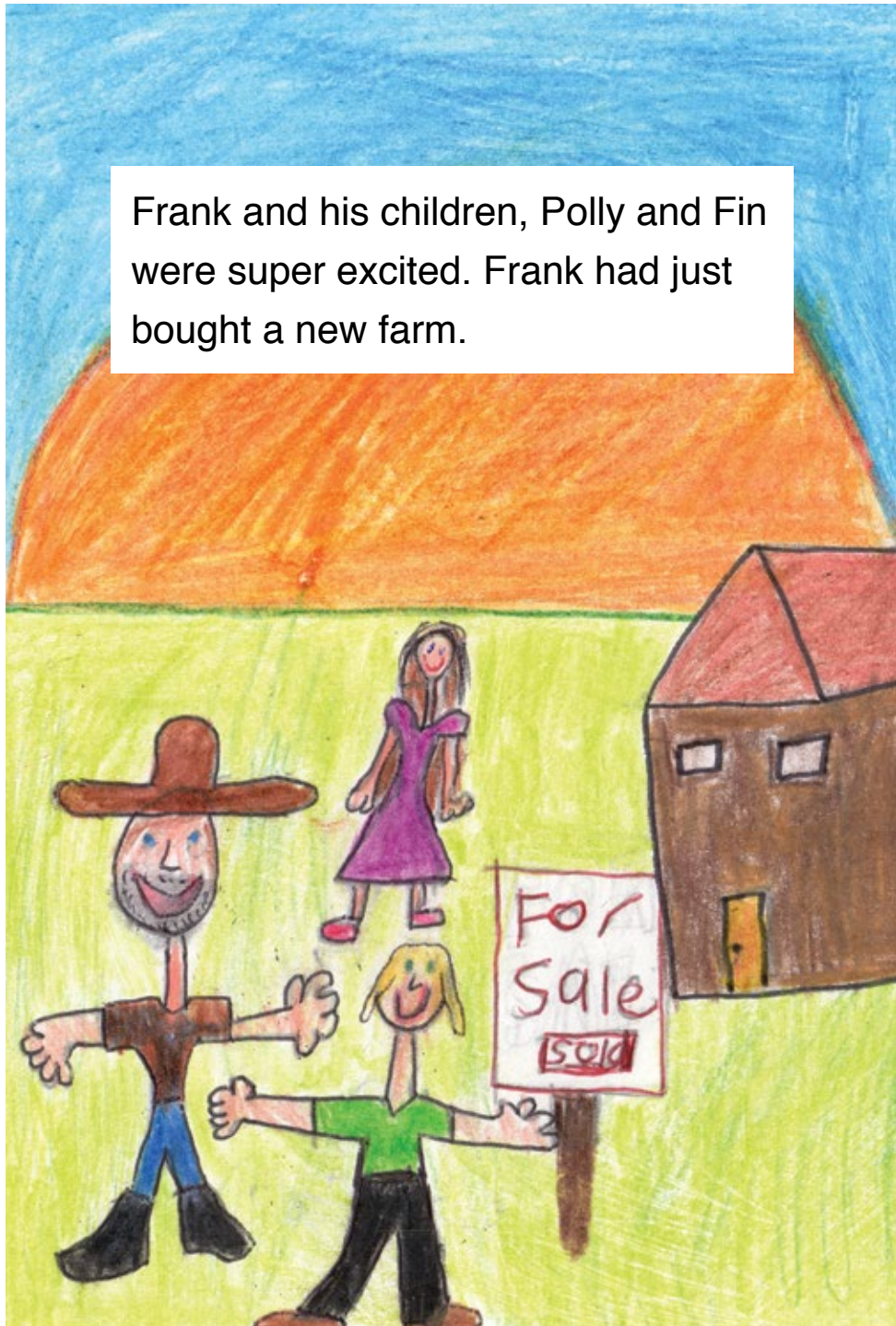
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Frank and his children, Polly and Fin were super excited. Frank had just bought a new farm.



They packed up their clothes and toys
getting ready for moving out to their
new property between Narrabri and
Wee Waa.





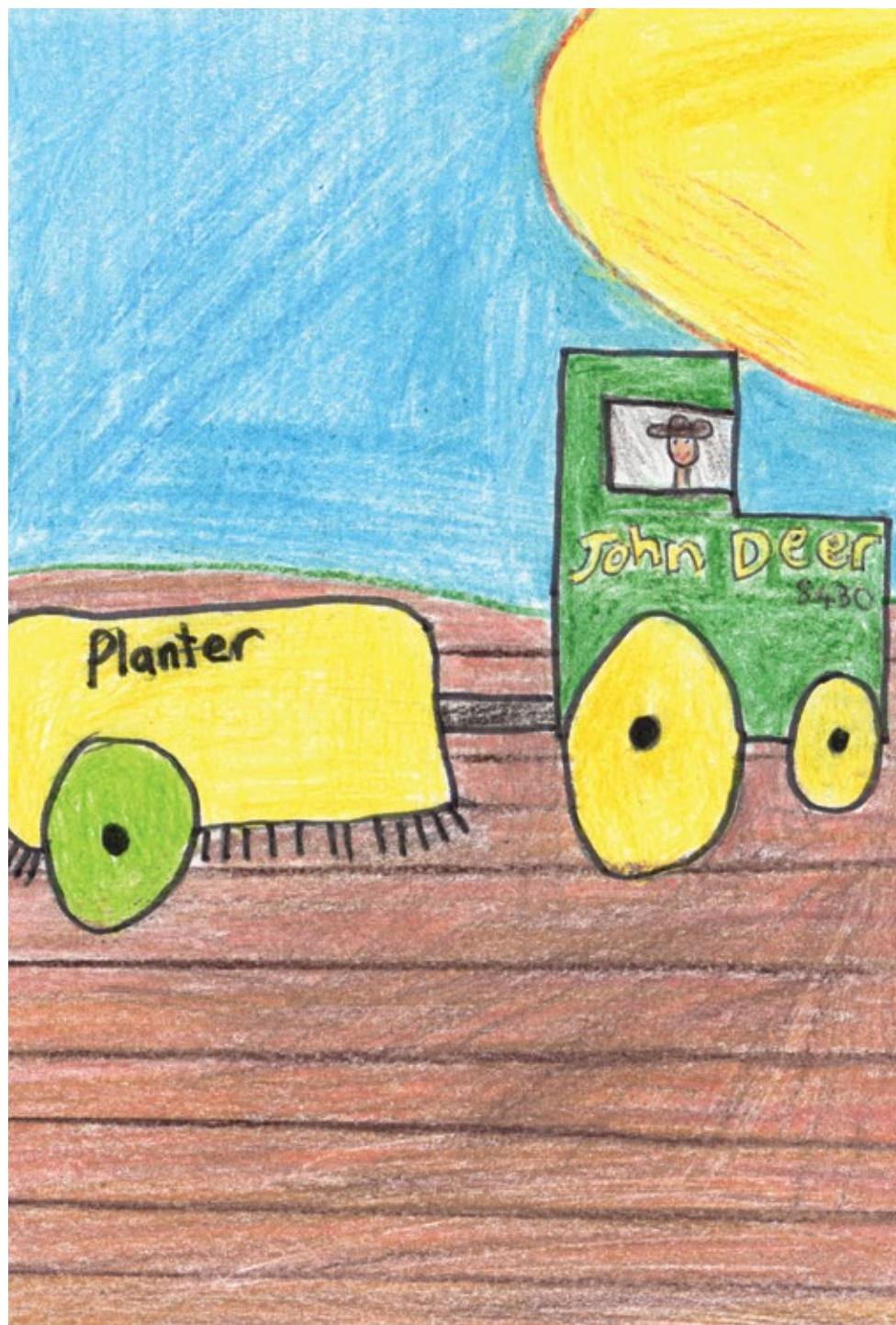
They put their bags and belongings into the truck and off they drove to the new farm.

When they arrived, they began to unpack. They had to decide who had the different rooms and where all the gear would go.

Early the next morning Farmer Frank ordered seeds, fertiliser, pickers, weed poison and planters.

He went into town in his big truck to pick his supplies up.





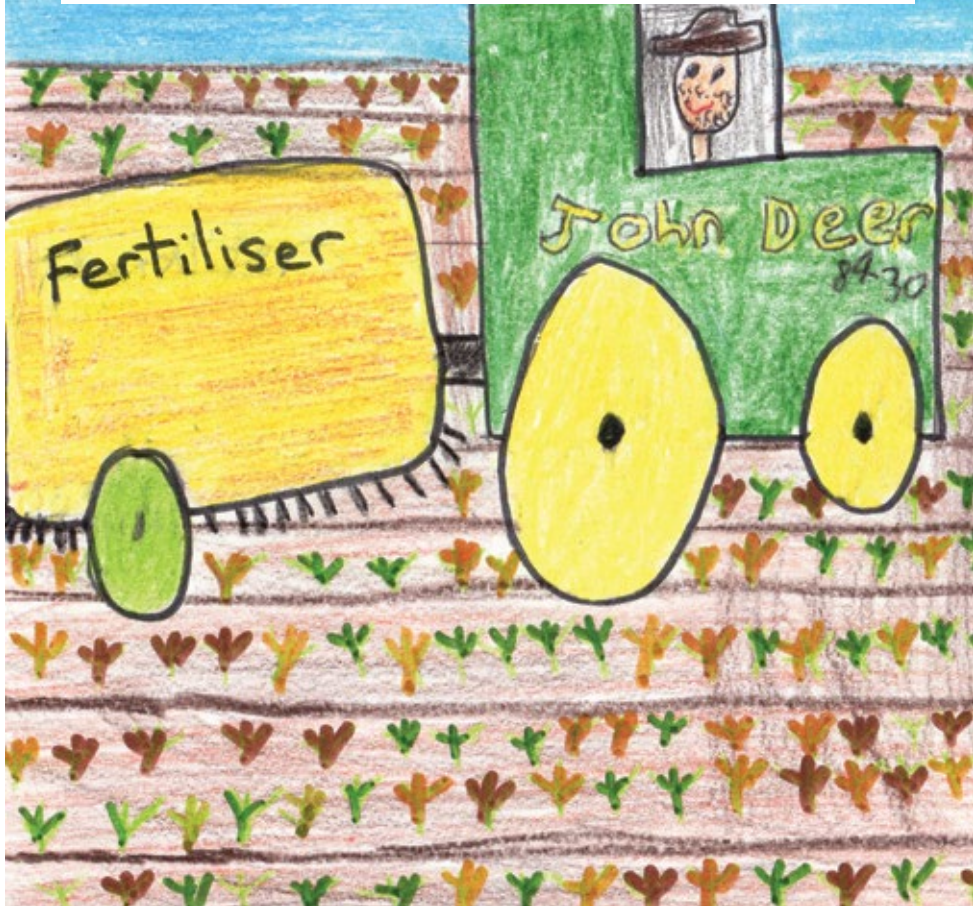
Frank prepared the soil carefully.
Afterwards he used his new planter to
plant the seeds.

Every day he watered and checked on
his cotton.

Frank put as much fertiliser as he
could on the cotton hoping it would
give him a bumper crop.

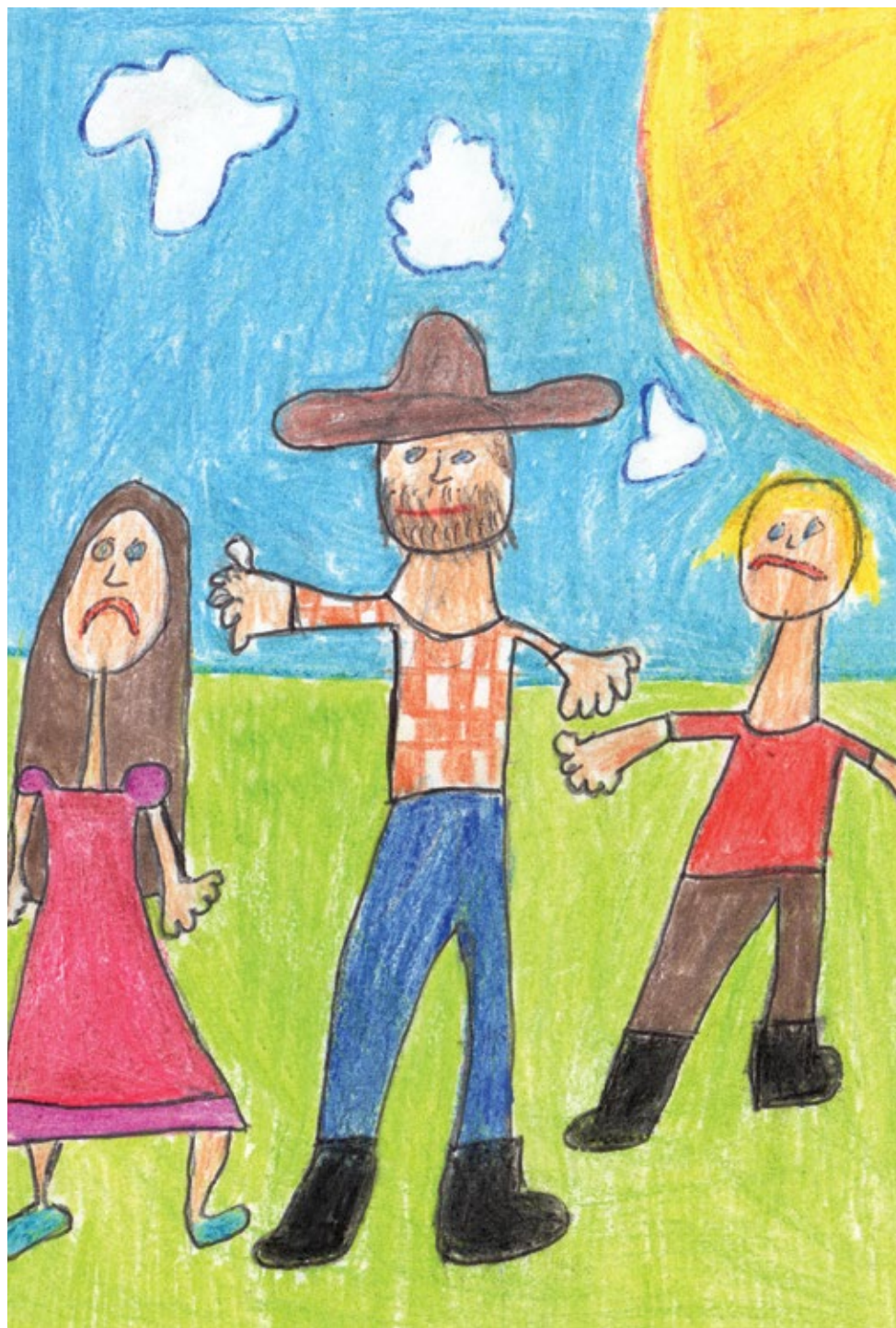
Frank was puzzled. Not only was his cotton crop looking sick but he noticed that his creek looked extremely unhealthy and creatures were dying.

Frank couldn't understand what the problem on his farm was, as he was putting a lot of fertiliser on his crop.



Polly and Fin noticed something alarming when they were cleaning the shed. They read on a fertiliser sack that the chemicals it contained were bad for the environment. Polly and Fin rushed to tell their father what they had found.





“Dad why are you using highly toxic chemicals on our farm?” said Polly.

“It’s really bad for the environment,” said Fin.

“What do you mean,” said Farmer Frank.

“Follow us, we will show you,” replied Fin.

FRANK'S SHED



Polly held up the sack, “Look at this! Read what it says.”

“This chemical may be toxic for the environment,” read Frank. “Only use recommended dose.”

“I didn’t know. I thought any fertiliser would be fine,” said Farmer Frank sadly. “I also thought that more fertiliser meant better crops.”

FRANK'S SHED



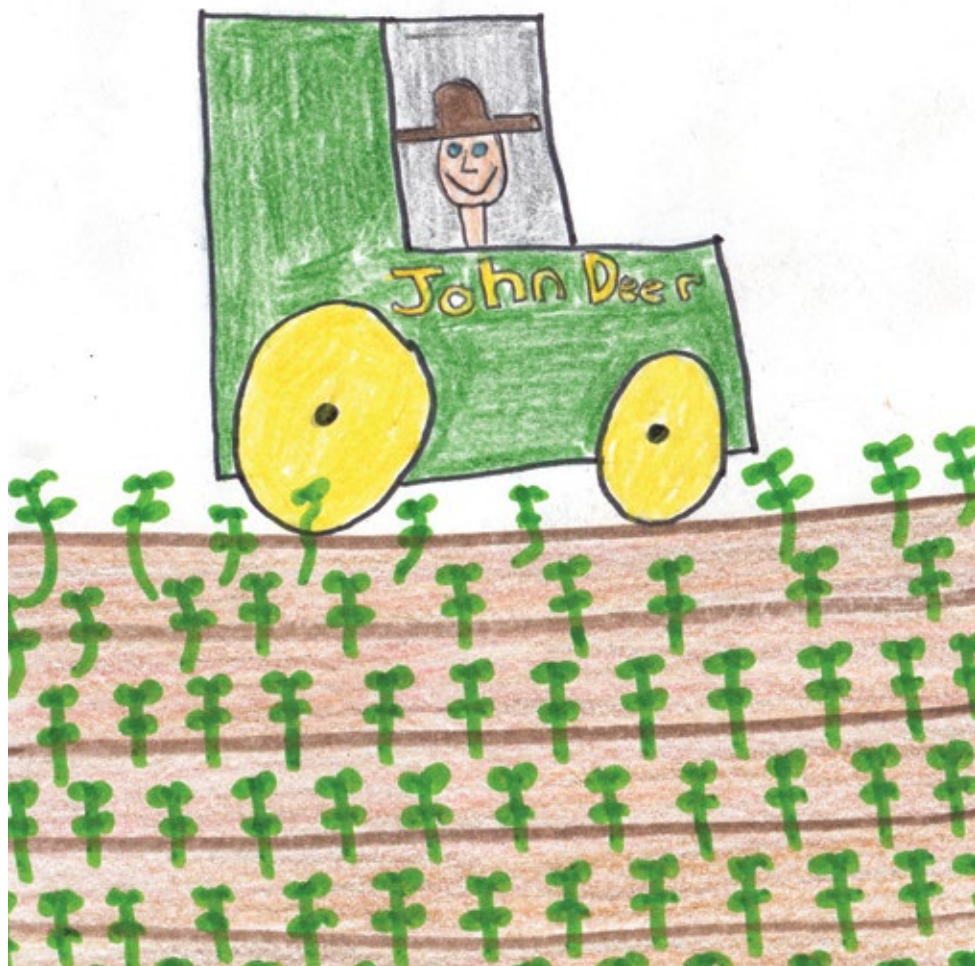
“It’s okay Dad. I am sure we can find a new environmentally friendly fertiliser,” said Polly happily.

“And I bet it will work better if you only use the recommended amount,” Fin chimed in.

From then on Farmer Frank used only environmentally friendly fertiliser. He also made sure he read the instructions carefully so he knew how much to put on his crops.

Farmer Frank was very happy when he managed to grow a lush, healthy crop.

He saved money by following the instructions and protected the environment from poisoning.





Lucinda Caton
Narrabri Public School, Grade 6 2012



**Catchment Management
Authority**
Central West



**Catchment Management
Authority**
Border Rivers-Gwydir



**National
Year of
Reading
2012**