

Enviroman and Perry the Platypus

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Uranquinty Public School



ENVIRO-STORIES 



Enviro-Stories is an environmental education program that has been 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.

Enviroman and Perry the Platypus

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“Biodiversity of the Murray Catchment” Enviro-Stories Education Program

In 2012, the Creative Catchment Kids program delivered the “Biodiversity of the Murray Catchment” Enviro-Stories Education Program. The project was initiated by the Murray Darling Association and Burrumbuttock Public School. It was generously funded by the Murray and Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authorities, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and Teys Australia, Wagga. Additional support came from the Wirraminna and Riverina Environmental Education Centres.



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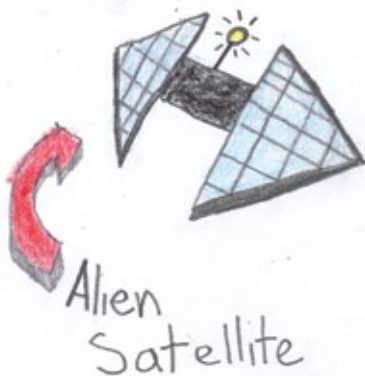
In Australia there is a river called the Murrumbidgee. There was a whole community of animals living there.



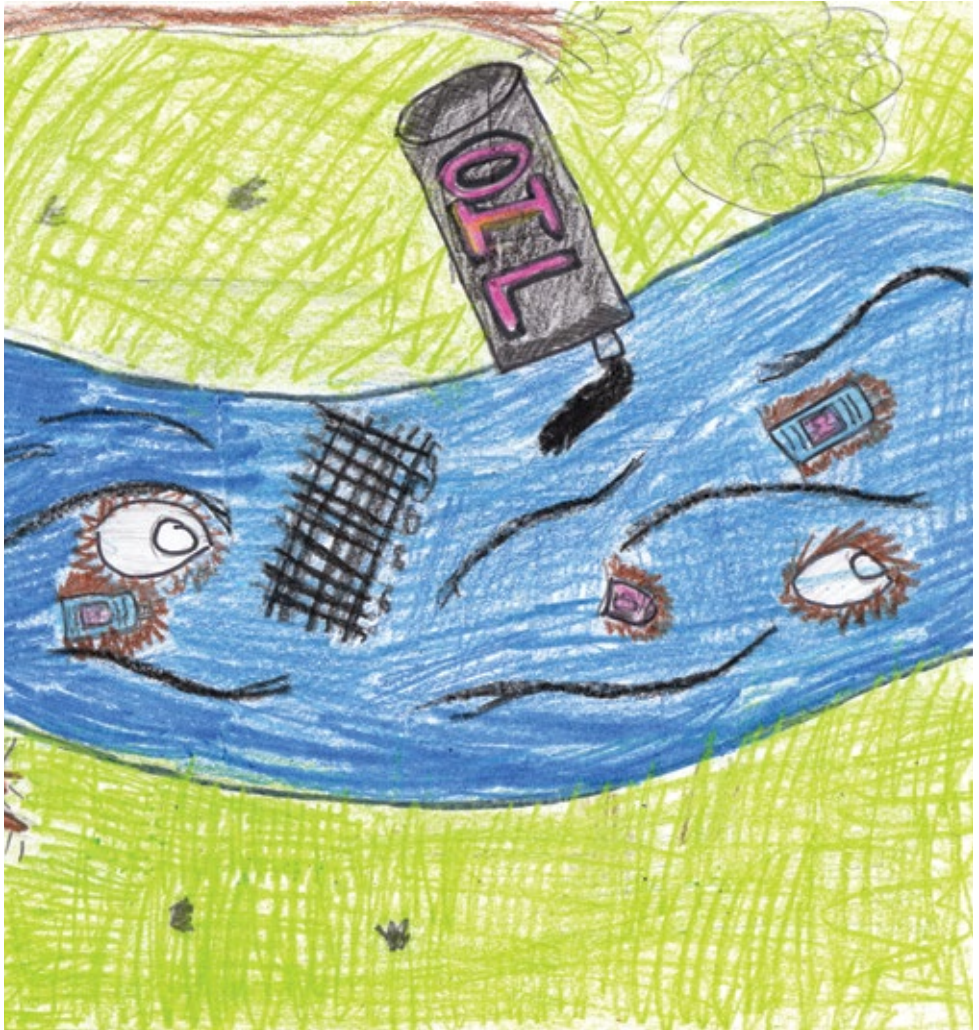
For many years they had been happy but lately they were very unhappy. Their river and surrounds were becoming more and more littered. The water levels were becoming lower. It was not a nice place to live in any more.

Most animals wanted to do something about it. The ones who lived on the land and in the water wanted to do something about it straight away. The birds didn't need to worry because they could go and fly wherever they wanted. They could find food and nicer places to live very easily.

On a different planet called Yourapeia an alien called Enviroman was observing Earth, particularly the Riverina Region. He was so disgusted in what he saw that he decided to come down to Earth and help with their pollution problems.



He thought he would start with the Murrumbidgee River area. He hopped in his space hovercraft and whizzed down to the Riverina in three Yourapeias (three Earth hours).



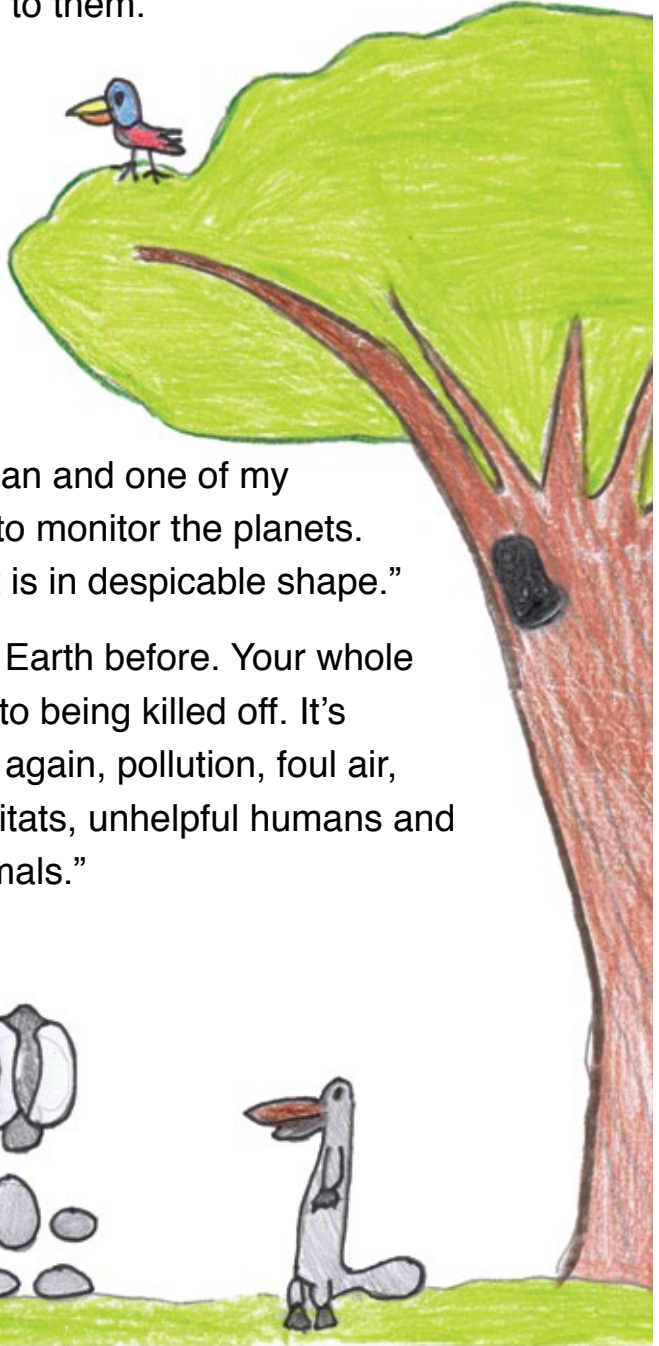
The first animal Enviroman encountered was Perry the platypus who just happened to be the president of the Murrumbidgee Animal Society [MAS]. Enviroman expressed his concern to Perry about how disgusting their river and habitat was! He asked Perry if there was any chance of talking to all the animals that were living in river system about their environment.

Perry told Enviroman that he can ask the bird's to use Twitter to get all the animals to meet him anywhere, anytime. Enviroman asked for a meeting early the next morning.

All the animals met their president the next day. *'Rockin Robin requests you to meet at the Rock Pile!'*



Once all the animals had gathered at the Rock Pile, Enviroman spoke to them.



“Hi, I am Enviroman and one of my important jobs is to monitor the planets. Sadly your planet is in despicable shape.”

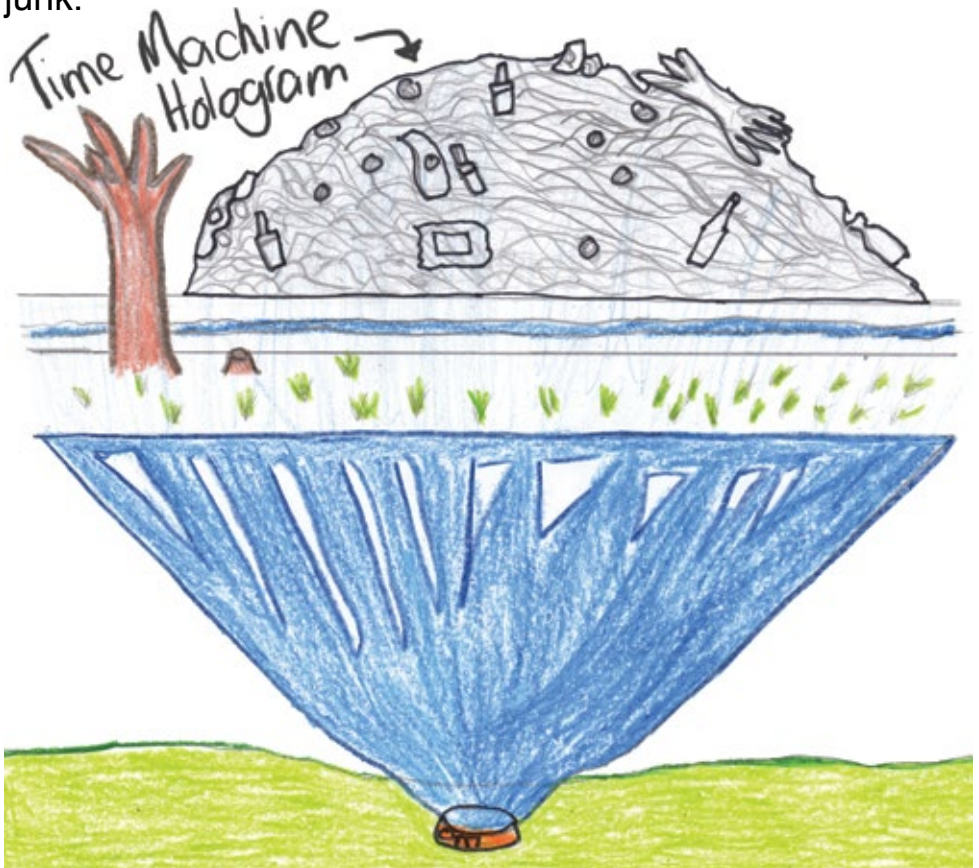
“I’ve seen this on Earth before. Your whole planet was close to being killed off. It’s heading that way again, pollution, foul air, disappearing habitats, unhelpful humans and disorganised animals.”

“Just look at this for a moment,” said Enviroman.

“What is it?” asked Perry.

“It’s a time machine and I’m setting it for two years in advance,” answered Enviroman. Then he pressed a few controls and up flashed their environment, two years into the future.

All the animals were shocked at what they saw. There were red skies and a smoky atmosphere, hardly any trees but worst of all a shallow muddy river full of plastic and junk.



All the animals were horrified and wanted to act immediately.

The birds could now see that soon there wouldn't be any water no matter where they went. All the animals pleaded with Enviroman to help them because they did not know what to do, particularly the human problem!



Enviroman gave them three choices...

Choice 1, use laser guns to zap all rubbish into oxygen themselves.

Choice 2, use brain washing machines in the shape of guns that control all living things.

Choice 3, use food that changes animal behaviour.

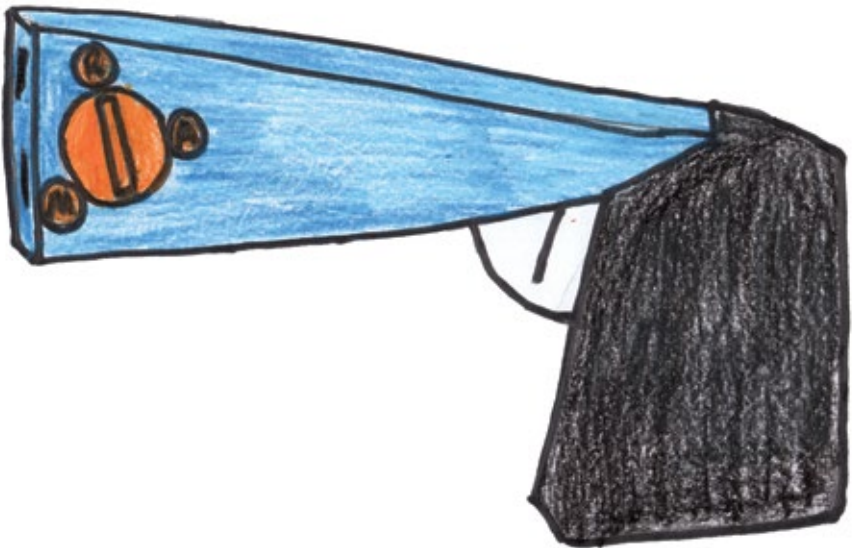
Willy the wise wombat stepped forward and said “Humans have more power than us so let’s go for number 2”.

Karl the kangaroo yelled out, “How about the laser gun, that would be fun.”

Willy replied, “But then we will have to do all the work.” All of the animals agreed that this was too much work.

Barry the bird suggested, “The behaviour changing food seems good to me!”

“But not everyone will eat the food,” said Willy. So the animals decided on the brain washing laser guns. So Enviroman showed them how to use it and gave one to every animal present.





Perry the platypus worked out areas for all the animals to go and brain-wash any human near their habitat and anyone near the river. Before they went, they set the dial to, "Don't litter, look after your Environment."

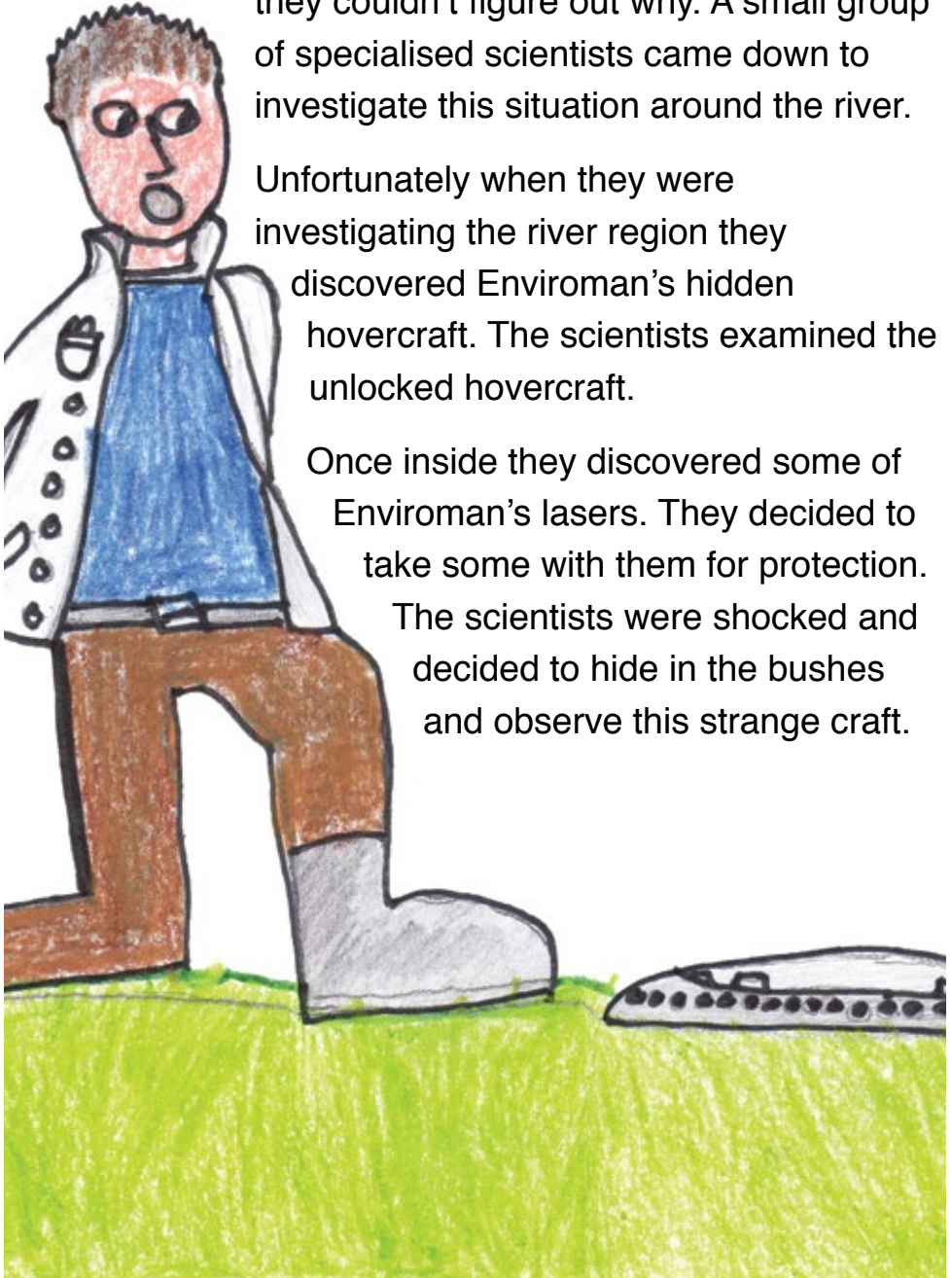
All the animals enjoyed zapping the humans because the laser rays couldn't be detected. But the animals did notice the incredible change in human behaviour. Things weren't being tossed in the river any more in fact many were actually cleaning it up. The humans were taking more care with the environment.

Many scientists started to notice this amazing change in human behaviour and they couldn't figure out why. A small group of specialised scientists came down to investigate this situation around the river.

Unfortunately when they were investigating the river region they discovered Enviroman's hidden hovercraft. The scientists examined the unlocked hovercraft.

Once inside they discovered some of Enviroman's lasers. They decided to take some with them for protection.

The scientists were shocked and decided to hide in the bushes and observe this strange craft.

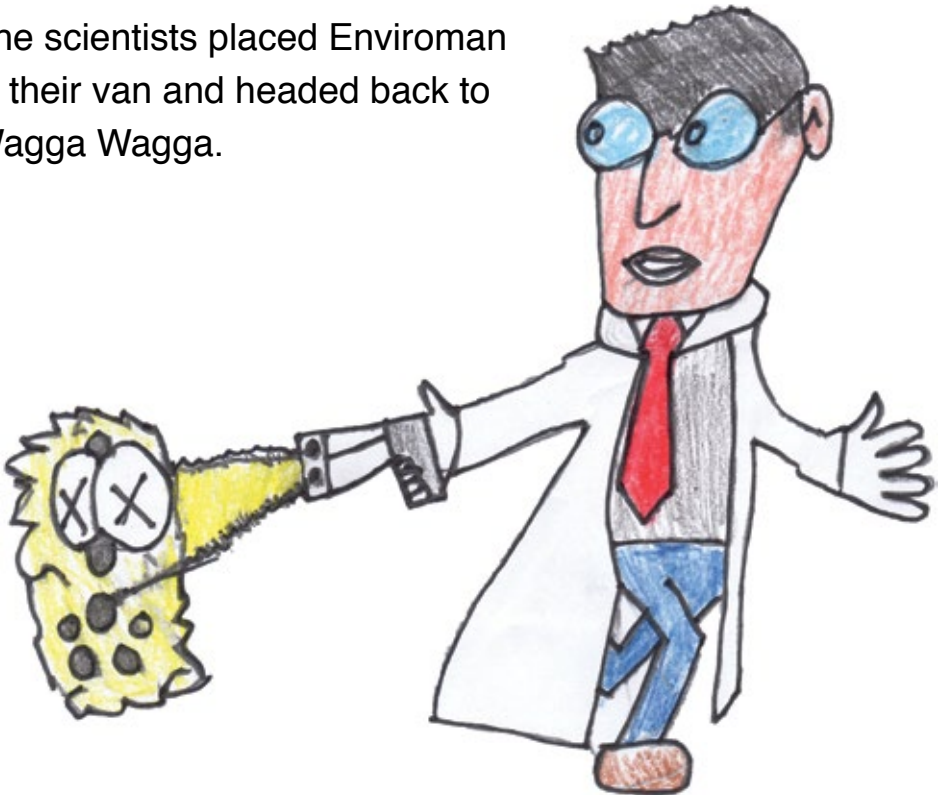


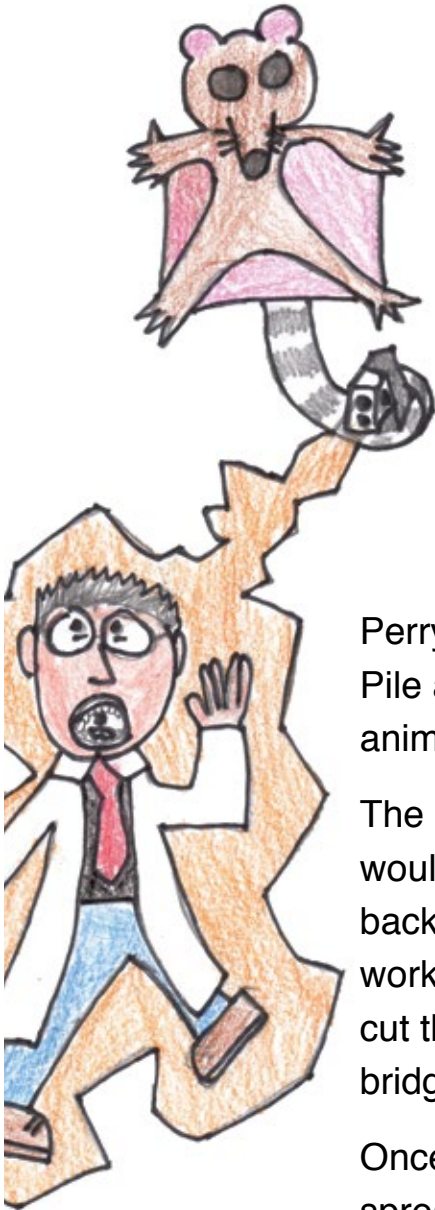
While they were waiting, the scientists studied the laser gun more carefully. The dial control clearly explained how human behaviour had been changed.

“With these weapons you can control any living thing. Look there is even an alien setting,” said one of the scientists.

Suddenly Enviroman and Perry returned to the hovercraft to get some more laser guns. The scientists couldn't resist this opportunity and zapped Enviroman. Enviroman dropped like a meteorite. They zapped Perry but it was the wrong setting so he escaped to the safety of the bush.

The scientists placed Enviroman in their van and headed back to Wagga Wagga.





Perry quickly raced back to the Rock Pile and sent the birds to call all the animals to an emergency meeting.

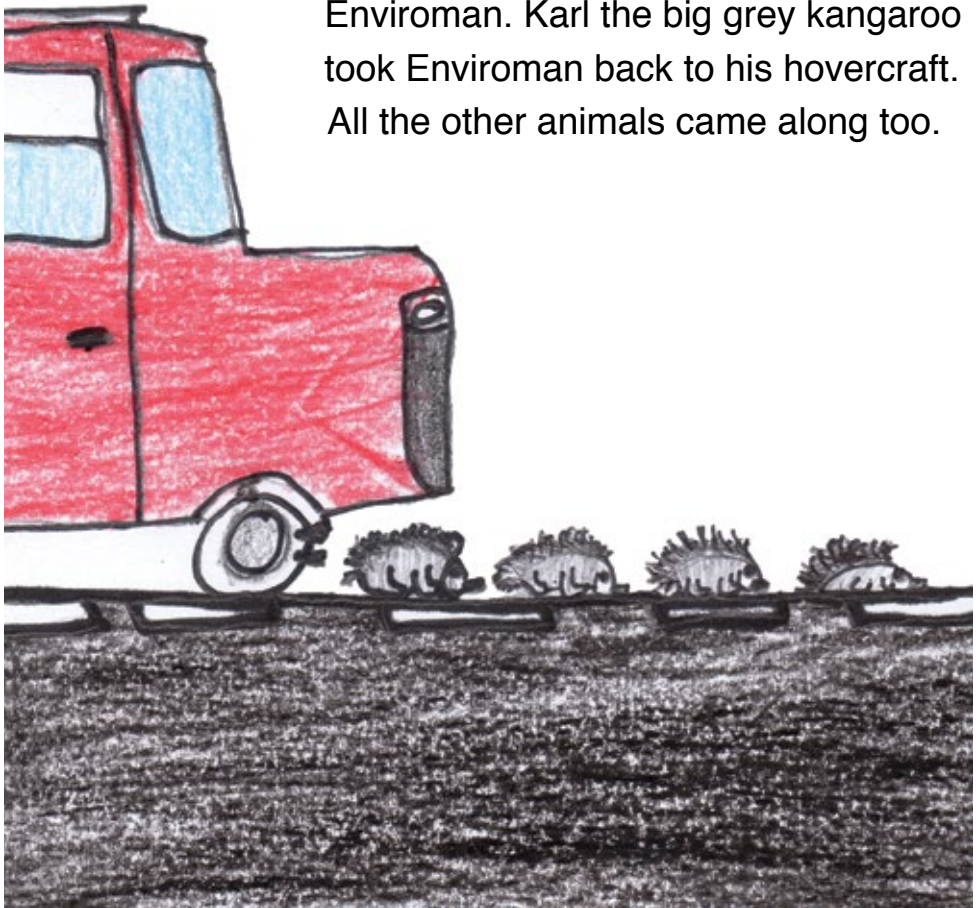
The animals knew that the scientists would be taking the winding track back to Wagga Wagga. They quickly worked out a plan and took a short cut through thick forest near the bridge on the river.

Once they arrived all the echidnas spread out on the road on the curve leading to the bridge. The sugar gliders set their lasers to human stun and waited up in the trees above.

It wasn't much longer when they could hear the scientists van. As the van came around the curve, the tyres hit the echidna's spikes. All the tyres blew out and caused the van to crash. Luckily the scientists and Enviroman weren't hurt.

As soon as they were all out of the van the sugar gliders zapped the scientists. The laser guns went to sleep mode and they all quickly went to sleep.

The animals successfully rescued Enviroman. Karl the big grey kangaroo took Enviroman back to his hovercraft. All the other animals came along too.



Naturally, Enviroman was now very keen to leave earth in a hurry. Perry asked Enviroman about the laser guns. Enviroman thought for a moment and said, “I don’t think we can trust humans with these weapons so I better take them with me.”

“But what about the environment?” asked Perry.

“Now people can see how good it is again, they will keep it like this without being zapped,” answered Enviroman.

Enviroman was right. The scientists soon worked out what had happened and spent a lot of their time helping people to look after their environment. This made the animals really happy.

Enviroman still keeps an eye on things from Yourapeia but so far he hasn’t had to come back yet!





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