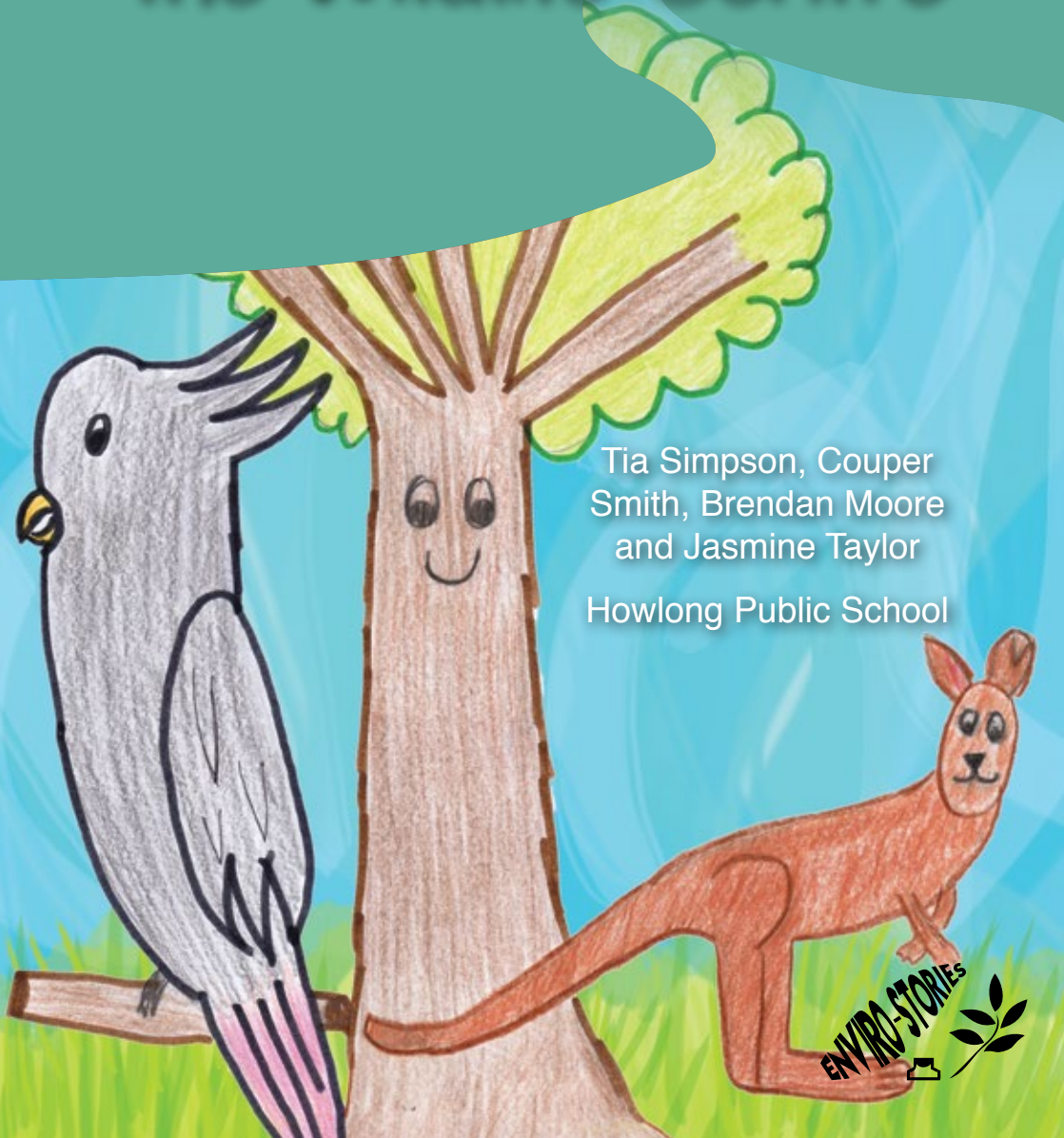


Jim the Joey and the Wildlife Centre

Tia Simpson, Couper
Smith, Brendan Moore
and Jasmine Taylor

Howlong Public School





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.

Jim the Joey and the Wildlife Centre

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School: Howlong Public School

“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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Teeny, tiny, Jim the joey was out on a midnight hop...

Then suddenly CRASH!!! Poor little Jim got hit by a careless driver. Jim hobbled over into the bushland where he was safe.

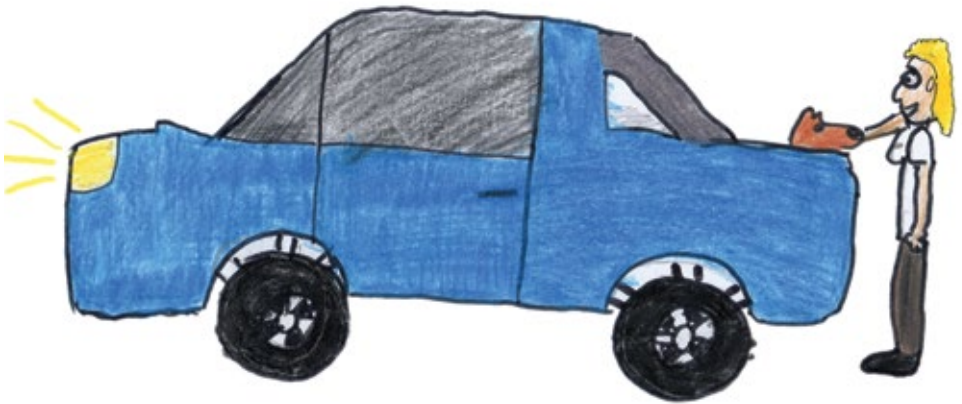
Jim was super dizzy. He found an old River Red gum to lean on. Jim heard a magical voice. He looked behind him but saw only darkness. He heard the voice again, this time it asked, “Can you please get off me?” Jim jumped up and looked around in fright, it was the wise old gum tree speaking.

“Hey Jim are you alright?” asked the gum tree.

“How do you know my name?” queried the puzzled joey in a quivery voice.

“My name is Bob, I’m a magical gum tree. Don’t you worry little one, I will contact the wildlife centre for you,” replied Bob in a soothing mystical voice.



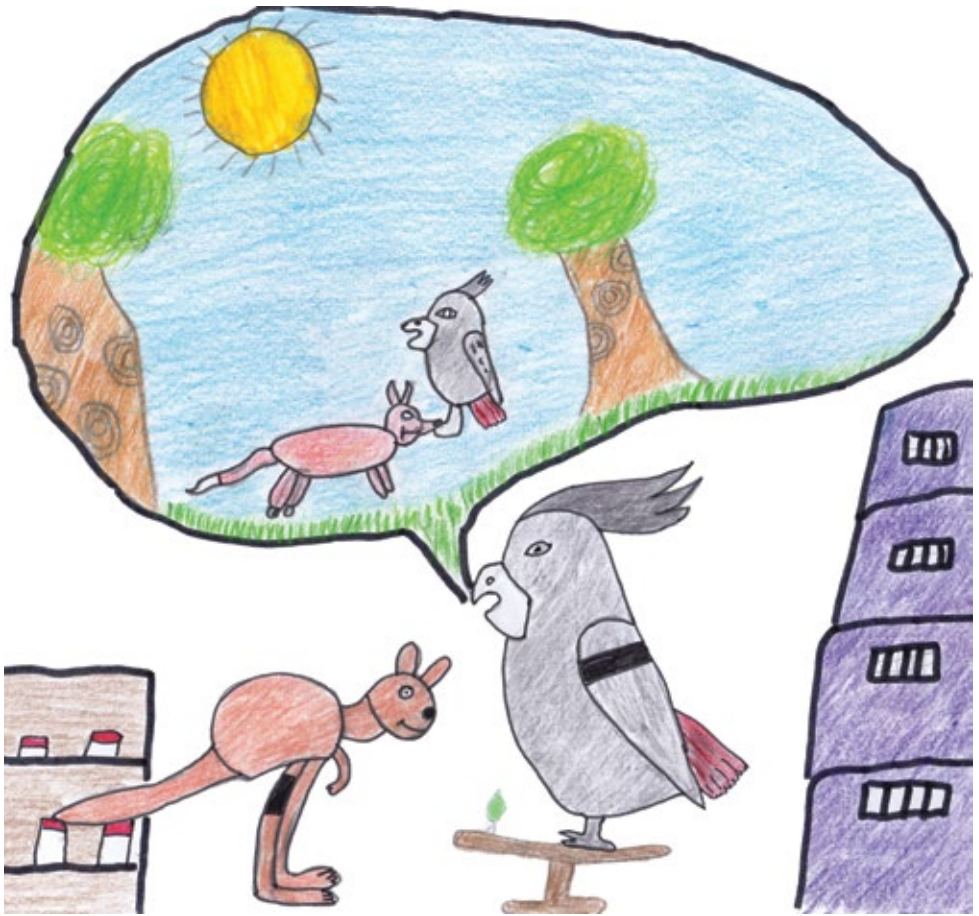


After Bob contacted the wildlife centre, a very friendly wildlife rescuer called Stacey came and put Jim the joey in some toasty warm blankets and drove back to the wildlife centre.



When they arrived at the wildlife centre Jim was placed into a big room full of other hurt animals. One bird really stood out. It was a Red-tailed cockatoo who was called Claire. She looked like she had a broken wing.

Jim went over to her. She explained how she ended up at the friendly wildlife centre.



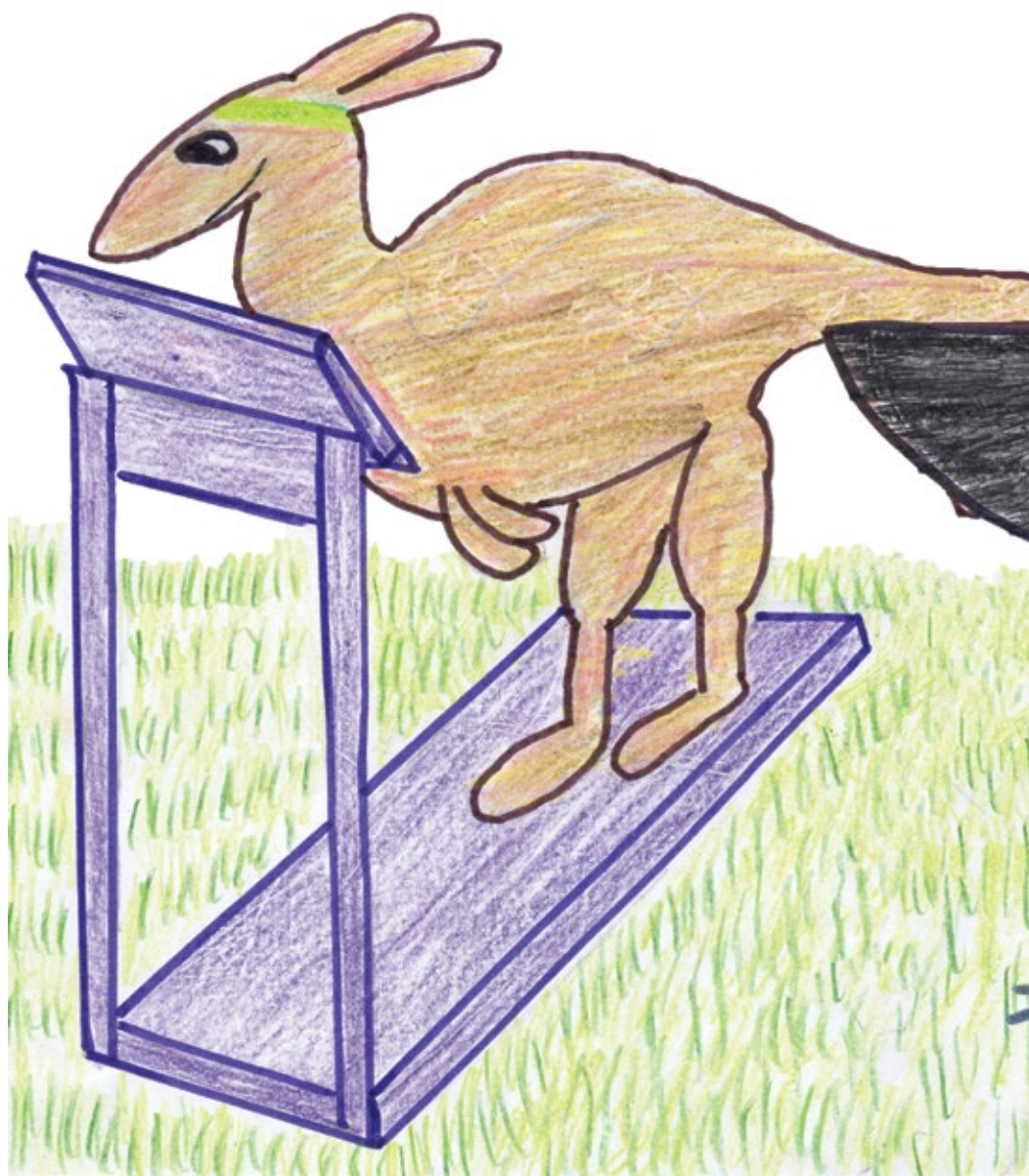
Claire was just sitting in a small tree when she spotted trouble. A fox was coming her way. She was just about to fly away, but it was too late. The fox leaped and attacked her wing. Luckily Stacey was travelling along the road when she spotted Claire. She helped her by taking her back to the friendly wildlife centre.

The next few months were long and hard for Jim the joey and Claire the cocaktoo. They had lots of daily exercises to do to help them get strong enough to be released into the wild.

Jim missed his family but Claire was so caring that he usually didn't mind.

Their favourite time of the day was when they got to eat the nutritious food and excitably talk about the day they would be released into the wild.







Finally, the day arrived when they were to do the final test to see if they were healthy and strong enough to be released back home.

They were both so nervous that they couldn't sleep the night before. They did love being at the centre with friendly Stacey but they wanted to be back home with their friends and family.

The day was long and hard with lots of sweat and tears. They had to run on a treadmill, do lots of star jumps and everything you could possibly think of.

They were to find out if they passed the next day...



The day after the test Stacey rang Bob to let him know that they had passed! YAY!



Once again Jim the joey was put into the car with the warm toasty blankets, but this time with his new found friend Claire the cockatoo beside him.

They were so excited to see Bob and their family and friends to tell them all about the adventures they had together.





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