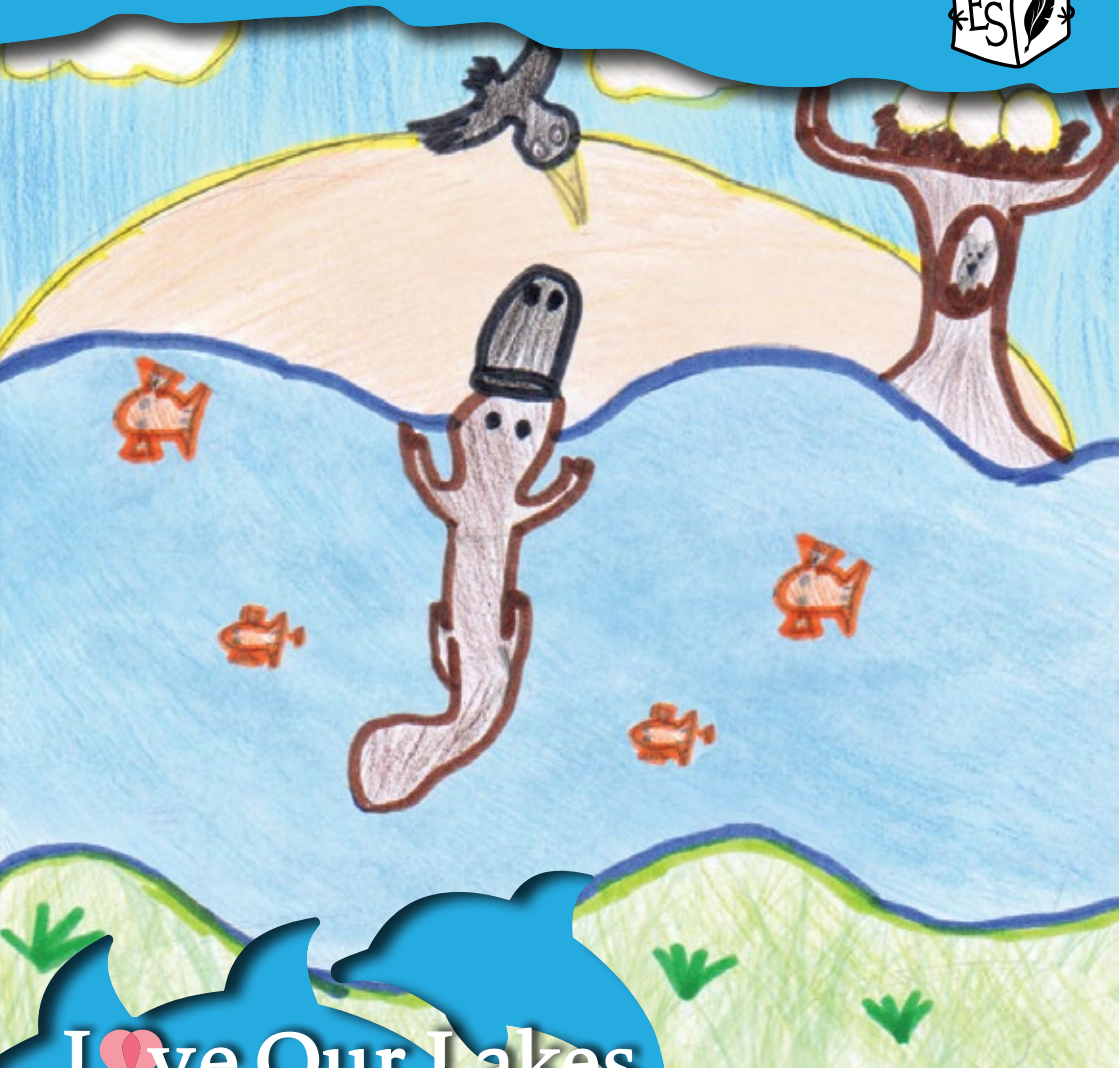


Platypus Reflections

Year 3 to 6
Bruthen Primary School



Love Our Lakes

Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee

The Gippsland Lakes are precious; we need to protect them and pass them on to future generations. 'Love our Lakes' is about a shared responsibility to participate in caring for the Lakes and catchment. The Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee has an important role in assisting the Victorian Government and the community to Love Our Lakes. www.loveourlakes.net.au

Victorian Association of Environmental Education

The Victorian Association for Environmental Education (VAEE) is an independent professional association whose purpose has energised educators from all sectors to contribute their time and expertise to ensuring that environmental education and education for sustainability continue to be valued. www.vaee.vic.edu.au

James Yeates Printing

James Yeates Printing are a family company and produce commercial printing from simple flyers, business stationery and cards, to books and full color promotional brochures. James Yeates Printing have kindly supported this Enviro-Stories program. www.jamesyeatesprinting.com.au



Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area. www.envirostories.com.au

Platypus Reflections

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Bruthen Primary School is nestled in the Tambo River Valley in Victoria. Our students understand that we all have to help to take care of our rivers and lakes to ensure they remain healthy.

These are our reflections about one of our favourite animals that you can find in the rivers throughout East Gippsland...the platypus.



Platypuses don't have teeth

Look for food under the water

Always crushing their food with their bill

They can be killed by rubbish that gets caught in the water

You shouldn't leave rubbish in the river

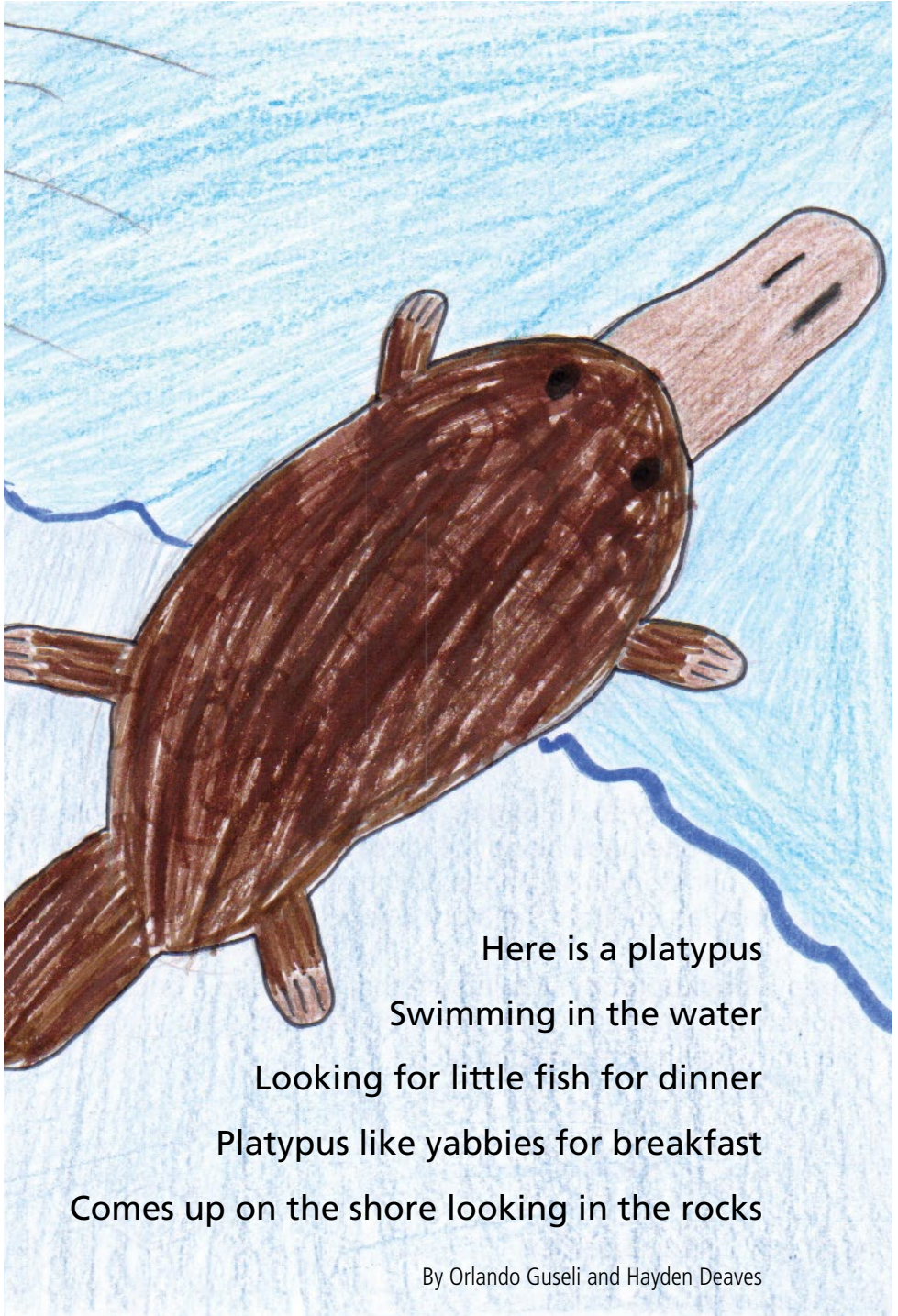
Platypuses eat yabbies

Under water they swim with their eyes closed

Sleeps in a burrow

By Bella Malosso and Ethan Clay





Here is a platypus
Swimming in the water
Looking for little fish for dinner
Platypus like yabbies for breakfast
Comes up on the shore looking in the rocks

By Orlando Guseli and Hayden Deaves



Platypuses bill is covered in small sensors to hunt food

Lays eggs

A mammal that lays eggs is called a monotreme

They live in burrows

You have to be careful because males have a
poisonous spur

Platypuses crush food with their beak

Underwater creature

Sometimes they get stuck inside opera house traps and
die



By Jemma Davies and Michael Perrin



Platypus like worms, small fish, yabbies and shrimp

Lots of platypus die from opera house traps because they don't allow the platypus to get up to the surface for oxygen

A male platypus has a spur on its hind leg to fight for girls

They dig their burrows 30 centimetres deep

You can help save platypuses by not littering in our rivers

Platypus are mammals but lay eggs, they are called monotremes

Under the water these creatures scavenge for food to eat, with their eyes closed

Size of a male is 50 centimetres long and girls are 40 centimetres long

By Madison Payne and Tyesha Hood



Platypus don't have teeth

Looks like a combination of heaps of other animals

A platypus eats worms and other animals

The scientists thought the bill was sown on

You could not believe that platypus can die in yabby traps

Platypus can swim with their eyes closed

Usually you would see a platypus in rocky river beds

Size is about 50 centimetres long

By Cec Matthews and Justin Clay

I am a platypus,

I build burrows.

A male can grow to 50 centimetres,

A female can grow to 40 centimetres.

I lay eggs,

My babies take 3 or 4 months to get out of the burrow.

By Wil Matthews and Cody Malosso



Platypuses don't like pollution and man-made stuff

Look like different animals with the bill and webbed feet like a duck and a tail like a beaver

At sheltered rivers, and rivers with running water, you may find a platypus

They don't have teeth; they crush their food up with their bill plates

You should never leave rubbish at any river because platypus can choke on it

Platypus fur goes one way, so they can swim in currents

Under the water platypuses shut their eyes and feel with their bill for food

So many platypuses die because people leave rubbish around rivers and they can choke on it

By Grace Prior and Georga Strickland





Platypus bodies look like other animals; tail like a beaver, bill and feet like a duck

Lays eggs like a reptile

Animals that eat platypus are foxes, eagles, dingoes and Murray cod

They eat worms, shrimp, water bugs and snails

You know you shouldn't throw rubbish in the river...so don't!

Platypus males grow up to 50 centimetres and females grow up to 40 centimetres

Use their bill to sift through mud to collect food

Snakes, such as pythons, can attack a platypus

By Alyssa Payne and Harry Morris

I am a platypus.

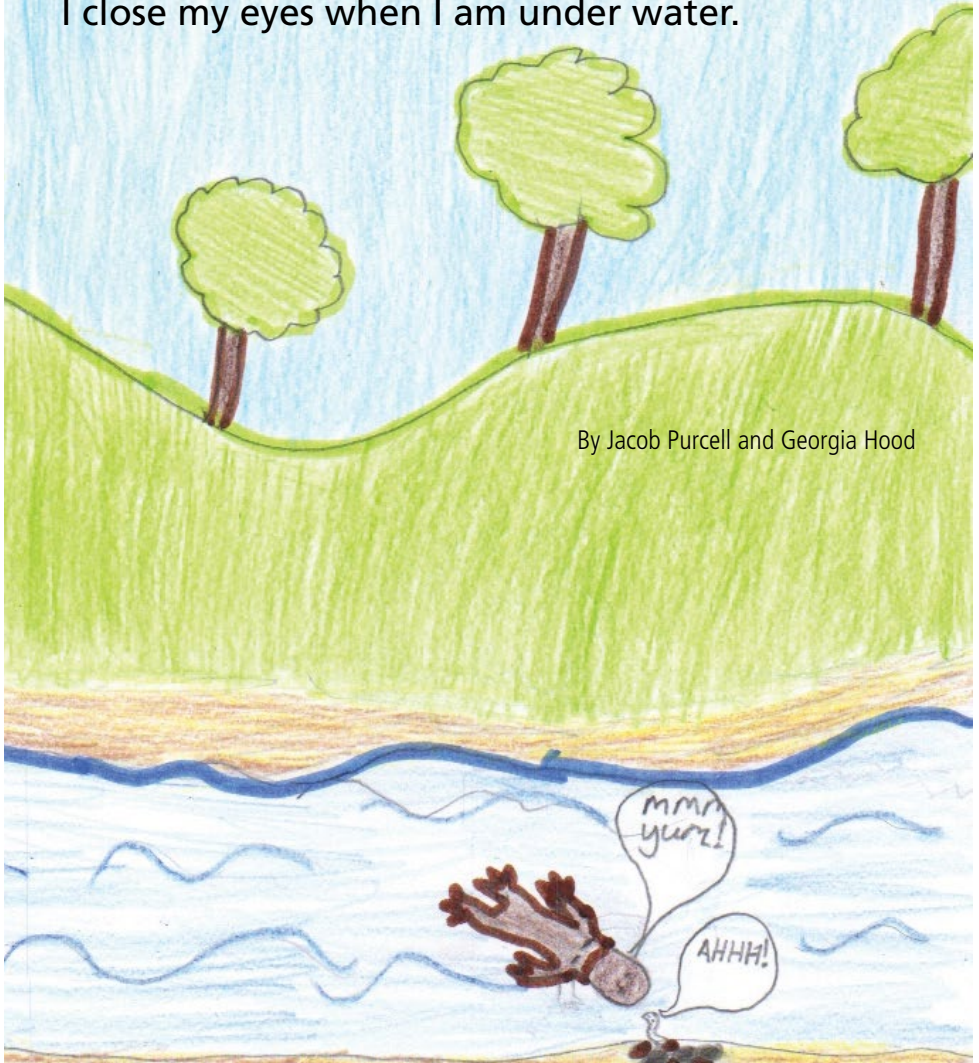
I like to swim near riverbanks and in running rivers.

I have a bill like a duck.

I have webbed feet, and I don't have teeth.

I close my eyes when I am under water.

By Jacob Purcell and Georgia Hood



Platypus is Greek for 'flat footed'

Looks like a mix between a beaver, duck and reptile

A platypus is brown

The platypus is very hard to find during the day

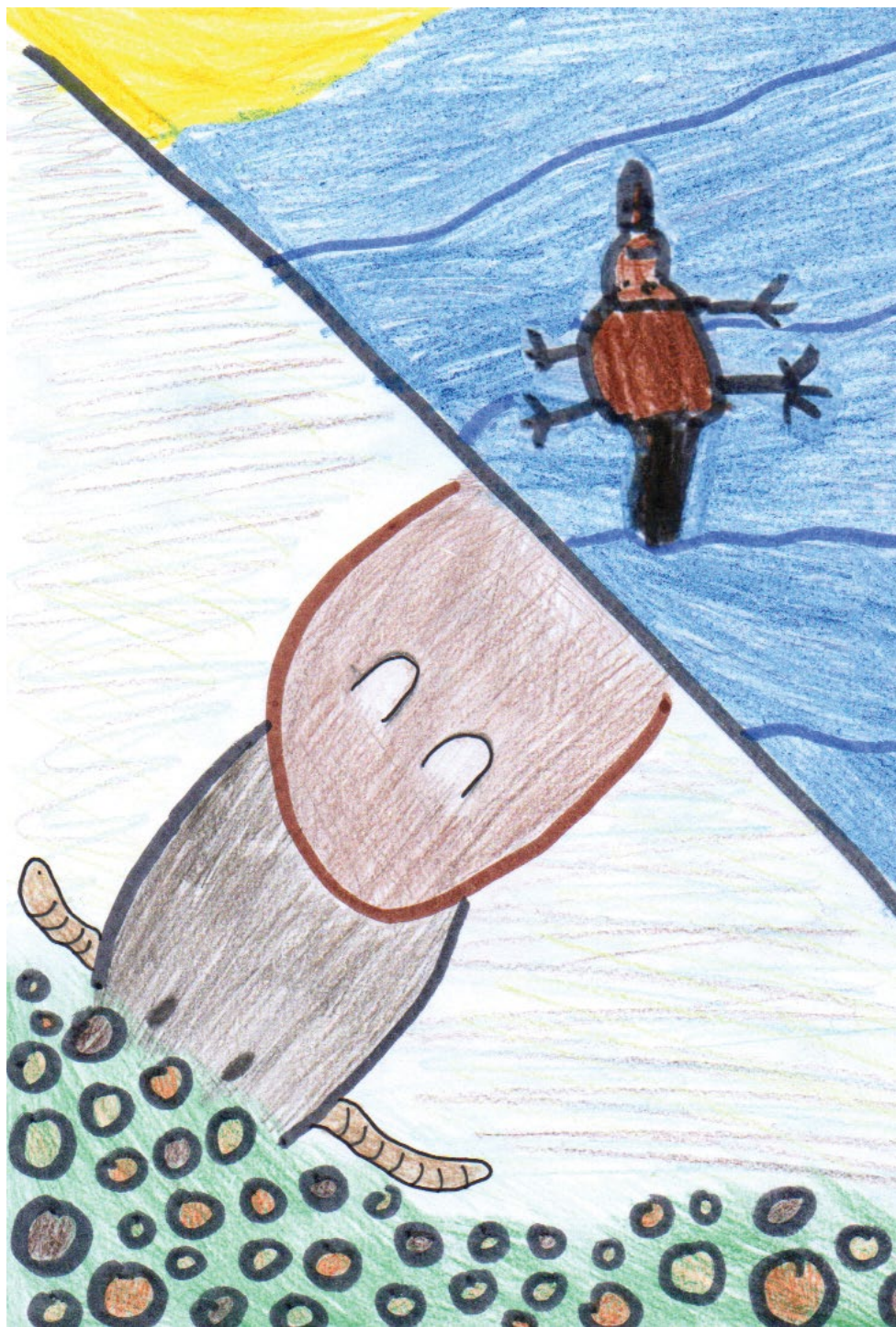
Young are kept in burrows

Prey of many animals

Uses bill to search for food

Spur on their foot that's poisonous

By Chloe Brooks and Leo Marino



Predators of the platypus are eagles, foxes and dingoes

Look like many different animals

Animals are good for the environment

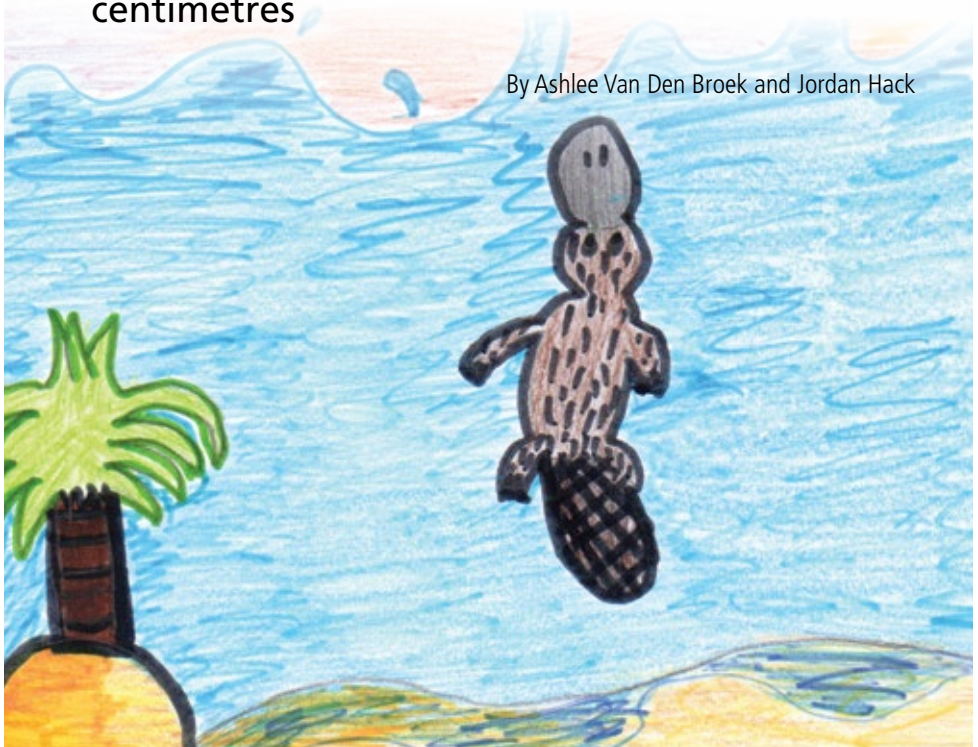
The scientists tried to pull off the bill of the platypus - they thought it was a hoax

Yabby nets can kill a platypus

Platypuses are a good animal for the world

Use spurs to fight for females

Size of the platypus is around 40 to 50 centimetres





2014 Year 3 to 6
Bruthen Primary School

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