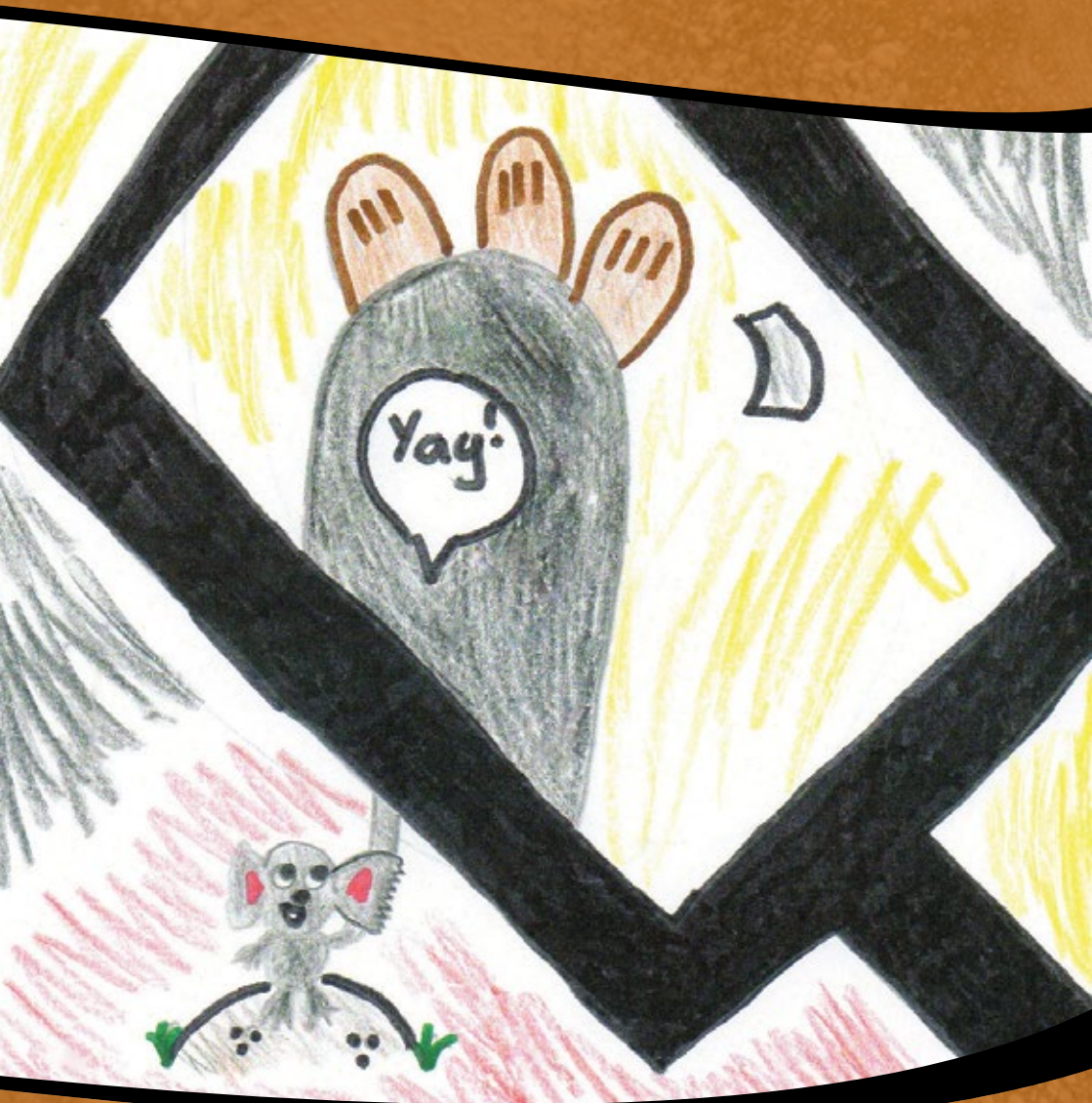


How the Koala got his claws



Nia Boggs
Parkes East Public School



Enviro Stories

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

In 2014, the “Tools, Totems & Tucker” Enviro-Stories program provided local kids with the opportunity to write and illustrate stories about local Aboriginal cultural - in particular Wiradjuri culture. This program was sponsored by the Central West and Central Tablelands Local Land Services.

Central Tablelands Local Land Services

The Central Tablelands Local Land Services region is located in central New South Wales and covers an area of approximately 31,365 km². It includes the major towns of Bathurst, Blayney, Cowra, Lithgow, Molong, Mudgee, Oberon and Orange. It falls predominantly within Wiradjuri Aboriginal country and small parts of Dharug and Darkinjung country.

www.lls.nsw.gov.au/centraltablelands

Central West Local Land Services

The Central West Local Land Services region is home to around 110,000 people and covers the central west slopes region around Grenfell, Forbes and Wellington to the western plains of Nyngan and Coonamble. The major Aboriginal nations that the central west region overlies are the Wiradjuri, Wailwan, Wongaibon, Kawambarai and Kamialroi. These nations also extend into other Local Land Services regions.

www.lls.nsw.gov.au/centralwest

How the Koala got his claws

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The “Tools, Totems and Tucker” Enviro-Stories Program has been proudly supported by the Central West and Central Tablelands Local Land Services.

The “Tools, Totems & Tucker” collection consists of the following books:

Sponsored by Central Tablelands Local Land Services

- Aboriginal Totems
- Our Living Land
- Aboriginal Animal Tracks
- Aboriginal Life
- The Dreamtime Trilogy

Sponsored by Central West Local Land Services

- Burnum finds his way
- How the Koala got his claws
- Storm Boy and Uncle Farren
- The Peculiar Platypus
- The Rainbow Serpent is back!

ISBN: 978 1 74256 707 5

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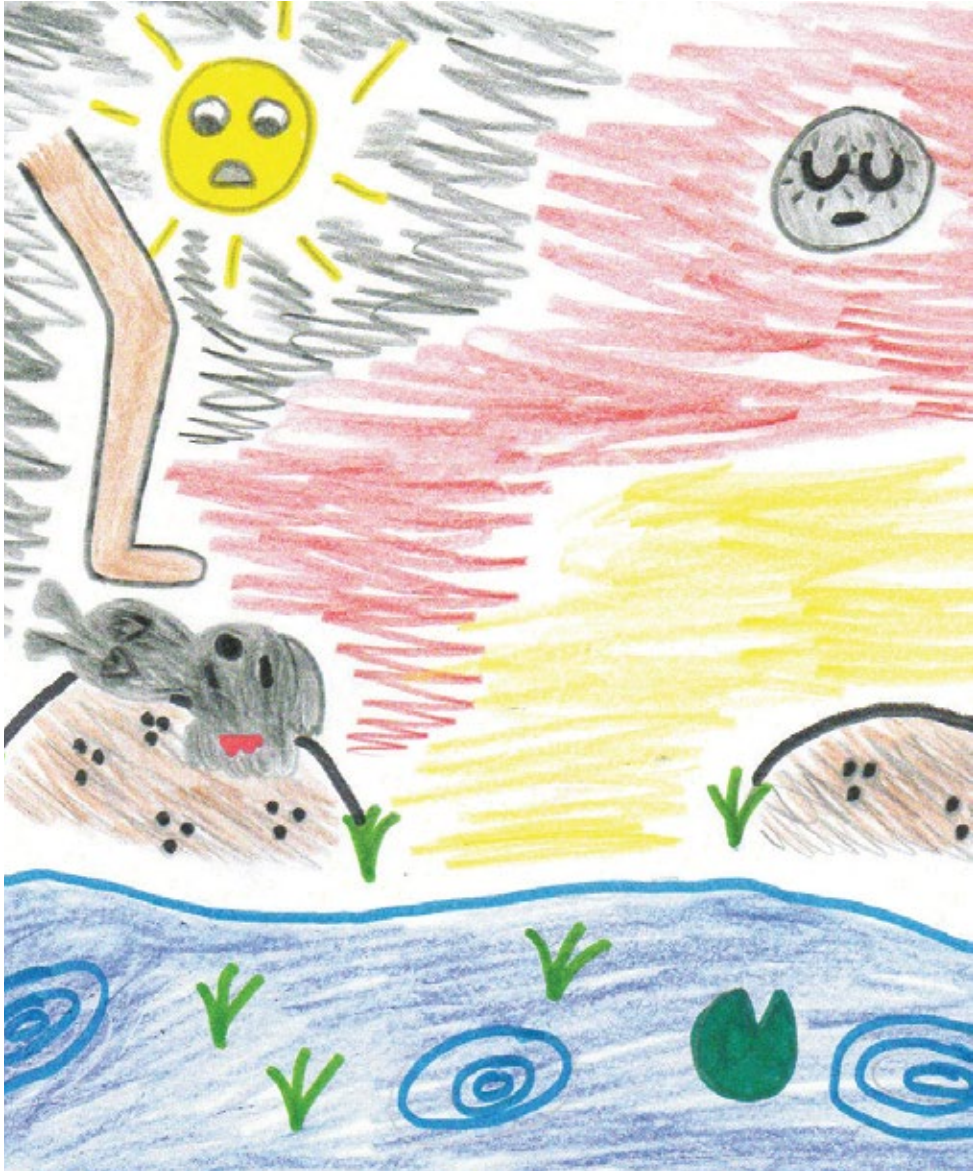
In the Dreamtime, the Koala was always awake, even at night!



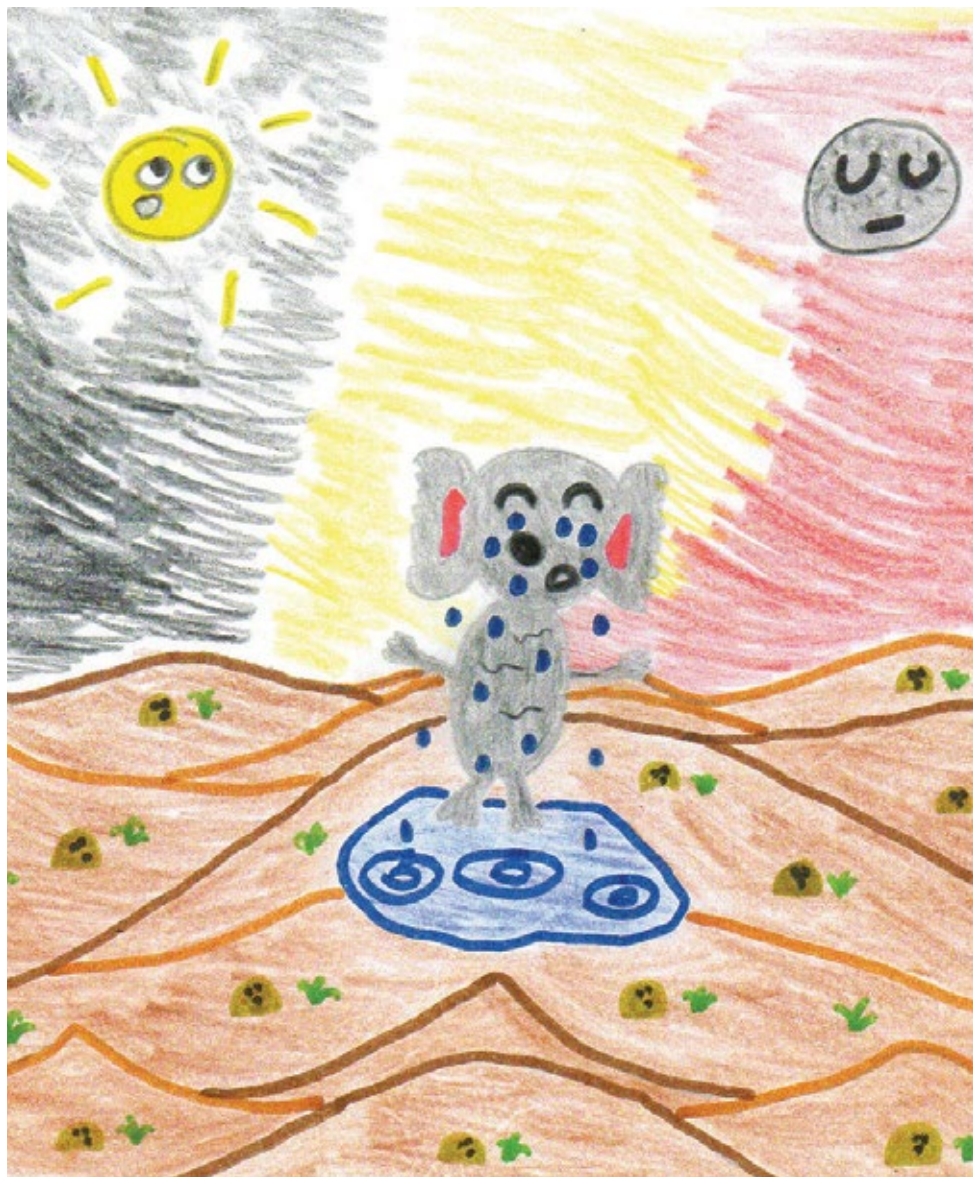
But eventually one day he became really tired and ended up falling asleep on a rock.



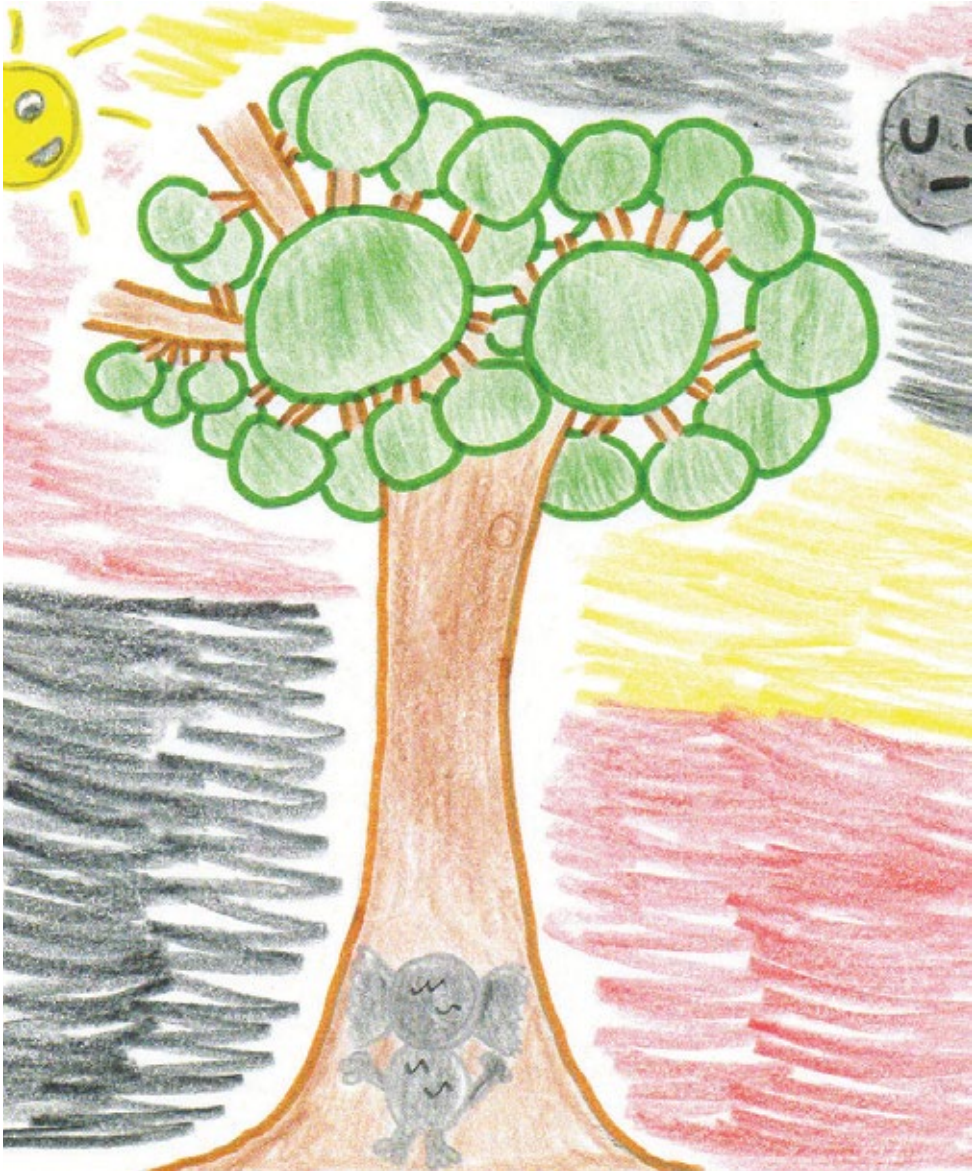
Koala was abruptly woken when he was accidentally stepped on by an Aboriginal person travelling through the area. Koala became very scared.



“Ahhhhhhhhh!” Koala cried.



Koala looked frantically for a place to hide. He tried to climb a tree but he fell back down because he had no claws to grip the tree.



In fear, Koala ran away to a nearby forest.
Where he ran into an emu.



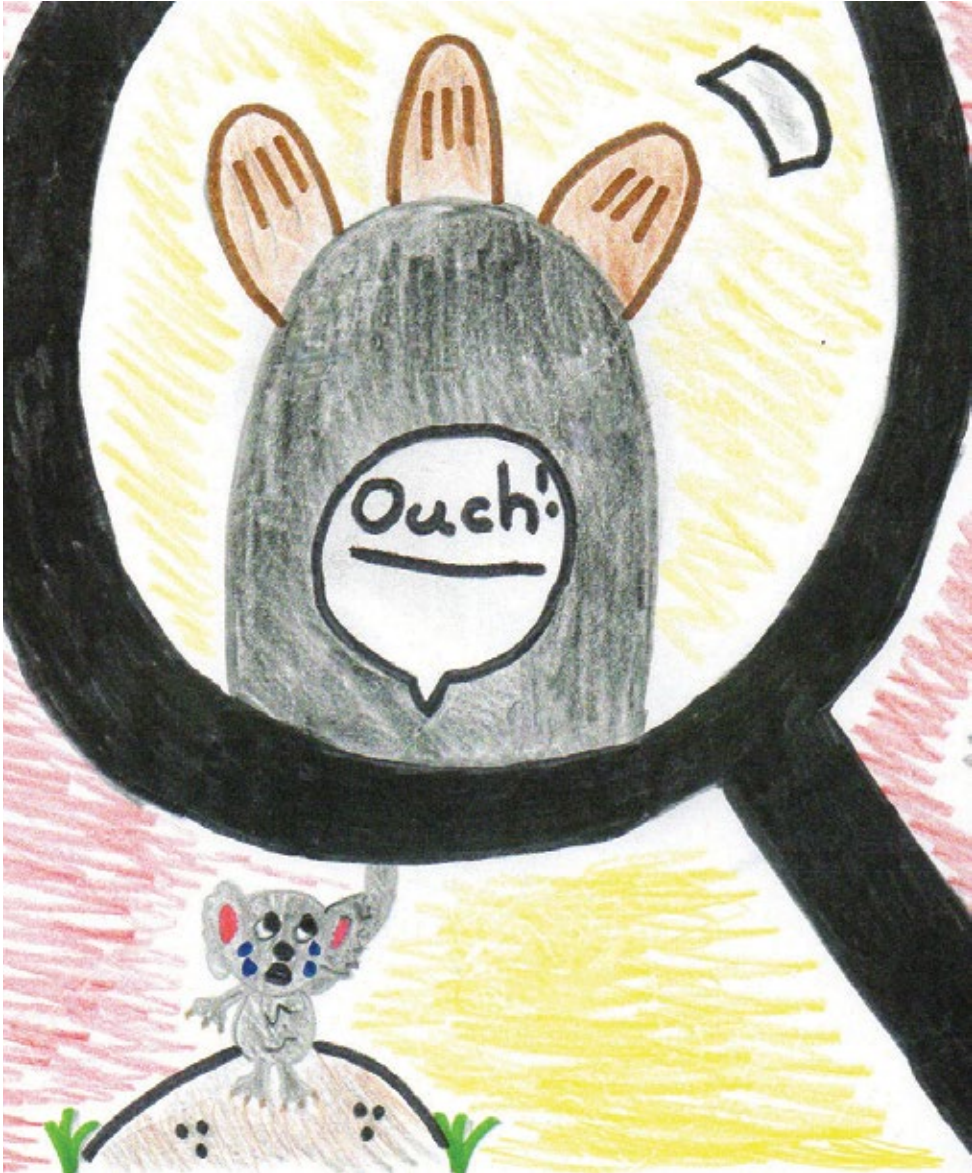
The emu was angry at being disturbed and pecked at Koala and picked him up in her mouth.



Koala bit the emu to try and escape. He thought he was going to be eaten. In surprise, the emu spun her head and threw Koala up into a tree.



Koala landed so hard he ended up with giant splinters in his paws.



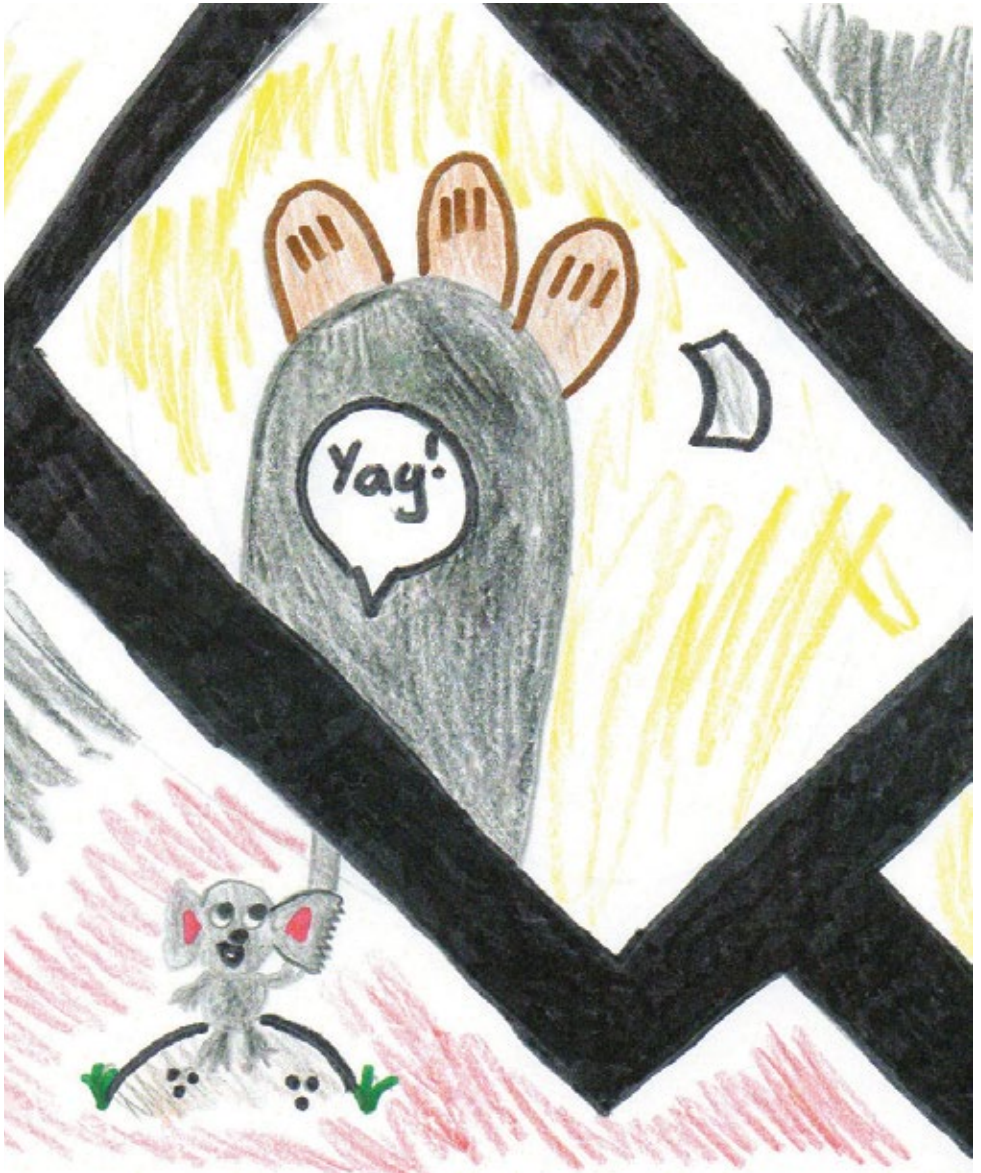
But Koala realised he was up so high, and so far away, from anything that could harm him.



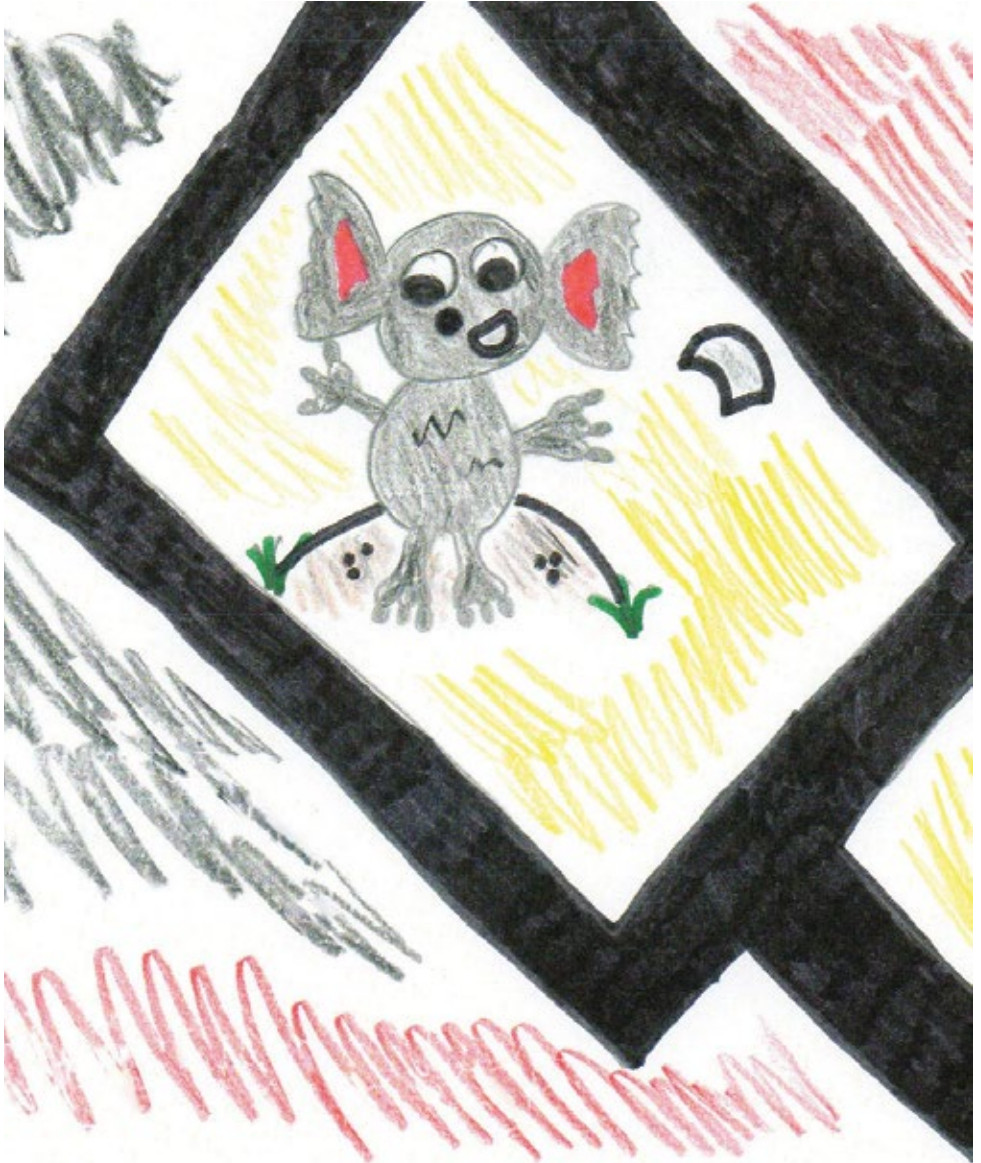
He felt safe. He loved his new safe home.



Koala had landed with such a force that the splinters became stuck in his paws forever.





Over time, the splinters turned to bone.
They had now become very sharp claws.



From then on, koalas could live safe and happy, high up the trees. They could use these claws to climb up and down whenever they wanted.



HOW
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HIS
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Nia Boggs
Parkes East Public School, Year 4 2014

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