

Rearing Polly



Chloe Worth
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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 “Farming Families” Enviro-Stories program provided local kids with the opportunity to write and illustrate stories about farming, farming communities and sustainable farming practices. This program was sponsored by the Cotton Research & Development Corporation, North West and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services.

Cotton Research & Development Corporation

Cotton Research & Development Corporation (CRDC) is a partnership between the Australian Government and the Australian cotton industry. CRDC invests in and manages a portfolio of research, development and extension projects that seek to enhance the environmental, social and economic values associated with cotton production systems for the benefit of cotton industry participants, regional communities and the Australian people.

www.crdc.com.au

Local Land Services

Local Land Services delivers customer-focussed services to farmers, landholders and the community across rural and regional NSW. Local Land Services bring together agricultural production advice, biosecurity, natural resource management and emergency management into a single organisation. This program has been supported by both the North West Local Land Services and the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services.

www.lls.nsw.gov.au

Rearing Polly

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The “Farming Families” Enviro-Stories program has been proudly supported by the Cotton Research and Development Corporation, North West Local Land Services and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. This program was held in support of the United Nations 2014 International Year of Family Farming.



The “Farming Families” collection consists of the following books:

- A Farming Family
- Rearing Polly
- Eddie the Echidna
- Mystery in the Chicken Yard
- Mya and Jack’s Experience of Cotton
- Pest Troubles
- Farmer Matt Saves the Day
- A Sustainable Farm
- Going to the Cattle Yards

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In a paddock on a farm a little lamb named Polly bleated and cried continuously. Her mother had died and now she was all alone.



Farmer Bob the farmer who owned Polly found her underneath a tree shivering. Farmer Bob brought Polly home and put her near the fire, wrapping her in a warm blanket.



Farmer Bob had no other spare ewes to raise Polly. He was worried that she would not survive. Bob rang up his neighbour, Jack, to see if he wanted Polly for his two little daughters, Molly and Millie. Jack said very happily, "Yes please. I'll come and pick her up right now."



So Jack got in his Ute and
drove to farmer Bob's house.



Jack picked her up and put Polly on the front seat. "Thanks Bob, my girls will take great care of her," said Jack. He went back home to show the girls their new pet.



Mille and Molly were very excited when they saw her. Their mum, Kelly, mixed up some milk so they could feed Polly.



Polly swallowed that down very fast. She was starving!

Mille and Mollie sat down, cuddling and patting her. When they had to go to bed Polly was put in an old baby play pen to sleep near the warm fire.



The next morning when they woke up, Polly didn't look too well so Kelly took her to the vet. The vet checked her tummy.

"You should give her some electrolytes," said the vet. "She got a bit dehydrated and they should help her get better."

Kelly bought some formula for lambs that contained electrolytes and then went home.





When Kelly arrived home Millie and Molly ran out to her and asked, “How’s Polly?”

“She has to have some electrolytes but she will be fine,” their mum said.

“What are electrolytes?” Millie asked.

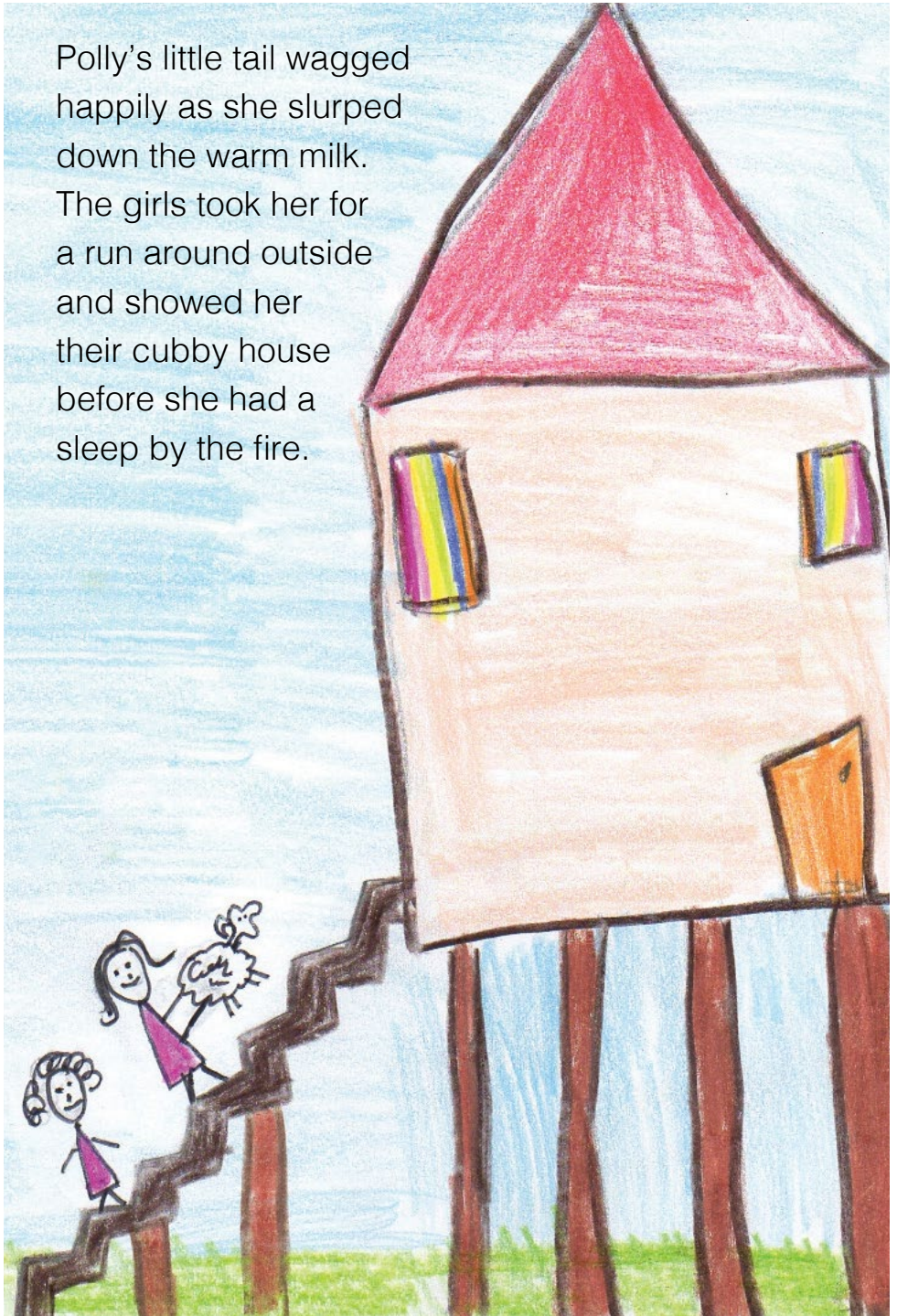
“They are like a medicine that will make Polly better. They will give her the energy to run and play again. Sport’s people often take electrolytes to help their muscles feel better after exercising,” Kelly replied.





So Kelly gave her some electrolytes and Polly was already looking much better. Within ten minutes she was walking around and 'baaa-ing' for milk. Molly filled the beer bottle up with milk, placing the teat in Polly's mouth.

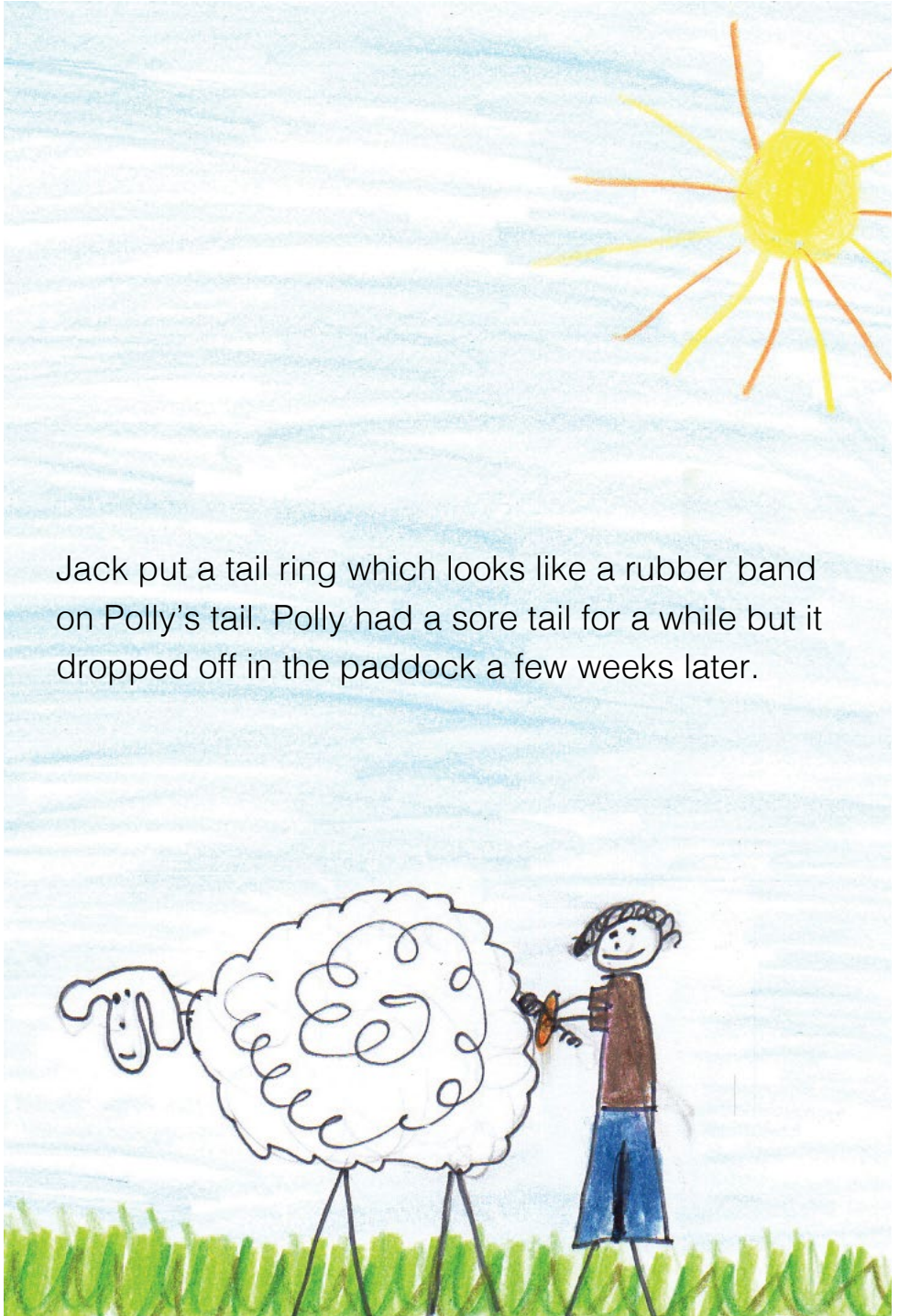
Polly's little tail wagged happily as she slurped down the warm milk. The girls took her for a run around outside and showed her their cubby house before she had a sleep by the fire.





Polly was very happy living with Mille and Molly. Her days were spent drinking milk, playing and sleeping.

She was quickly growing and it was time for Polly to lose her tail to help keep the flies away.



Jack put a tail ring which looks like a rubber band on Polly's tail. Polly had a sore tail for a while but it dropped off in the paddock a few weeks later.



Polly grew healthy and strong and had lambs herself when she grew up. She always had a special place on the farm and in their hearts. They were always glad that they had spent the time rearing Polly.



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