

Finding a Soil Solution



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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

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Hi! I am Farmer Lawson and this is my story.

On a fine, sunny Tuesday morning I bought a nice property called 'Yera' out near Bellata, NSW. My new property will be devoted to my wheat crop.

I love farming!



After I moved in I set up a website to hire some workers to help out around the farm.

I got some responses and eventually found my workers for the job. They were Joe, Sid and Bob, just to mention a few.



My helpers started the following week and all six of us helped plant the wheat crop. At the end of one very long and tiring day we were done. Now we just had to wait for the crops to grow and develop.



I waited and waited for something to grow. The days became tiring weeks and the weeks became long months. When nothing was happening, I realised that something had to be wrong... very wrong.



I drove into town and saw the local agronomist. He said he would come out to the farm and check my soil to see if we could find a solution for my problem.

At three o'clock that afternoon the agronomist came to the farm.



Later that night he called and said the problem was that I had 'sour soil' on my hands. This meant it was too acidic for growing crops. The solution was to put pulverised limestone on the affected soil to fix it.



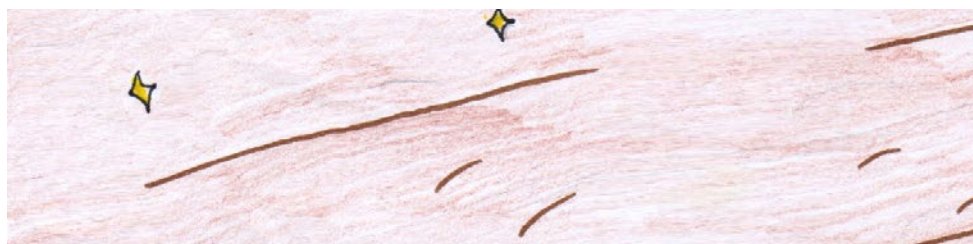
The good news was that only the topsoil was sour, so it would be easy to treat. I went into town the next morning and bought the limestone to recover my soil.



The farm workers and I spent the next day working immensely hard in the paddock. First, we had to make the soil soft so the pulverised limestone would settle down into the soil. Once that was done we used irrigation hoses to water the soil.



Eventually the soil had reached perfection and all the hard, tiring work had paid off.





The soil was now ready for planting.





I used my tractor to plant my wheat seeds, which of course grew wonderfully due to the pulverised limestone treatment.



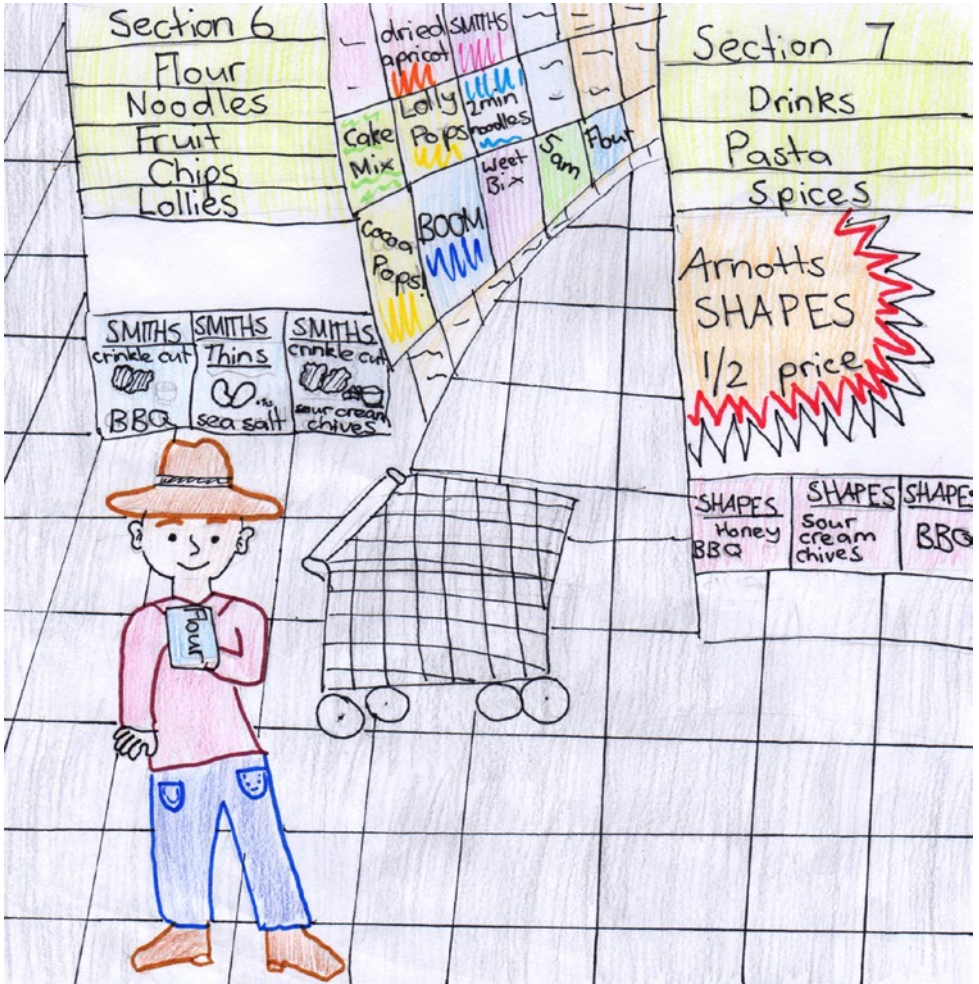




My crop was harvested and sold in time.



I made lots of money to go
towards next year's produce.



To the present day, every time I see produce with wheat in it I feel content knowing that my good soil and healthy crops have contributed to helping feed our community.



Chloe Irvine
Narrabri Public School, Year 6 2017



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