

Feral Animals IN THE MID-WEST



Leaning Tree Community 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

Northern Agricultural Catchments Council

The Northern Agricultural Catchments Council delivers activities and programs in combination with community groups, business and industry, non-government organisations, and all levels of government to conserve and enhance natural assets and advance sustainable outcomes in the region.

Feral Fix: Feral Animal Education and Control provides a strategic regional approach to integrated feral animal management across the Northern Agricultural Region (NAR). This project aims to improve community capacity and increase the number of land managers adopting more coordinated approaches to feral animal management.

www.nacc.com.au

Feral Animals in the Mid-West

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Enviro-Stories is a PeekKdesigns initiative, www.peekkdesigns.com.au.

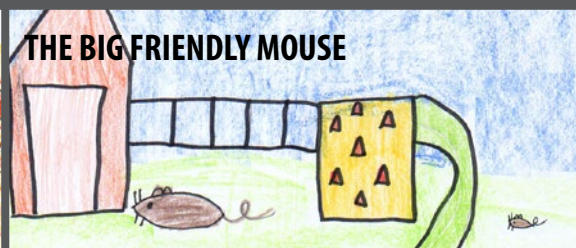
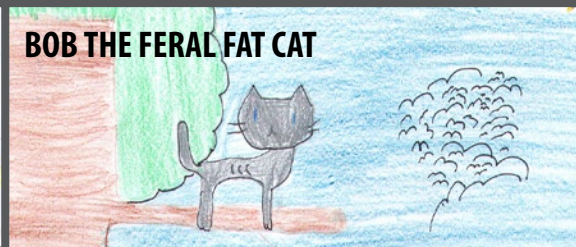
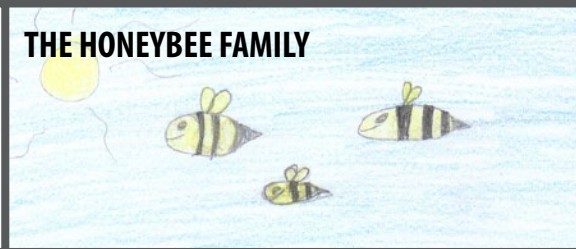
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Welcome

This book is a compilation of stories from students at Leaning Tree Community School in Geraldton, Western Australia.

By writing these creative stories the students hope to raise awareness and teach others about the problems feral animals cause in Australia to both agriculture and our precious environment.



Jeff the Pig

One day, a wild piglet was born. His parents immediately called him Jeff. Sadly Jeff's parents died from a disease called Tuberculosis and he grew up all alone.

Jeff grew up being a very sad, angry feral pig. As he ran through the bush his hard hooves stomped and wrecked all the native grasses and crushed the homes of small animals.





Jeff ate small mammals, dry and green grasses and carrion. All the animals ran at the sight of him as they thought they were on the menu.

He wandered through farms eating, trampling and digging up valuable crops. He snuffled around and dug many large holes.





One morning a farmer noticed that Jeff was sleeping near the domestic pigs in his pigsty. The farmer was sick of Jeff causing damage to his property, but this gave him an idea. He needed a new boar and Jeff might be the solution.

The farmer trapped Jeff and released him in with the other pigs. After a lot of training, Jeff settled in and felt happy for the first time in his life. The farmer had his new boar and Jeff was no longer causing damage to his crops and the local environment.

Farmer Mike and the Wild Dog

One day, near Geraldton, there lived a farmer called Mike. Mike was so sad because a wild dog was coming out each night and eating some of his chickens.

He called animal control. A man named Bob quickly came out to the farm in his van.



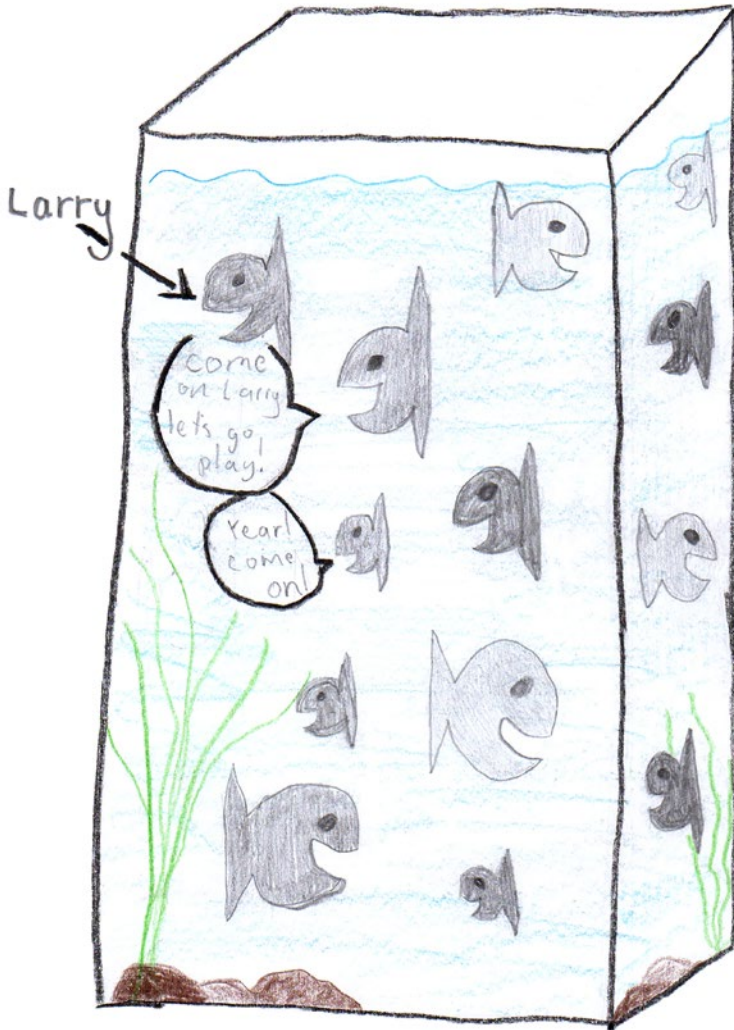


Bob suggested they first try and trap the feral dog. But the feral dog avoided all of the traps.

Bob told Mike that he might have to poison the feral dog to protect his farm. Mike knew that the dog liked to eat chickens, so he decided to use chicken as bait by covering it in poison.

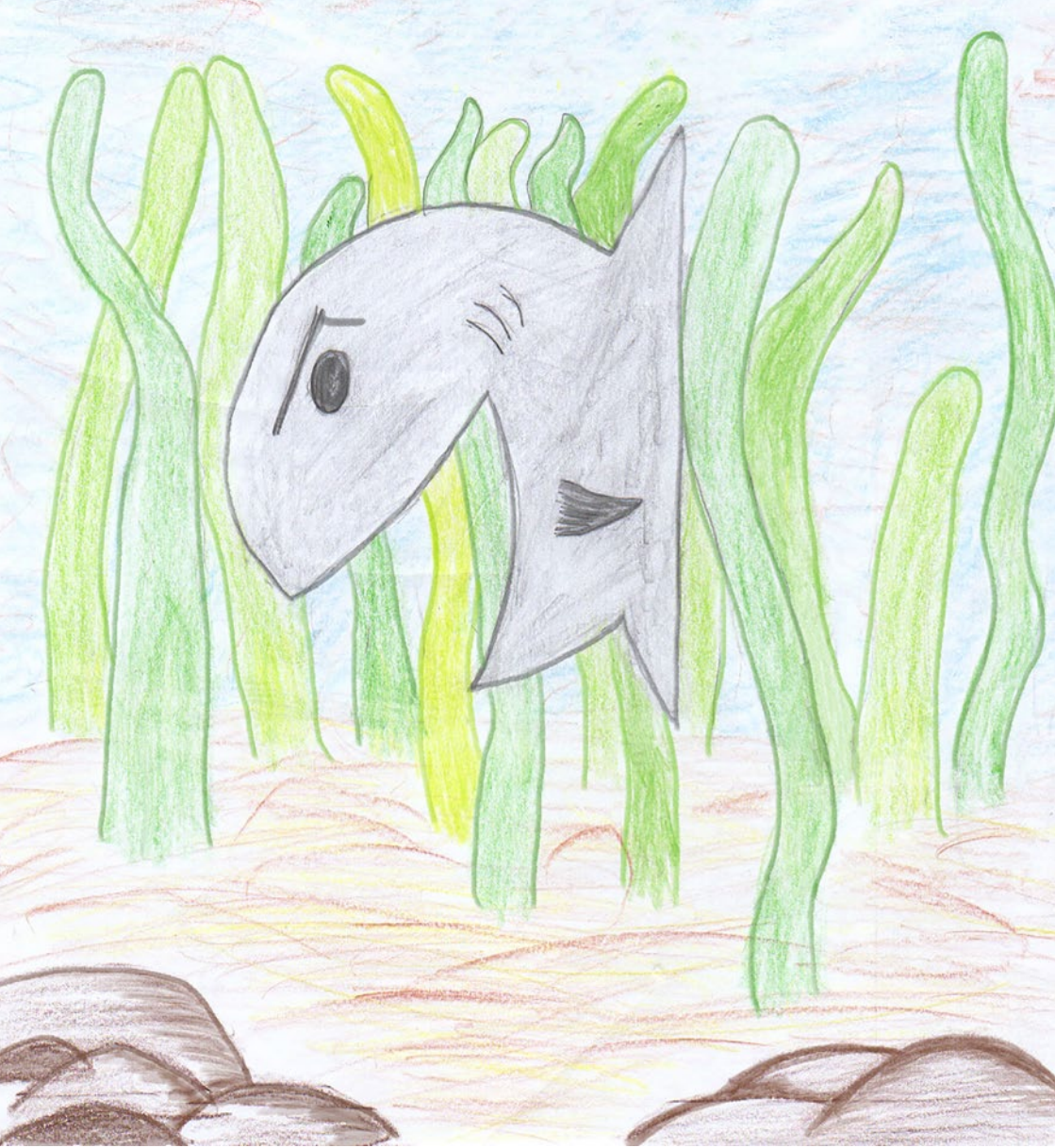
That night the dog ate the bait and never came back again. Mike was happy he fixed his farm by protecting it from feral dogs.

Larry the Invasive Tilapia



This is Larry and he is a Tilapia fish. He lives in the Chapman River but is not from here.

Larry used to live with a man called Kevin, in a tank with lots of other tilapia. But Kevin released them into the river.



Larry is mean and nasty because his favourite thing to do is to eat all of the native fishes food, their eggs and bite them if they come near.

Kevin did the wrong thing by releasing an introduced species in to his local river.

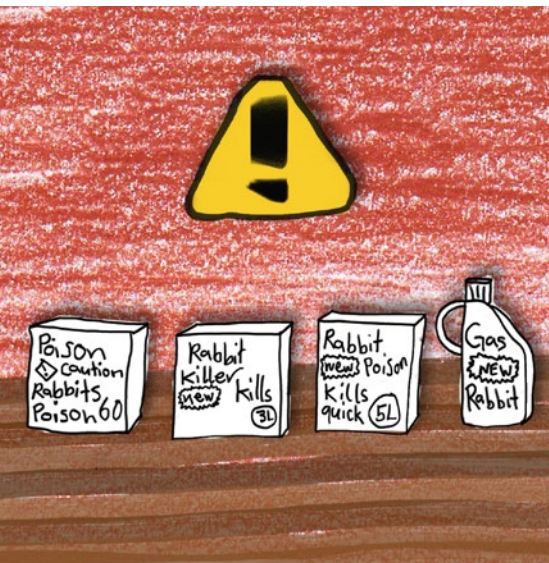
Evil Rabbits!



Rabbits are wildly spreading and humans need to do something quickly! Please help us destroy them or Australia will be invaded forever and ever.

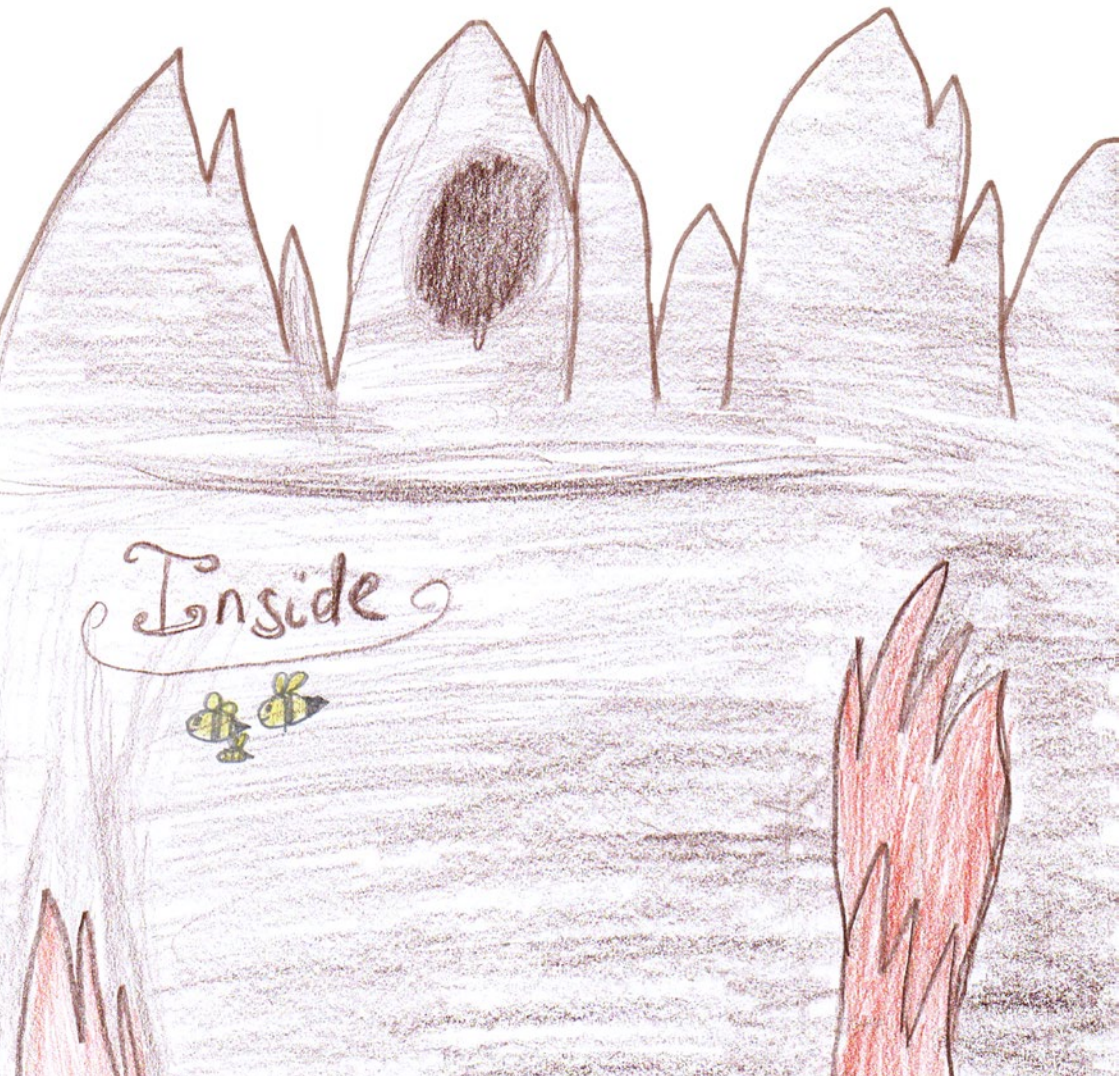
People have tried heaps of different types of poison and even introducing diseases but nothing has worked. The rabbits always manage to survive and become even bigger pests.

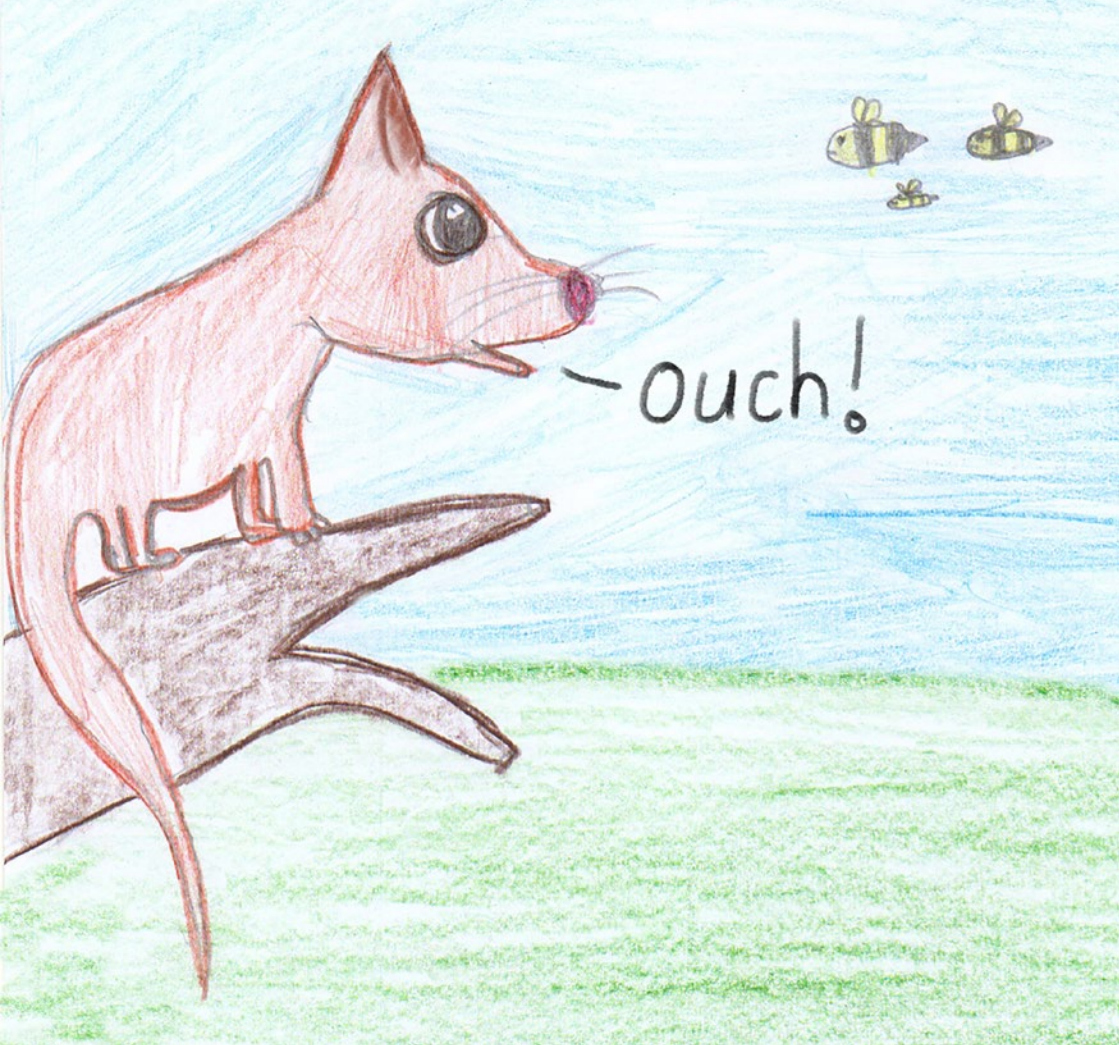
We have to start to work together to get rid of them or rabbits will win the war and there will be no hope for mankind.



The Honeybee Family

Henry the honeybee and his hive moved to a new area and were looking for a suitable home. They were not native to the area, but didn't care as they could sting any animals that crossed their path.





Henry found a hollow that he thought would be perfect. So his hive moved in and started to sting the other animals so they would leave. They also took over all the flowers in the area, keeping the sweet nectar and pollen for themselves.

Honey bees are considered a feral animal in Australia because they force native animals out of their hollows and compete with them for pollen.

James the Cane Toad

James the cane toad was sad. All the animals were having a party but he could not go because he was looking after 30,000 of his eggs. One of the animals, scorpion, came to visit, but James was so hungry that he ate him.

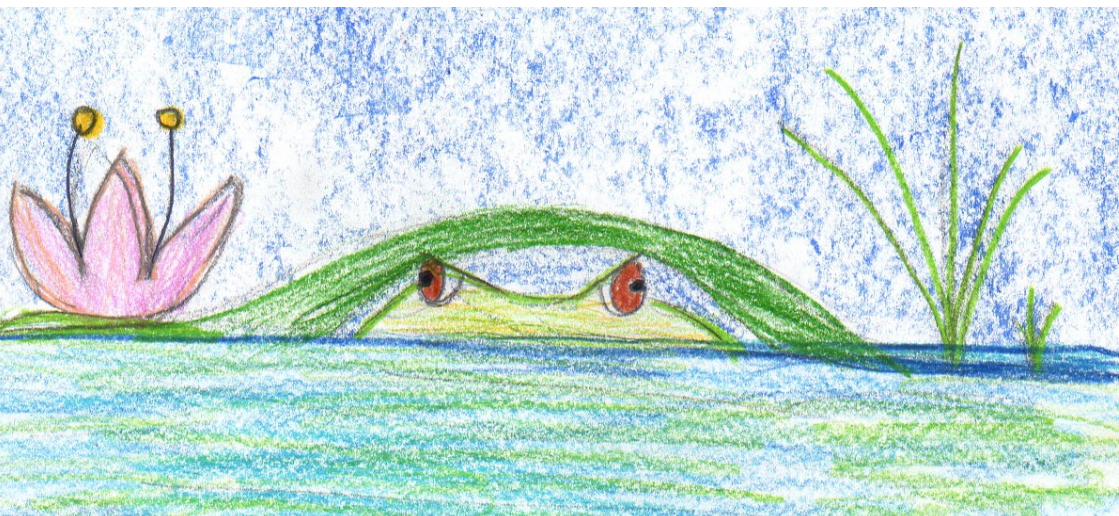
When the other animals came home from the party they asked James where scorpion was.

"I was hungry," whined James.

"That doesn't mean you can eat someone!" replied the animals.

The next day all the animals tried to capture James. One of the animals, a chuditch, tried to eat him but his poison glands killed the chuditch. Freezing James was their only solution.

Unfortunately James escaped. He is still hiding out in his pond with 30,000 of his tadpole offspring.



Bob the Feral Fat Cat

Once there was a cat who was very small. He was called Bob.

One night, Bob was prowling around and saw some chickens. Bob was so hungry he ate them all. In the morning, farmer Matt went to feed his chickens and saw they were all dead!

Farmer Matt got some more chickens, but Bob came back that night and ate them too. Bob was getting very fat off all the chickens.

So farmer Matt thought he'd catch the feral cat and set up a trap in the chicken coop. That night he caught fat Bob in the trap. Now there is no more threat to farmer Matt's chickens.

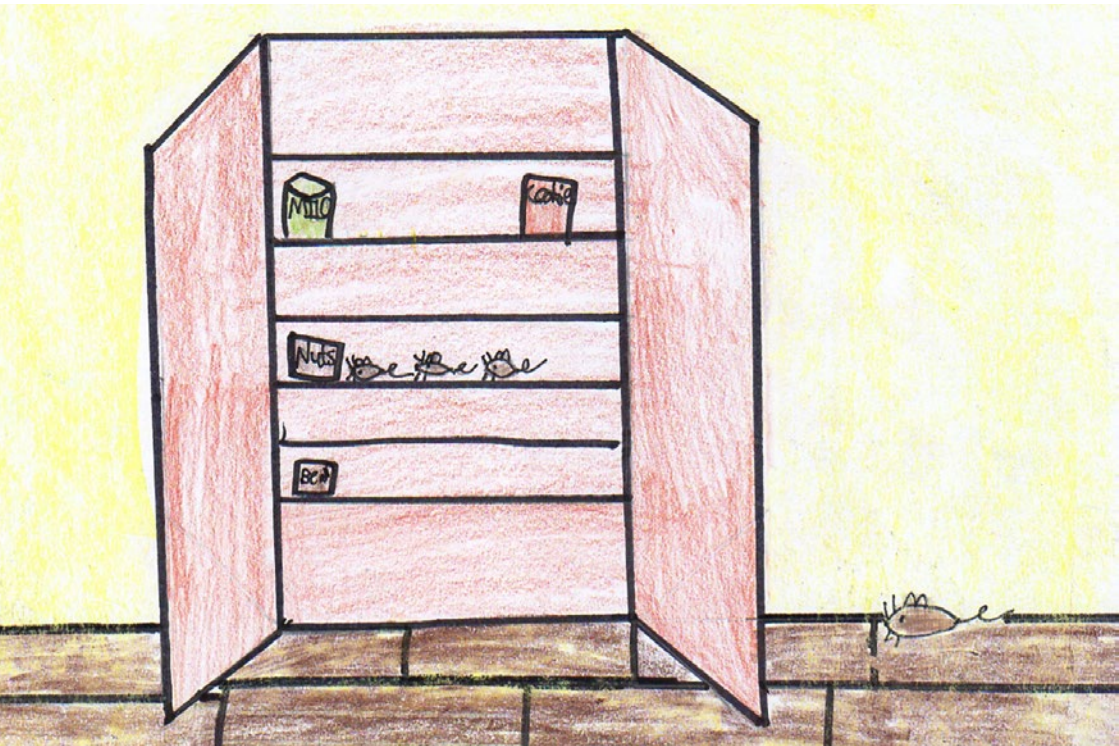


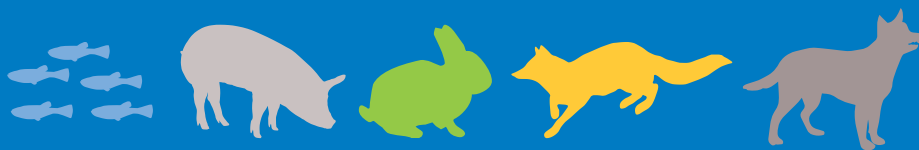
The Big Friendly Mouse

Once upon a time, a big friendly mouse lived in a house. My house! He thought he was so friendly that sometimes when I'm asleep, he crawls into my bedroom.

But that mouse is evil I tell you. It is gnawing my wooden playground out in the yard, eating our food and pooping everywhere. It was even brining friends to enjoy the feast in our kitchen cupboards and closets.

It wasn't until Dad found his best shirt with four little holes in it that he took action. He was furious! Dad called pest control and now there are no more mice in our house.





Leaning Tree Community School, Year 5 and 6 2017



natural resource
management program

