

The Lost Numbat

Written & illustrated by Mikayla Auld, Ethan Glass, Lucy Birtles
and Damon Thomas from Moorine Rock Primary School



ENVIRO stories

Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource management issues. Developed by PeekKdesigns, 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

Wheatbelt NRM

Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Incorporated (Wheatbelt NRM) is an independent community-based organisation involved with natural resource management endeavours within the Avon River Basin.

www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au

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The Lost Numbat

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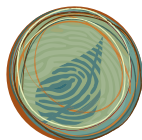
Hotspot Heroes

The Hotspot Heroes Enviro-Stories Program involved schools from the Wheatbelt region of Western Australia learning about the biodiversity, threatened species and feral animals in the Wheatbelt area. A Hotspot Hero is someone who is willing to stand up and take action to help prevent our threatened plants and animals from fading into oblivion.

This project is supported by Wheatbelt NRM through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.



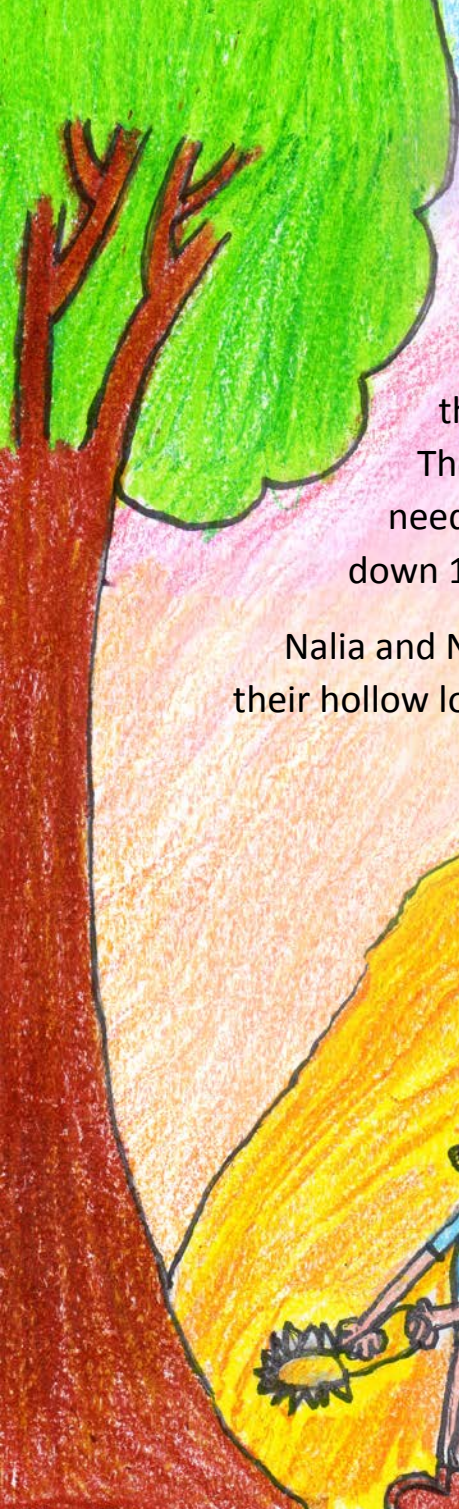
**National
Landcare
Program**



**wheatbelt
natural resource
management**

One early morning, on the outskirts of Moorine Rock, a baby numbat called Nutty and his sister Nalia were collecting termites for the family's dinner, when they saw humans setting up camp under trees.





Nalia and Nutty heard one of the humans say, “Ok, we need to clear about fifty trees to make a paddock.”

Nalia and Nutty were so scared, they ran and jumped in the bush. They heard another one say, “We need two paddocks so we have to cut down 100 trees.”

Nalia and Nutty screamed and ran home to their hollow log.

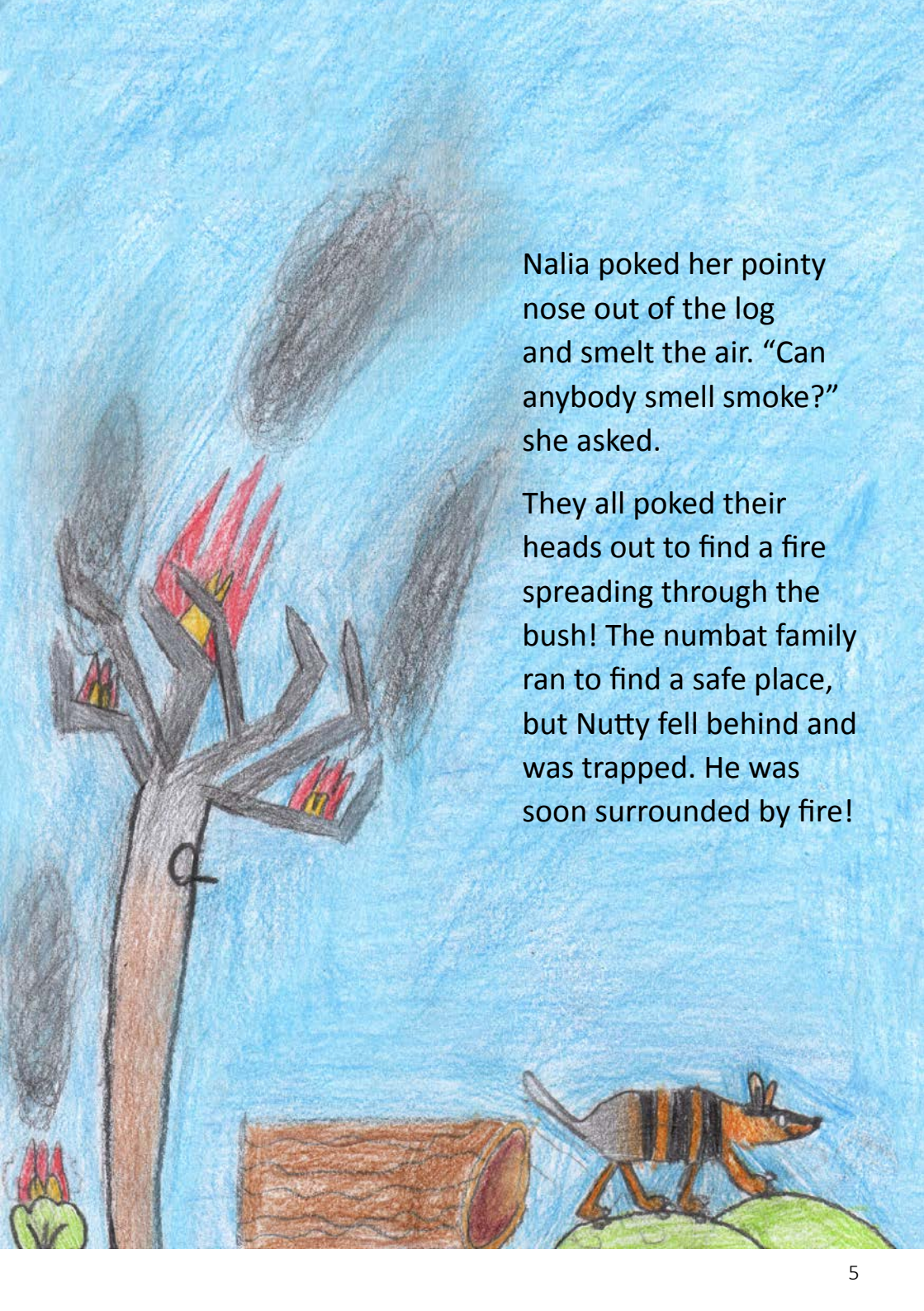


Nalia and Nutty told the other four numbats in their family.

Mum and Dad said, “Those humans are farmers. They chop down the trees to make paddocks for crops and livestock.”

Nearby, another group of farmers were sawing down gum trees to clear the land. One farmer’s hand slipped. He dropped the burning hot chainsaw on the ground among the dry leaves. Very quickly, the chainsaw ignited the leaves!





Nalia poked her pointy nose out of the log and smelt the air. “Can anybody smell smoke?” she asked.

They all poked their heads out to find a fire spreading through the bush! The numbat family ran to find a safe place, but Nutty fell behind and was trapped. He was soon surrounded by fire!



Nutty found a small break in the fire and ran through it. He kept running until he was safe, but soon realised he was alone. The fire was behind him moving quickly, so he kept running away from the flames.

All alone in the bush, Nutty was scared. He kept fleeing until he saw a baby bilby. Nutty walked up to him and asked, "Are you ok?"

The bilby wept, "No. I am lost. I couldn't see through the smoke and everyone has left me."

Nutty was surprised. "So am I. I got separated from my family."

The bilby said, "Can I come with you? My name's Bailey."

"Yes," he replied. "My name's Nutty. I really need a friend right now, so let's stick together." So they began their long travel to find a new home.





“SQUAWK, SQUAWK, SQUAWK!”

“What was that?” asked Bailey.

Through the bushes, Nutty and Bailey saw a fox plucking a bird. The bird was crying out hysterically.

Nutty knew he must help. Running as fast as he could, he slammed his body into the fox, pushing him over. Then Nutty and Bailey grabbed the bird and ran away.



“Thank you,” gasped the bird as he tried catching his breath from being so scared. “My name is Mitchy and I am a Major Mitchell’s cockatoo.”

“I am Nutty and this is my friend Bailey. Nice to meet you,” said Nutty. “You can join us if you want. We’re looking for a new home.”

So together they continued their run and found a safe place to rest. Little did they know, the fox was still following.

“WAKE UP NUTTY!!!” Nutty woke up to hear Mitchy yelling.

“What’s wrong?” yawned Nutty.

“BAILEY’S MISSING!”





Nutty searched while Mitchy flew over the trees to see if he could spot him from the air. Eventually, Mitchy saw the fox pushing Bailey into the base of a tree.

He called out for Nutty to follow him. Nutty and Mitchy rushed to find the fox standing over Bailey licking his lips. Bailey looked lifeless. The pair ran up to the fox to save their friend. Nutty bit him on the leg and Mitchy scratched him on the face. The fox got so scared, it ran away.



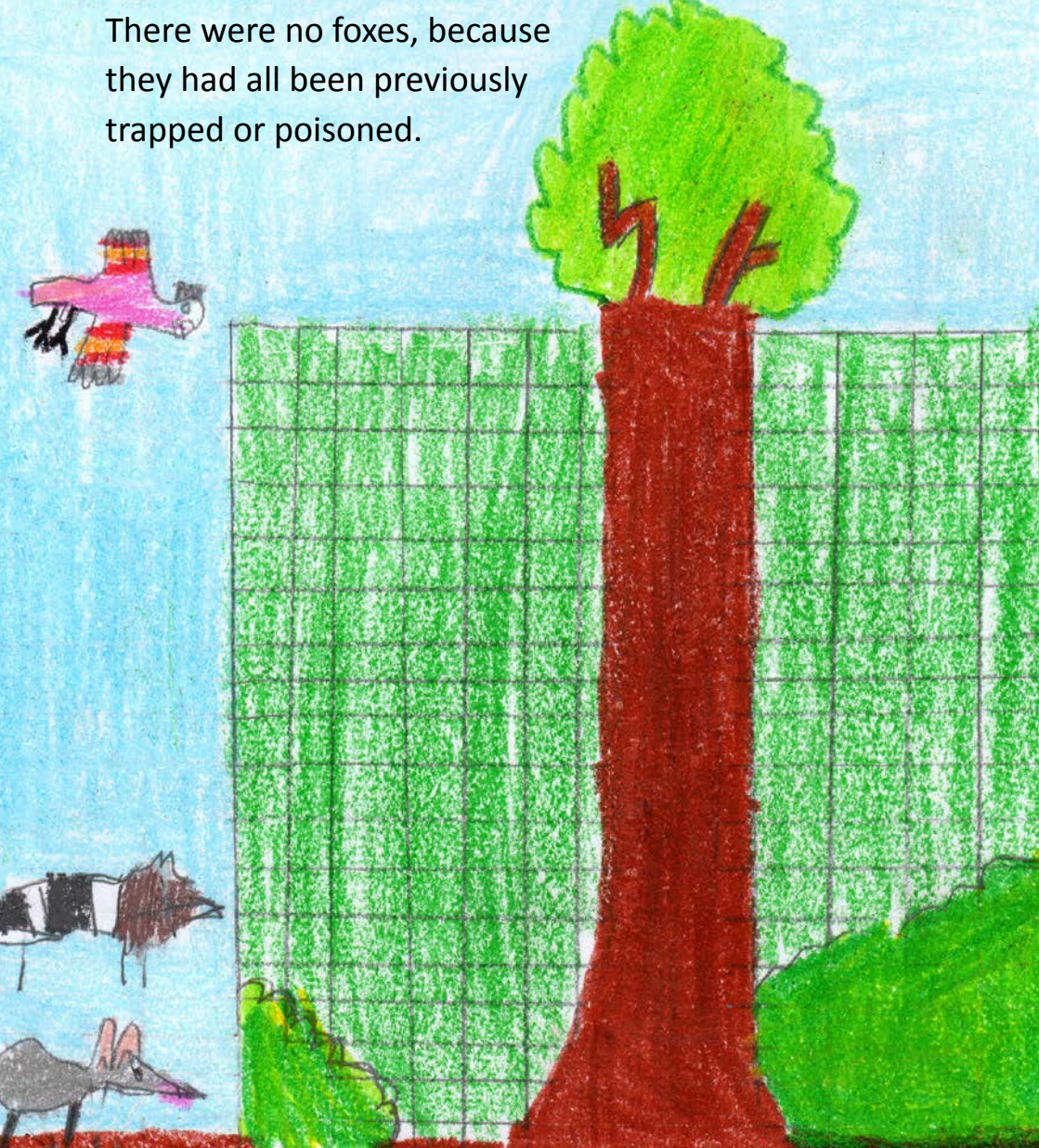
The trio finally escaped the terrible predator.

Bailey, Mitchy and Nutty kept going until Mitchy said, “Hey! I remember flying over a reserve where native animals are protected.”

“Great,” replied the others, “we’ll all head there.”



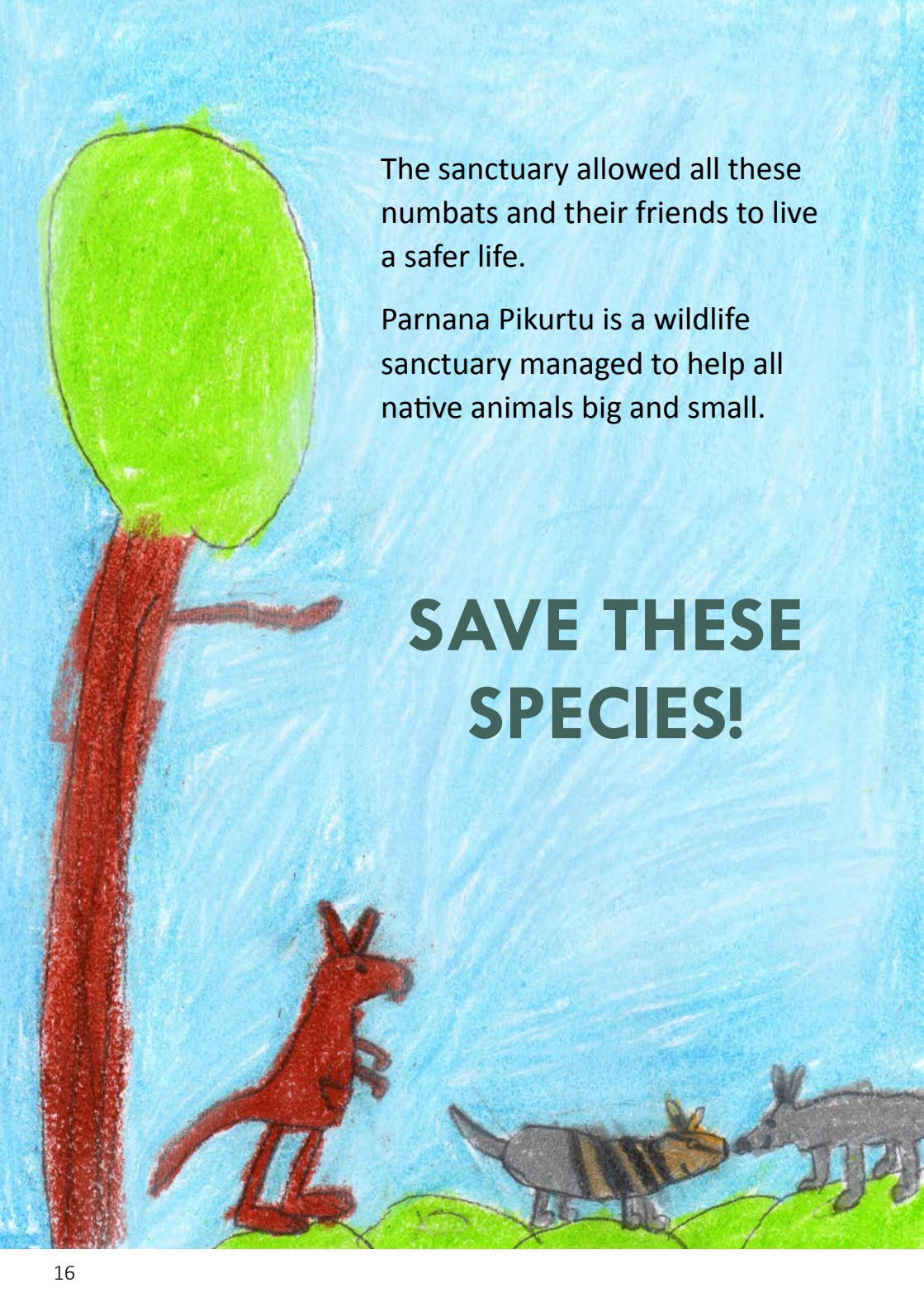
So off they headed down the track. They followed Mitchy until they got to a big fence with a sign that said 'Parnana Pikurtu Wildlife Sanctuary'. They looked around and there were other animals gathering food. There were no foxes, because they had all been previously trapped or poisoned.



Nutty, Bailey and Mitchy entered the reserve and each found a home that felt safe. Eventually, Nutty found a hollow log near a termite nest. He was very happy.

One morning, Nutty awoke to the best thing he had seen in days. His family was sharing a delicious meal from the termite nest near his hollow log. He was so happy.



A child-like drawing of a landscape. On the left, a tall tree with a brown trunk and a large, bright green, oval-shaped canopy stands against a light blue, textured background. In the foreground, a red kangaroo is depicted on a small green hill. To its right, two dingoes are shown: one with black and white stripes and another that is solid grey. The overall style is simple and illustrative, typical of a children's book or educational material.

The sanctuary allowed all these numbats and their friends to live a safer life.

Parnana Pikurtu is a wildlife sanctuary managed to help all native animals big and small.

SAVE THESE SPECIES!

ENVIRO stories



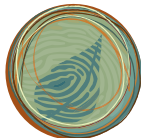
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