

# A Feral Cat-astrophe





## 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](http://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](http://www.nacc.com.au)

# A Feral Cat-astrophe

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This book has been published as part of the Feral Fix Enviro-Stories program, which was supported by Northern Agricultural Catchments Council and funded by the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program, supported by Royalties for Regions.

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Enviro-Stories is a Peekdesigns initiative, [www.peekdesigns.com.au](http://www.peekdesigns.com.au).

Cole, KB., Keith, L., Healy, S., Smith, I. and Marwood, C. 2019. *A Feral Cat-astrophe*. Northern Agricultural Catchments Council, WA.







Year 5 students Logan, Sophie, Kiera-Bell, Chloe and Isabelle, from Allendale Primary School, created this book to raise awareness about the feral cat problem in the Geraldton area. We hope that you enjoy the story and learn something new.





This is the tale of some heroic native Australian animals who are in a spot of trouble thanks to a nasty bunch of feral cats, who don't even belong here in the first place.





Our story begins on Farmer Bob's farm near Geraldton in Western Australia. The farm had belonged to Farmer Bob's family for generations, so he always made sure to look after it well. He loved his farm very much and he cared deeply for all the animals that lived there.





Farmer Bob knew the importance of protecting and restoring the farms native vegetation. This meant that the native animals had been living a safe and happy life for a long time. They included animals like honey possums, hopping mice, dibblers, bilbies and willy wagtails.



A long time ago, a cat named Jefferina got caught by humans who experimented on her by not allowing her to roam free. She eventually escaped, but she has held a grudge ever since.

Jefferina decided to become the feral cat Queen. Now, she is seeking revenge and plans to hunt native animals into extinction!





Queen Jefferina's made her lair in a burrow near farmer Bob's farm.

She turned to her gangster cat minions and demanded, "You must bring me 20 native animals each and every day, or else you will be sent to live as pets for the nasty humans. NOW GO!"







Queen Jefferina's gangster cat minions caused devastation across the region as they hunted all the animals who lived there. The native animals decided something needed to be done!

Tweet Tweet the willy wagtail and Danny the dibbler decided to lead an ambush on the Queen. Tweet Tweet boldly drew out his bottlebrush sword and set off on his mission with Danny to ambush the feral cat Queen in her lair.





Tweet Tweet and Danny bravely entered the lair, but the Queen was not surprised to see them. Her gangster cat minions had heard rumours of a native uprising and she had already been warned.

"You evil cat!" Tweet Tweet squawked. "Stop threatening our fragile ecosystem!"



An evil grin appeared from whisker to whisker as the Queen turned to Tweet Tweet and asked, "Do you know if you taste good with salt?"

Tweet Tweet's eyes widened and his feathers clenched in fear. The Queen pounced quickly and swallowed him whole!





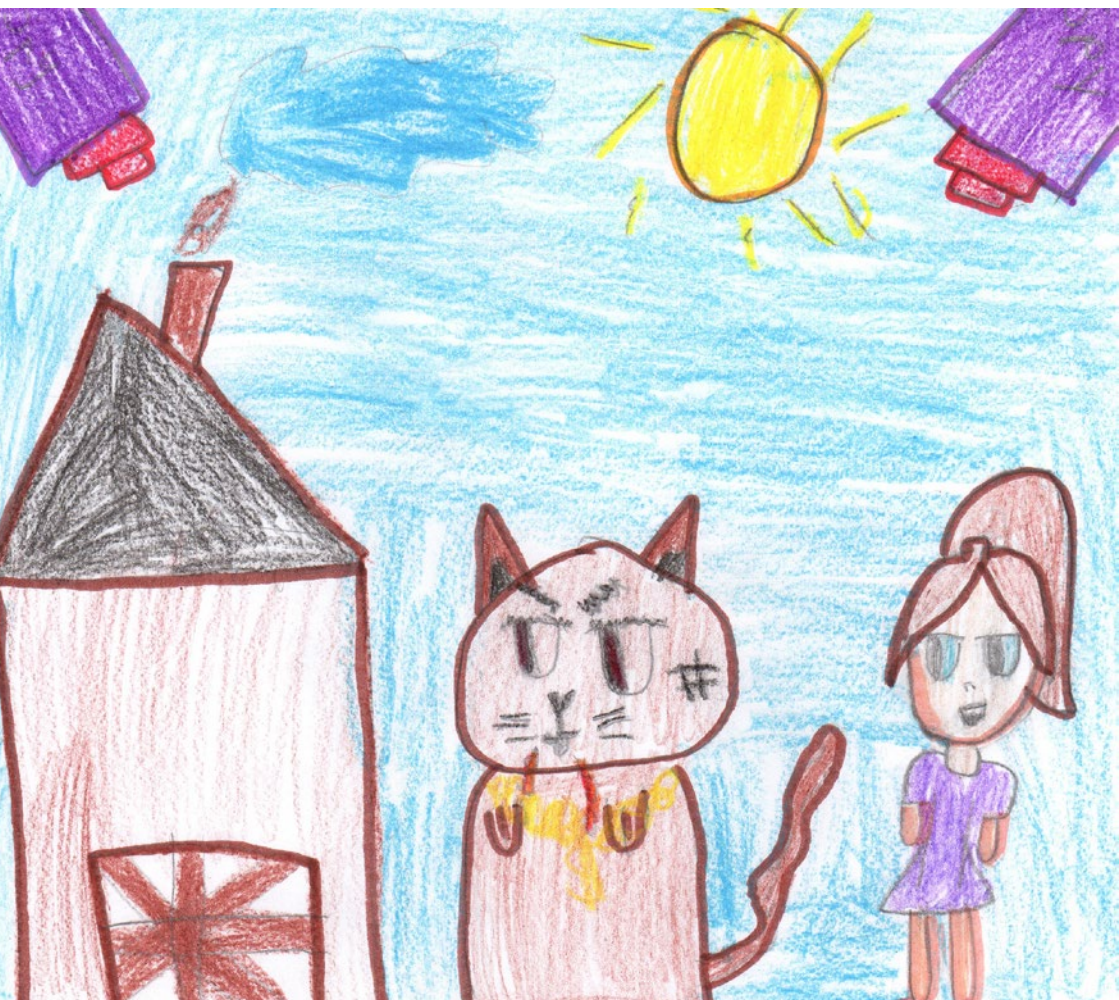


"Yuck!" she spluttered. "I should have gone with pepper, blughh."

While the horrid cat was complaining about her seasoning selection, Danny quickly scurried away and escaped the lair. His small legs took him as fast as possible, to seek refuge at Farmers Bob's house.

Danny told the kind farmer about the feral cat problem and how they were hunting the native animals down. Farmer Bob knew just what to do.

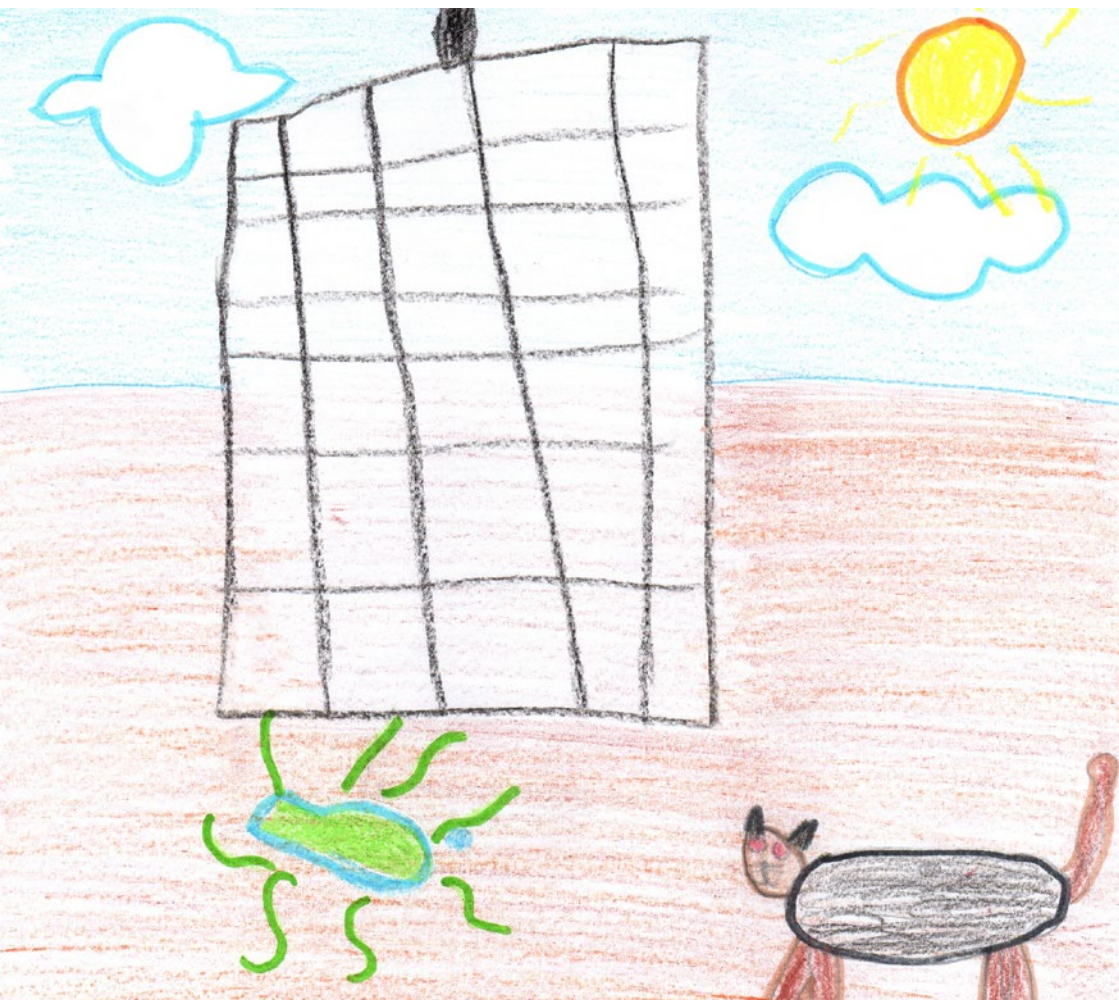
He contacted the NACC tactical forces squad, led by Dr. Jess. They came up with a cunning plan to capture the evil Queen and her minions to protect the native biodiversity. Farmer Bob and Dr. Jess started by setting up some special cameras to spy on the cats.

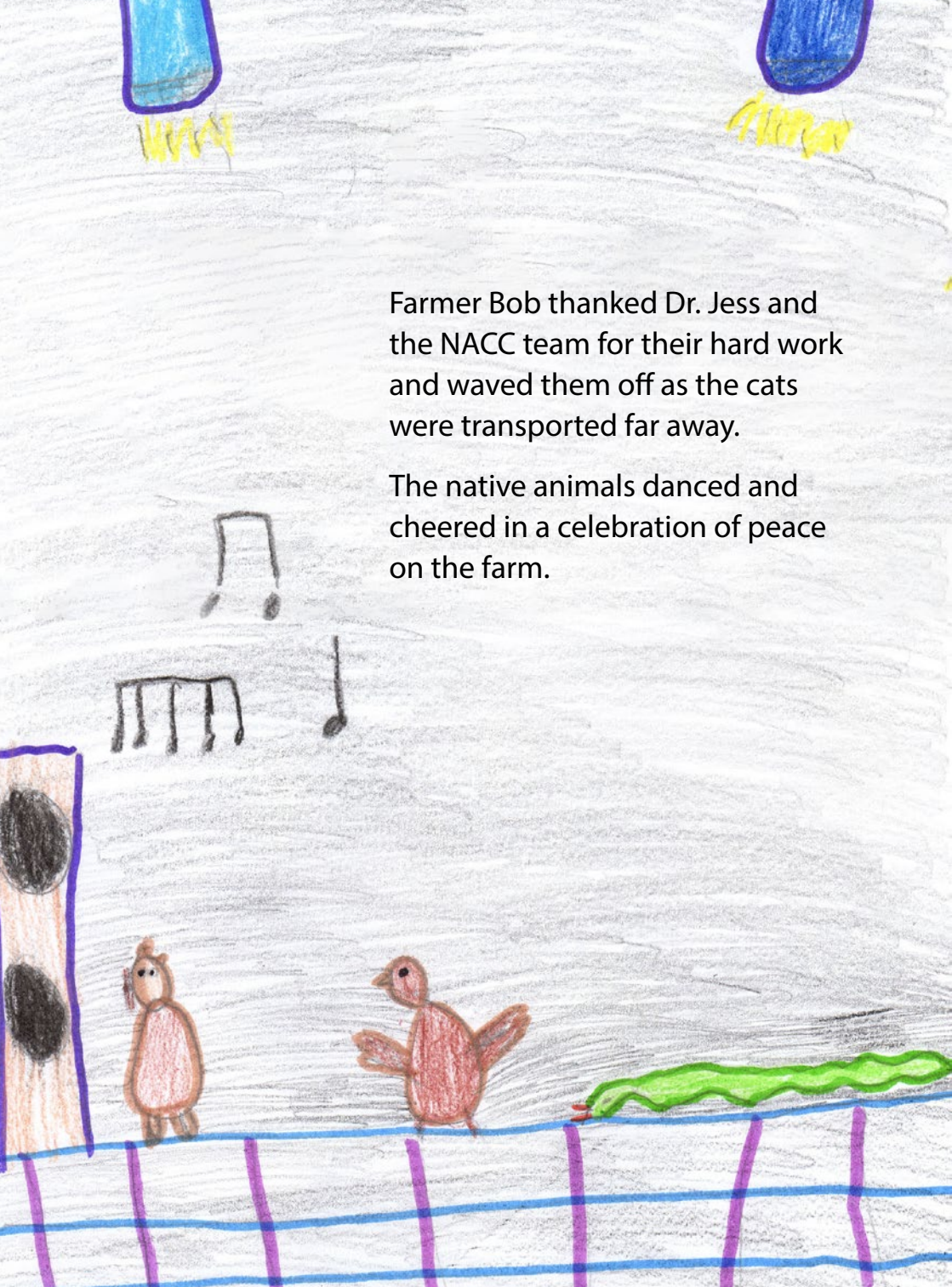




Once they found the lair, the pair started setting up cat traps camouflaged with Hessian and baited with salty, stinky, slimy salmon to lure them inside.

The greedy Queen, hungry from the disappointing meal earlier, leaped straight into the trap and her minions followed suit.





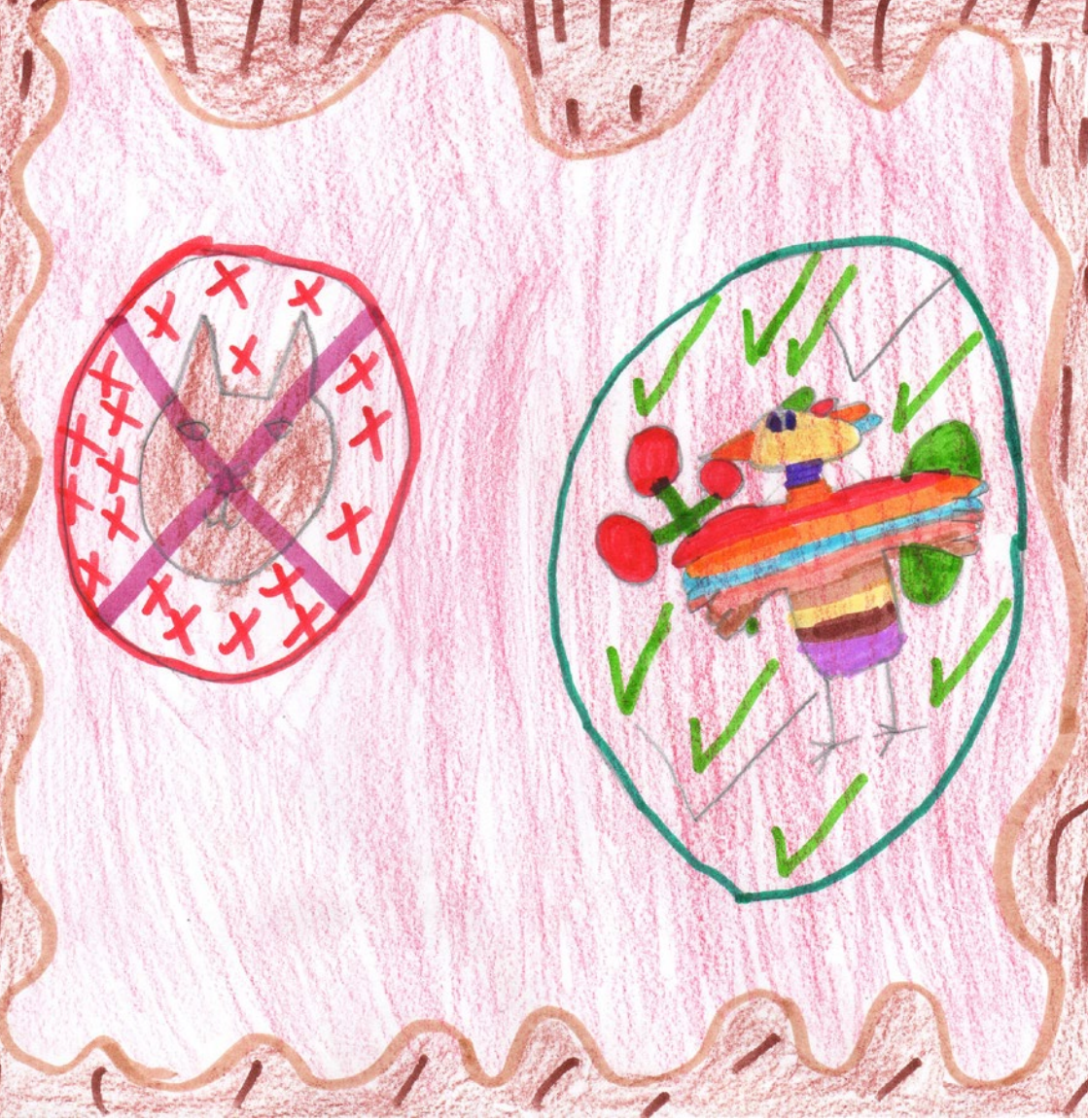
Farmer Bob thanked Dr. Jess and the NACC team for their hard work and waved them off as the cats were transported far away.

The native animals danced and cheered in a celebration of peace on the farm.





As dusk fell on the farm the honey possums, hopping mice, dibblers, bilbies, willy wagtails and farmer Bob fell asleep happy, as they knew they were safe once again.

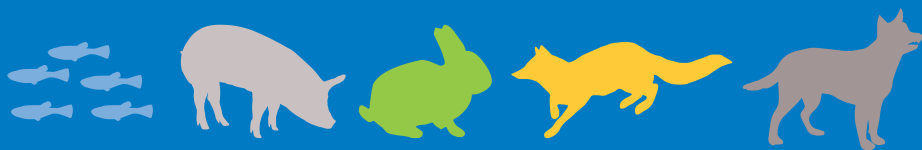


Thank you for reading our book. We hope you enjoyed it and learned a valuable message:

***Remember, our ecosystem is precious and fragile. We need to prioritise the safety of our native Australian animals to best look after the environment.***







Allendale Primary School, Year 5 2018



natural resource  
management program

