

Eddie and Emily the Curious Echidnas

Written and illustrated by Years 3-6 Tammin Primary School



ENVIRO stories



Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource 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

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

Eddie and Emily the Curious Echidnas

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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.

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National
Landcare
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wheatbelt
natural resource
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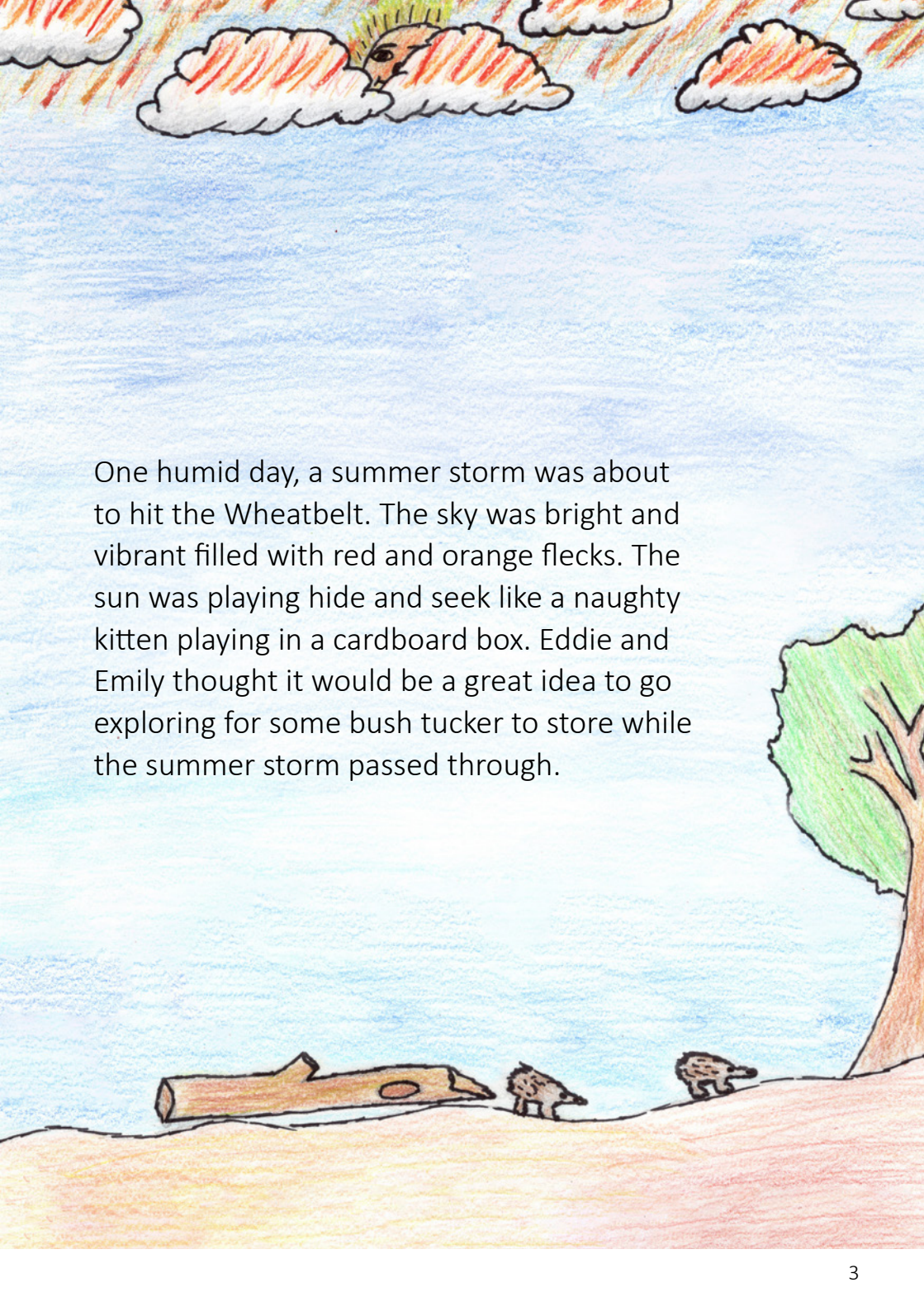
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Deep in the beautiful Wheatbelt bush, where tall and thin gimlet eucalyptus trees grew, there lived two curious echidnas named Eddie and Emily. Eddie was a large, round and very spiny echidna who was the greediest animal in the Wheatbelt. On the other hand, Emily was a sweet and cuddly echidna who was very brave and loved going on adventures.



One humid day, a summer storm was about to hit the Wheatbelt. The sky was bright and vibrant filled with red and orange flecks. The sun was playing hide and seek like a naughty kitten playing in a cardboard box. Eddie and Emily thought it would be a great idea to go exploring for some bush tucker to store while the summer storm passed through.



Whist their favourite foods were wriggly witchetty grubs and tasty termites, Eddie and Emily had been listening to their friends describe what they liked to eat and were curious as cats to try some new tantalising treats. They decided to collect some sweet quandong berries, juicy honey ants, delicious ruby saltbush and fragrant djanda (honey bush – *Hakea lissocarpha*) flowers. Eddie and Emily waddled off into the bush in their own way to where the quandong trees grew and their friend Danny Dugite lived.

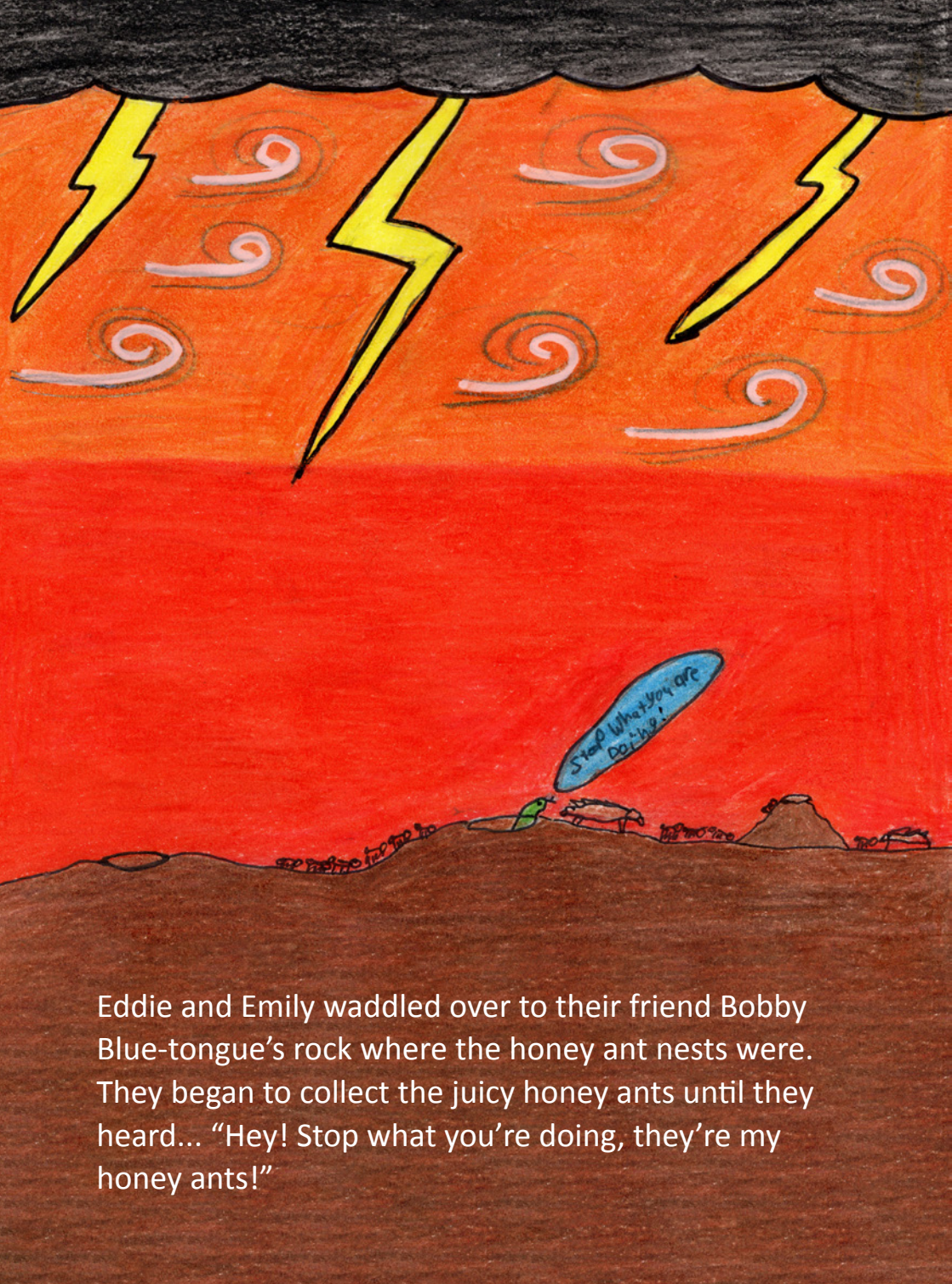


They began picking the quandong berries from the tree without realising they were disturbing Danny Dugite's burrow.

"Hey! Stop what you're doing, I'm trying to sleep!" hissed Danny Dugite.

Emily stopped immediately but Eddie was too greedy and kept on picking the quandong berries. She shouted, "Come on Eddie, it's time to go! We need to go and collect some juicy honey ants!"





Eddie and Emily waddled over to their friend Bobby Blue-tongue's rock where the honey ant nests were. They began to collect the juicy honey ants until they heard... "Hey! Stop what you're doing, they're my honey ants!"



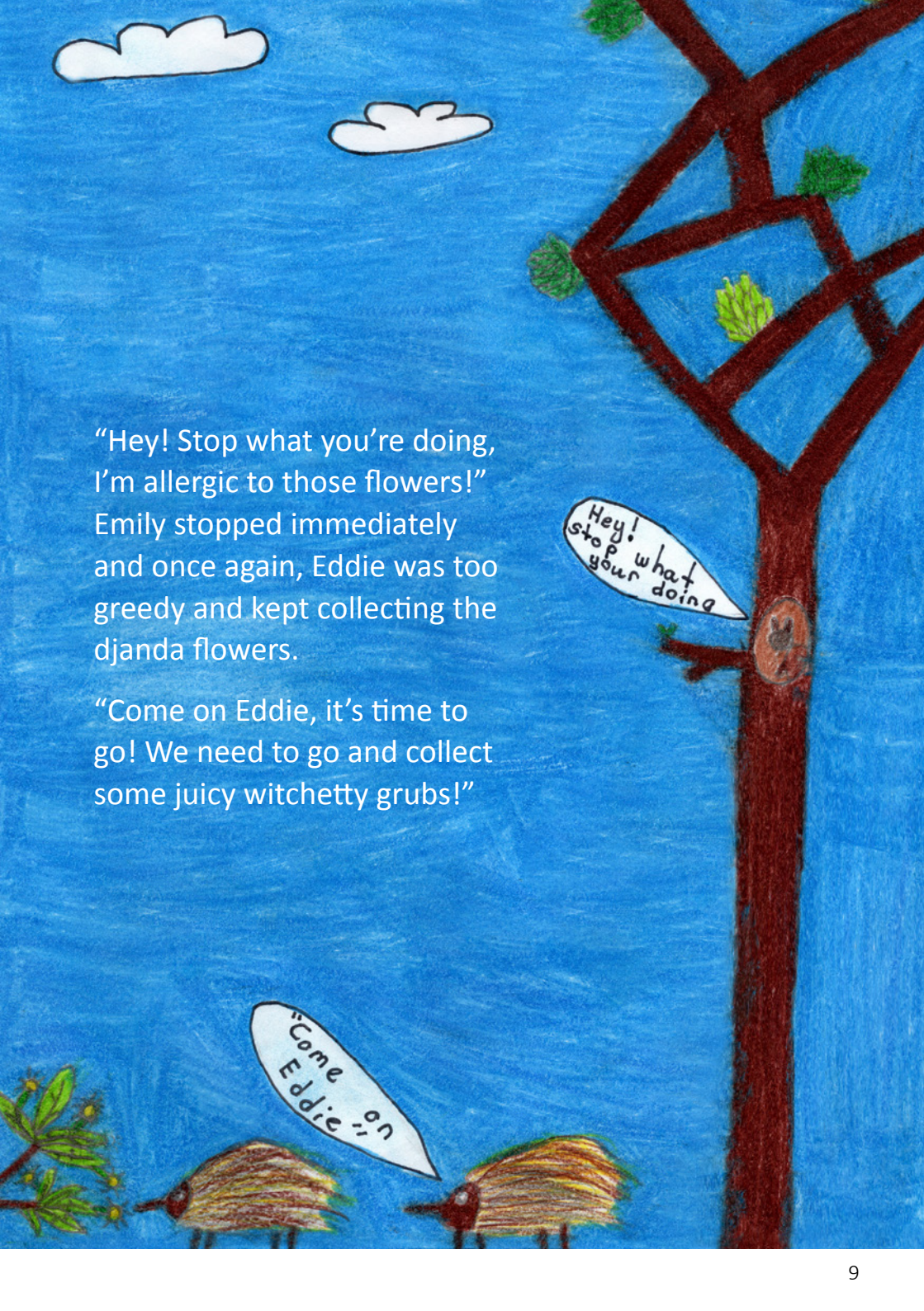
Emily stopped immediately and once again, Eddie was too greedy and kept collecting the honey ants.

“Come on Eddie, it’s time to go! We need to go and collect some fragrant djanda flowers!”



Eddie and Emily waddled over to their friend Polly Possum’s tall and sturdy tree where the djanda grew. They greedily began to collect the flowers of the djanda for their nectar. While they were doing this, the flowers of the bush drifted with the wind into Polly Possum’s home.

“Ahhhh Choo!!” sneezed Polly Possum.



“Hey! Stop what you’re doing, I’m allergic to those flowers!”
Emily stopped immediately and once again, Eddie was too greedy and kept collecting the djanda flowers.

“Come on Eddie, it’s time to go! We need to go and collect some juicy witchetty grubs!”

Hey!
stop what
your doing

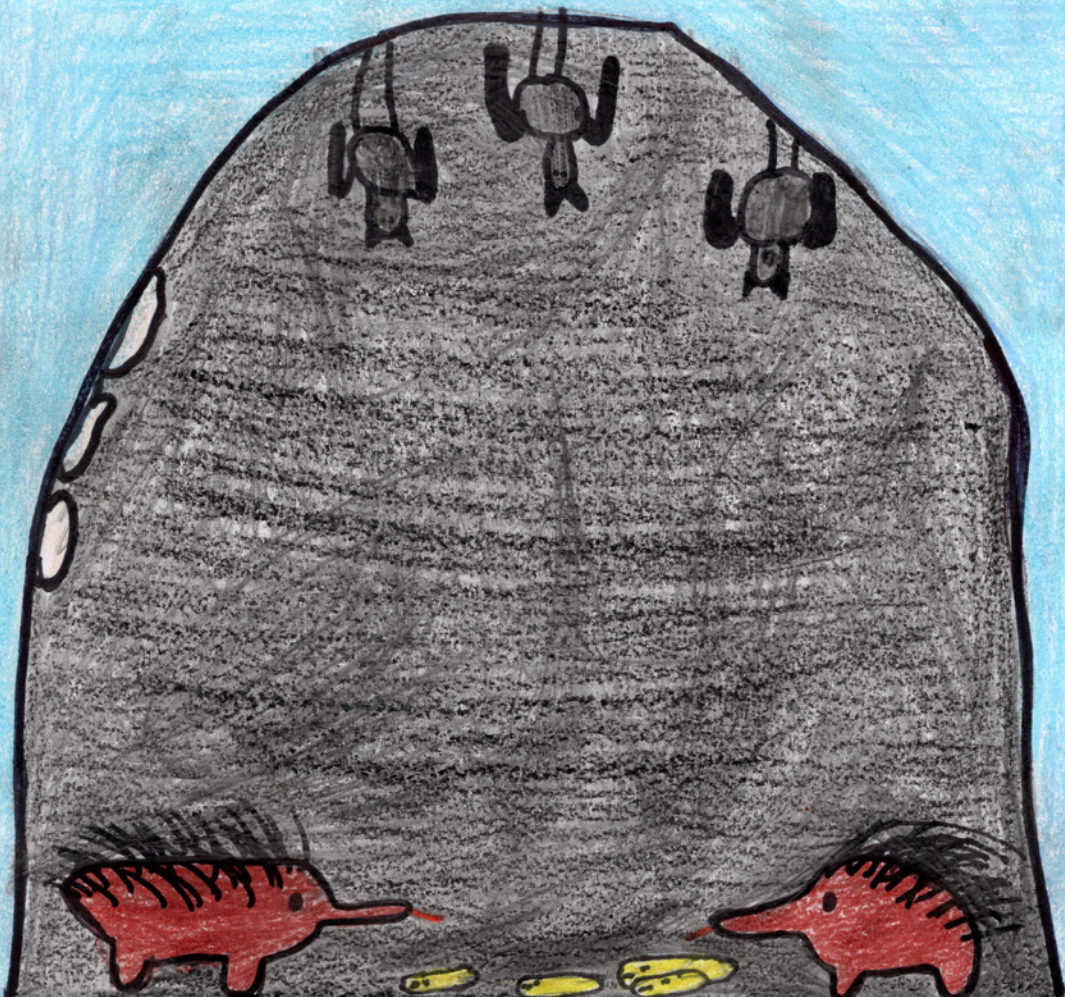
Come
on
Eddie



Eddie and Emily waddled over to their friend Billy Bat's dark cave. They knew the witchetty grubs hid inside the snaking tree roots growing through the bat cave. Emily quietly started to collect the fat witchetty grubs, being careful to not disturb the colony of bats sleeping inside. Eddie thumped in like a giant dinosaur and woke up every single bat in the cave.

“Hey! Stop what you’re doing and get out of our cave before you destroy our home!” yelled Billy Bat.

“Come on Eddie, it’s time to go!” pleaded Emily. “We need to go and collect some delicious ruby saltbush.”





Eddie and Emily waddled over to their friend Ronald the Red Kangaroo's shady tree where a large ruby saltbush grew. Emily quickly started to collect the ruby saltbush because this was her favourite food.

By this time Eddie was starving, and his belly started to growl like an angry bear. It was so loud it woke Ronald the Red Kangaroo up from his sleep.



“Hey! Stop what you’re doing and get out of my home!” shouted Ronald the Red Kangaroo.

“Come on Emily, it’s time to go home!” begged Eddie.
“Just one more branch. It’s so delicious,” Emily replied.

It began to sprinkle with little droplets of rain and the sky growled with thunder. Eddie started waddling home, but Emily stayed behind eating the delicious ruby saltbush.



CRASH!
BANG!

GRR

The thunder roared louder and louder and louder. This startled Emily and she waddled quickly to catch up to Eddie. They needed to go quickly so the food they had collected wouldn't be soaking wet by the time they arrived home.

As they got closer to their fallen down hollow tree log, they could hear the roar of angry animals coming from the distance. They felt very nervous wondering what would happen next.

Emily and Eddie arrived home and to their surprise, they were confronted by all of their friends who were very upset with them.

“You stole all of our food!” cried the animals. Both of them stood there not knowing what to say. “We want our food back!” screamed the animals in distress.





“We’re very sorry. Eddie and I were only trying to stock up before the summer storm hit,” said Emily in a sad voice.

“It’s all right, we understand,” explained the animals.

The two echidnas decided to share the delicious bush food with the others and promised to never steal their food without their permission again. They all huddled together where the tall gimlet eucalyptus trees grew, and they shared and enjoyed the food together.

Sharing is caring.

Be kind.

Photo: David Cook





2022 Years 3-6, Tammin Primary School

