

# Maggie saves the day



Bellbrook Public School  
2025





## **Enviro-Stories**

Enviro-Stories is a 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.

[envirostories.com.au](http://envirostories.com.au)

## **Kempsey Shire Council**

Kempsey Shire Council's corporate vision is to lead and work with our community to build and inspired, connected Macleay Valley. Our community is at the heart of our decision making and plays an essential role in setting our strategic direction.

The Kempsey Shire Council Local Government Area is located within the NSW Mid North Coast and covers an area of 3,380 square kilometres with a population of approximately 30,000 residents.

The principal town in the Shire is Kempsey, located approximately halfway between the state capitals of Sydney and Brisbane, and between the regional centres of Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour.

[kempsey.nsw.gov.au](http://kempsey.nsw.gov.au)

## **Bellbrook Public School**

Bellbrook Public School is a small rural school situated in the Macleay Valley, 56 kilometres west of Kempsey on the Mid North Coast. The school has a family-orientated atmosphere and strong sense of community. We foster a culture of high expectations and high levels of community engagement.

[bellbrook-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://bellbrook-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)

# Maggie saves the day

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





In the heart of the bush, where the gum trees grow,  
Lived a magpie named Maggie, with soft feathers that glow.  
She sang a sweet song as the sun rose up high,  
But little did she know, smoke would soon fill the sky.







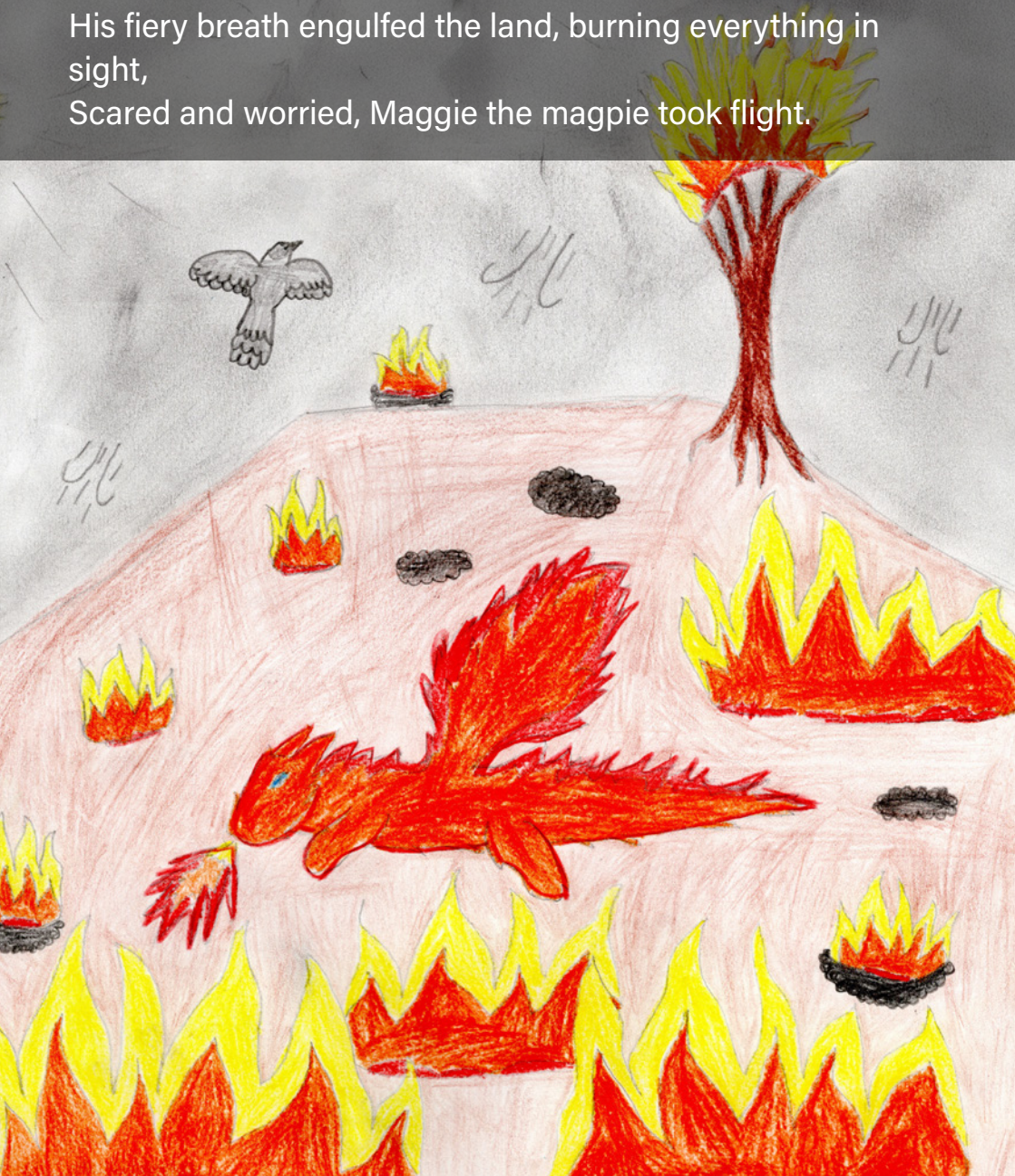
Far off in the distance, on Mt Sugarloaf tall,  
A fire breathing dragon had started to crawl.

Blaze was his name and fear he did spread,  
Red flames covered his body, from his tail to his head.



One hot summer day, the winds started to howl,  
Blaze the fire dragon let out a ferocious growl.

His fiery breath engulfed the land, burning everything in  
sight,  
Scared and worried, Maggie the magpie took flight.





"I must warn my friends!" Maggie said with a cry,  
"Blaze must be stopped, together we will try!"

As she swooped through the air, looking down below,  
She saw all her friends running, with no safe place to go.











She called out, "Follow me! No need to be scared!  
We'll find a safe place, and we'll all be spared!"

"But there is something I need you to hear,  
About fire safety, come lend me your ear!"





"Fire is part of the bush, it's here to stay.  
But we must use it safely to stay out of harm's way!"

"If the day is too dry and the wind is too strong,  
Don't start a fire or everything will go wrong!"



Wally the wallaby hopped over, looking quite a mess,  
"I didn't know fires could be so dangerous and cause so  
much stress!"

Maggie nodded wisely, "It is true you must see.  
If we want the bush safe, we must work carefully."







As Blaze's fury continued, Maggie followed his trail,  
She guided the possums, wombats and the willy wagtail.

She led the koalas and kangaroos too,  
To a place near the river, where Blaze couldn't break  
through.





Maggie stood up and, in a voice, loud and clear,  
Said to her friends, "There's a lesson to learn here."

"When we use fire, it must be well planned,  
with safety in mind, we can care for the land."





"Never leave fires unattended, no way!  
Make sure the wind doesn't blow the embers away."

"A hazard reduction burn must be done with great care,  
By firefighters who know what to do to prepare!"





From a distance, Blaze heard Maggie's wise words and tears filled his eyes,  
Maybe his flames weren't the answer, his shame he could not disguise.

He swooped down and next to Maggie he did land.  
"Can you teach me to burn safely? I could really use a hand!"





"I'll show you the way", Maggie smiled kindly,  
"You must be safe, show care, and not use your flames  
blindly."

"Fires are useful, but we tread lightly,  
So the bush stays healthy, and its beauty shines brightly."



Blaze, now aware of his fiery mistakes,  
Promised to be careful, for the bush's sake.

Maggie the magpie with her feathers so bright,  
Had taught them how to keep the bush right.







From that day on, all the animals, fur or feather,  
Knew that Blaze could burn safely, if they all worked  
together.

They knew all the ways to be fire safety aware,  
Now they live happily and treat fire with care!



# Climate change in the Macleay region

Even in the Macleay region, climate change is a big challenge. By learning, preparing and working together to take action, we can build a safer, cleaner and more sustainable future for everyone.

## How climate change affects us

- Hotter temperatures and heatwaves.
- Heavier rainfall, floods, and droughts.
- More intense storms, including hail and strong winds.
- Sea level rise, which can damage coastal areas.
- More bushfires and days with high fire danger.
- Impacts on plants and animals, including where they live and how they survive.
- Changes to our health, water supply, and food production.

## What can you do to help?

- Save energy by turning off lights and using less electricity.
- Use clean energy like solar power, if possible.
- Walk or ride your bike instead of using a car.
- Eat local food and don't waste it.
- Recycle and compost to reduce rubbish.
- Plant trees and look after your garden.
- Get ready for extreme weather by learning what to do in a fire, flood, or heatwave.

**Small actions, when done by many people,  
can make a big difference!**





Bellbrook Public School, 2025

