

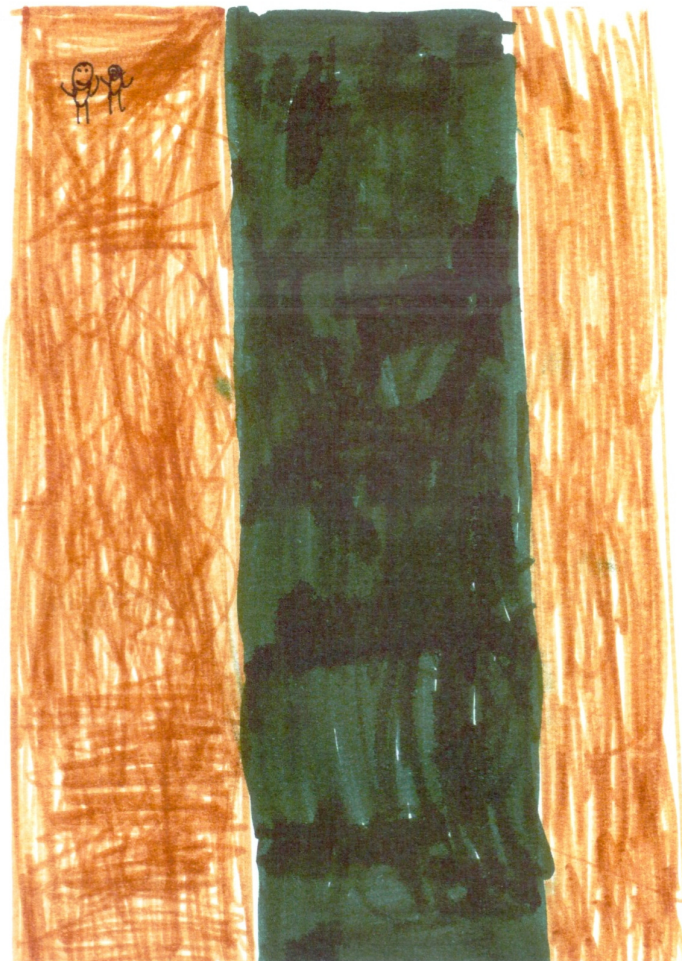


Bats on farmland.

By Ben McGee & Deklin Reeve

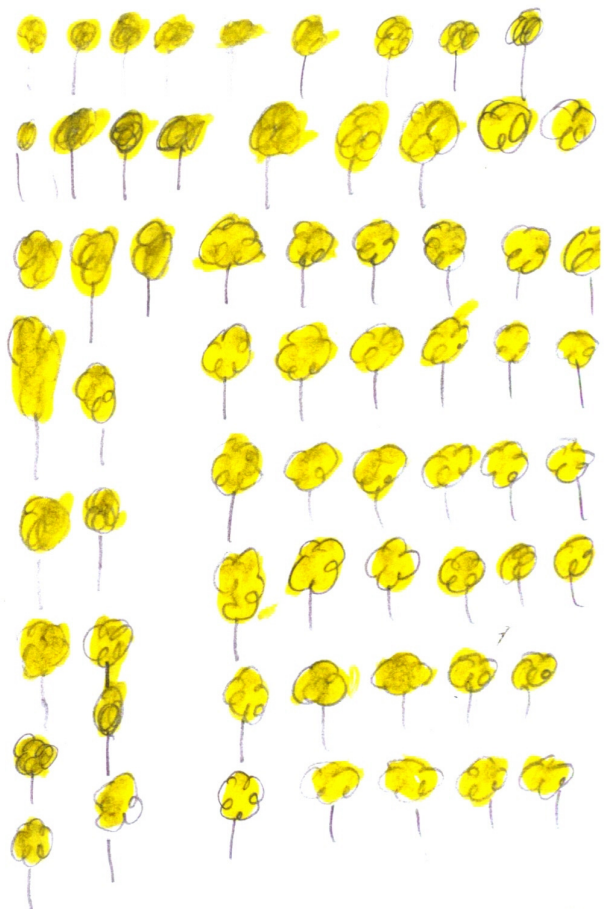
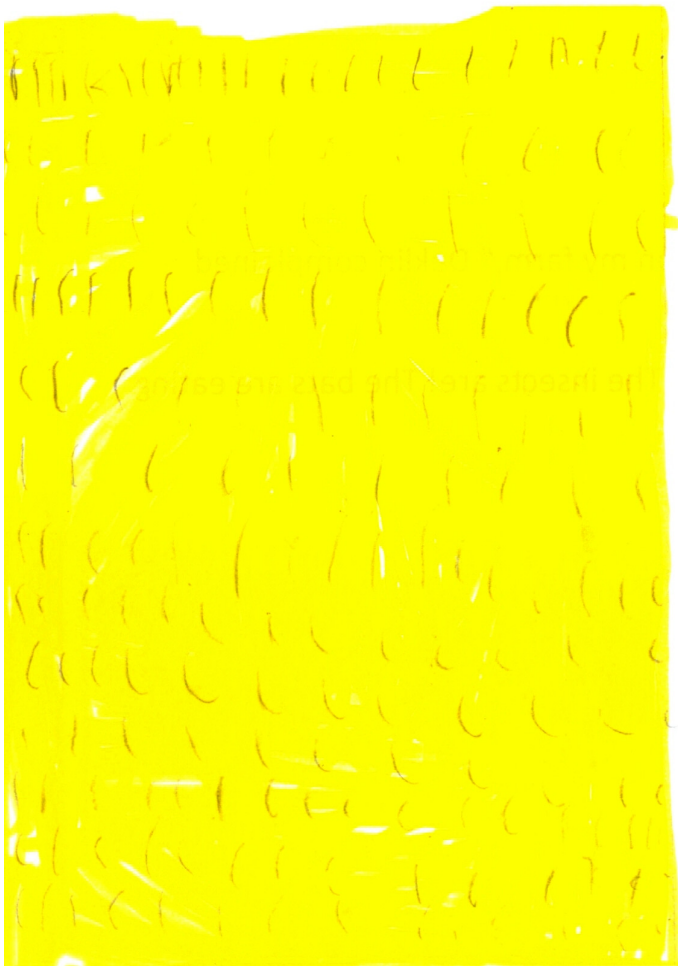
Friends Ben and Deklin were looking out of Ben's paddock from the top of the sand dunes.

"Have you seen any bats on your farm?" Deklin said.



"A few. Of course, I'm not growing bats, I'm growing canola and barley!" Ben said.

3.



"I think the bats are eating the wheat on my farm," Deklin complained grumpily.

"But the bats aren't eating your crops. The insects are! The bats are eating the insects!" Ben laughed

5.



"Bats come out at dusk to feed on insects! So my problem's really insects!"
Deklin wanted to go off and stomp on the insects, but he stayed back and
talked to Ben.

7.



"Ben, do you know how to farm sustainably with bats?" Deklin questioned.

"It means we protect them. They sleep in old gum trees all day, and we protect them from people shooting at them," Ben said.

"We need to protect these old gum trees and the bats and their babies, so they can sleep there" Deklin replied.

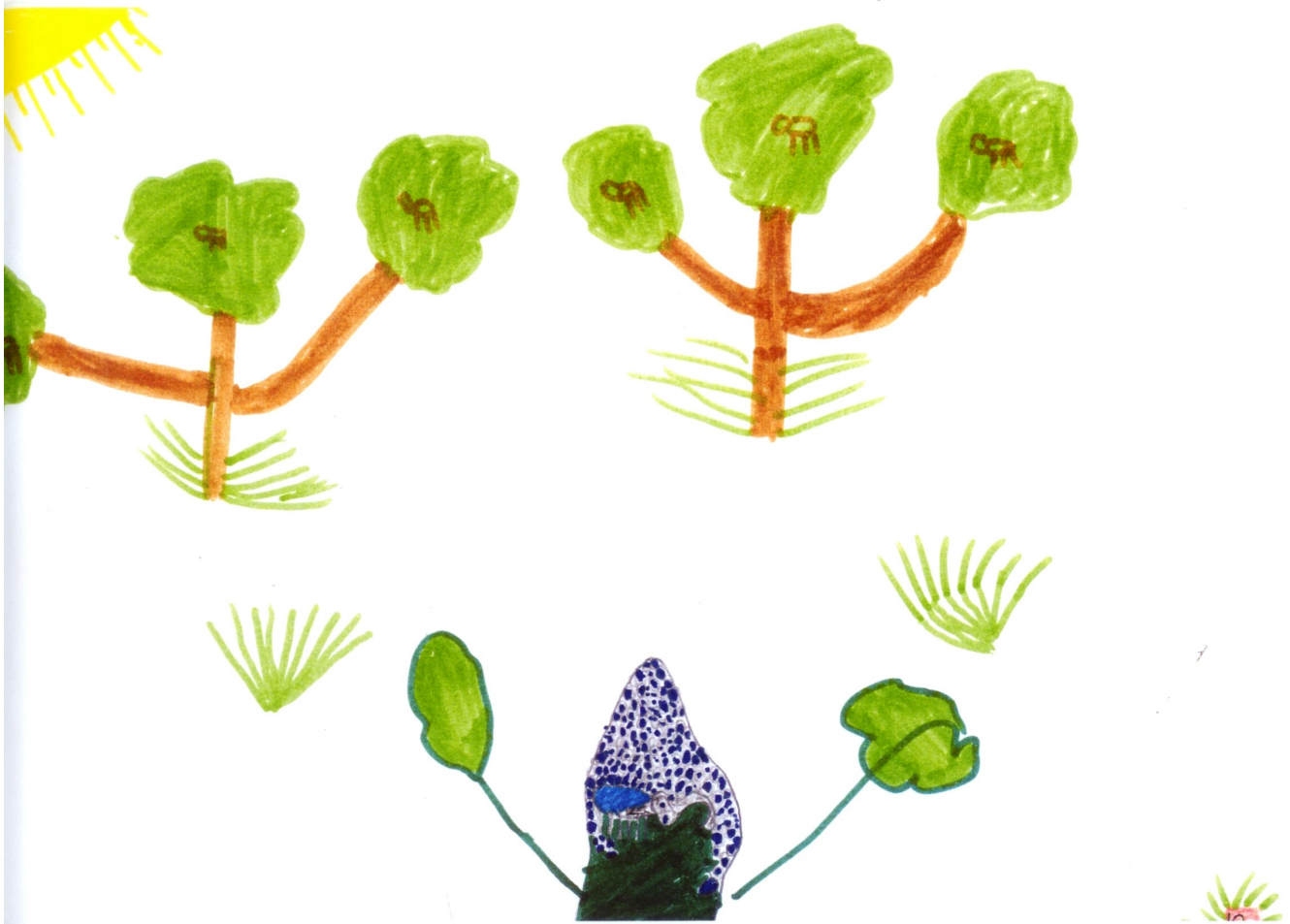
"We need to keep bats on our farms, so they keep eating insects and keep them away from our crops," Ben replied.

"Yes, we can farm sustainably with our bats," said Deklin and Ben laughing.

WORD COUNT = 200

Nb story typed by Mrs Clark from the story she scribed for the grade 3 authors.

9.



"Yes we can" said the people, "farm sustainably."

Deklin and Ben (Y3's) Key Science Ideas

about a farm environment

A farm environment means land, air, water, living things (plants and creatures) and man-made things.

about what 'sustainably farming' means

Growing plant and stock things and looking after native plants, insects, animals, land and water.

about crops growing

Canola needs water, sunlight and fertilizer. It is a crop.

about barley

Barley is a crop. It needs water, space for it to grow, and sunlight. It can live with some salt and it can stay alive in it more than other crops.

about micro- bats

Micro- bats eat flowers on gum trees and insects. They come out to eat at sunset and sweep over water and over barley crops to eat insects. They sleep in hollow and trees.

about yellow gums

Yellow gums need water, soil and sunlight. They have hollows in them.

dictated by Deklin and Ben (year 3's) to Mrs Clark and typed by Mrs Clark

Appendix for "Yes we can" said the people, "farm sustainably." by Deklin and Ben

Bibliography - Our resources

Each student in this class researched the farm on which they or a friend lived:

- observed and recorded its environment by drawings and a table.
- interviewed the farmer about farming sustainably.
- conducted a water and a soil salinity and a soil texture tests.
- used tables and summarised the results for each aspect researched.

These were shared and collated into individual and class references:

These are the references created by the students in their.

tick if used in story	Resources from classwork in the "Sustainability and our Farmland Environment" unit.	research type	available as a reference
✓	my farmland environment	drawing	Collated into one page for each student that follows as Reference 1 – My Farmland Environment Research
✓	macro-invertebrates (little creatures) seen on my farmland	drawing	
	my farmland – summary report of the features from each part of the environment	table	
	water salinity from the farm was tested (as part of the Saltwatch program) and reported for its usefulness to the farmer	water tests	
✓	soil salinity and texture tested and reported for its class (usefulness) to the farmer.	soil tests	
	farmer interviews meanings of sustainability and sustainable farming how to farm sustainably for crops, stock, nature and specific issues	interview with farmer	in student workbooks
	sustainably farming reports table of all replies to interview and summary into one class statement	table for each qn	on School website see Ref 2 below
✓	The story of our land Geological history was modelled in the sandpit and photographed, put into a timeline of stages and made into a class reference book.	landscape history	In school library see Ref 3 books

Reference 1 – My Farmland Environment Research collected by Ben, year 3

- definitions,
- crops,
- stock,
- care for nature
- and sustainability issues.

Reference 1 – My Farmland Environment Research collected by Deklin year 3

- definitions,
- crops,
- stock,
- and sustainability issues.

Tick if used for your story	Reference 2 - Bibliography for Web sites
	The following is the list of the website references that were created by the children for this project from their interviews
✓	Dates and time of access have been left off as all students helped create these resources and they were uploaded on 13 June 2012 to the school website as part of participating in the Australian Year of the Farmer.
✓	"What does sustainability mean?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts_sustainability.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
✓	"What does sustainable farming mean?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts_sustainablefarming.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
	"What does sustainability mean?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012 sourced as sts_crops.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
	"What does sustainability mean for stock?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts_stock.pfd at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
✓	"What does sustainability mean for caring for nature?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts_nature.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
✓	"What problems does sustainable farming have here?" by St Josephs PS Senior class, 13 June 2012, sourced as sts_issues.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
	"The Landscape of Hopetoun - how it was made over a long time" by Jeanie Clark, 28 June 2012, sourced as sts_landhistory.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html
	"Our Mallee Farmlands - environmental features" by St Joseph's PS Senior class, 28 June 2012, sourced as sts_ourfarmlands.pdf at http://www3.sjhopetoun.catholic.edu.au/sts-resources-2012.html

J. Clark , Science Talent Search, Bibliography Proforma, 2012

Tick if used for your story	Reference 3 - Bibliography for Books
	The following is the list of the book references that were available to the children for this project.
	If you only use a part of these books, add the page numbers at the end
✓	Clark, Jeanie (2012), "The Landscape of Hopetoun - how it was made over a long time", St Joseph's Primary School class room publication, Hopetoun.
	Crocombe, Angela (2006) <i>Farming Australia- Grain Farming</i> Binara Publishing P/L
	Dalglish, Sharon (2005) <i>Farm animals- Cattle</i> , MacMillan Education Australia
	Hamilton, Fiona (1994) <i>The Workboot Series - Wheat</i> , The Kondinin Group
	Pelusey, Michael & Jane, (2003) <i>Outback Australia - Life on a Sheep Station</i> Macmillan Education Australia
✓	Pyers, Greg (2001) <i>Australia's Introduced Plants and Animals - Book4 Mesquite to Rubber</i> . Vine Reed International Books P/L
	Thomas, Ann (1998) <i>Farms - Sheep and Cattle Farms</i> , Macmillan Education Australia
	Thomas, Ron, & Stutchbury, Jan (1996) <i>Feral Animals - Pigs and Goats</i> , Macmillan Education Australia
	Wykeham, Nicholas (1979) <i>Farm Machines</i> . Raintree Children's Books
	Isham, Marion & Steve (2004) <i>Draw Australian Animals</i> . Bandicoot Books, Margate. Tas

J. Clark , Science Talent Search, Bibliography Proforma, 2012

Tick if used for your story	Reference 4 - Bibliography of Class Lessons
	The following is the list of topics in class lessons that could be used as references for their stories:
✓	the Environment and its Features
✓	Sustainability
✓	Story of our land
✓	Lunettes – landform, Native Pines and ‘Snow Drifts’
	Salinity in Water
	Saltwatch - Water Salinity in our Area
✓	Soil Salinity and texture
	Rain coming - clouds and processes
✓	Shinglebacks/Stumpy Tailed Lizards and Blue-Tongue Lizards
✓	Bats especially Micro-bats
✓	Minibugs – helpers, threats and passers by – including what worms do
	Wild Melons – Afghan and Paddy Melons
✓	Our Crops and what we use them for.
✓	Keeping Stubble, trees and shelter belts- sustainable farming for dry times.

J. Clark , Science Talent Search, Bibliography Proforma, 2012

WORD COUNT for our story = 200..... words

Acknowledgements

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✓ if helped	doing what	by whom
✓	answering our farm interview and other questions for research for our story	Shaggy - Shane Bellinger
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✓	typing our draft words for us	Mrs Clark
✓	suggesting better spelling and grammar	Miss Maiden , Mrs Clark
	Teaching us how to format our pages	Miss Maiden
	teaching us about ‘Sustainability and our Farmland Environment’	Mrs Clark

J. Clark , Science Talent Search, Bibliography Proforma, 2012