

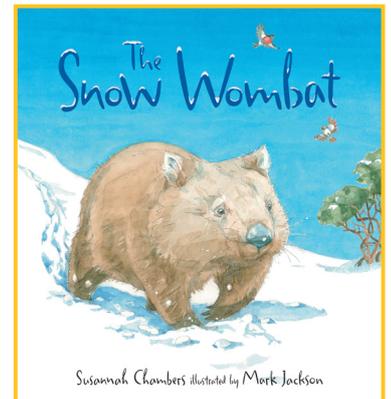


June 2016

Book title: SNOW WOMBAT

By Susannah Chambers and Mark Jackson

Grab your winter coats and hats and join a little wombat as he makes his way home through the wintry landscape of the Australian High Country. Mark Jackson's stunning illustrations capture not only the antics of this little wombat but also introduce children to an array of Australian animals. Susannah Chambers' text is fun and interesting - just perfect for reading out aloud to this age group.



Key Message for Parents

Children Are Born Ready To Use and Learn Mathematics

Parents can help children develop their natural mathematical abilities in the following ways:

- Many everyday experiences are opportunities for children to explore mathematical concepts. Experiences like getting dressed, eating, cooking and even sorting the washing provide opportunities to have fun with numbers!
- Sing nursery rhymes that have numbers, counting and lots of repetition such as Round and Round the Garden, Hickory Dickory Dock and Ants go Marching
- Set up play spaces at home that incorporate number – such as a pretend bakery or a shop, or even a cinema! Number the chairs; count the tickets and the popcorn!

Learning Outcomes

Outcome 4 - Children Are Confident And Involved Learners

We can help children to become confident and involved learners by:

- Planning learning experiences which are open ended and relevant
- Responding positively to a child's input and ideas. This tells the child you value them, recognise their thinking, and will encourage them to participate again
- Incorporating their ideas and interests when planning activities
- Encouraging children to predict and problem solve, when reading a story

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au





Themes of this story include:

- Australian
- Seasons
- Rhyming Stories

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their babies.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

*Good morning to you
Good morning to you
Good morning everybody
And welcome to you!*

Song

Put Your Finger on Your Nose.

*Put your finger on your nose, on your nose
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose
Put your finger on your nose, that's where the cold wind blows
Put your finger on your nose, on your nose*

*Put your finger on your cheek on your cheek
Out your finger on your cheek, on your cheek
Put your finger on your cheek; leave it there about a week
Put your finger on your cheek, on your cheek*

*Put your finger on your eyes, on your eyes
Put your finger on your eyes, on your eyes
Put your finger on your eyes, they make a good disguise
Put your finger on your eyes, on your eyes*





Before Reading

As this story takes place in wintery landscape, you could wear a big woolly scarf or a beanie when you read the story! Has anyone ever been to the snow? You could pass some ice cubes around in a bowl so children are able to touch and feel it - How does it feel?

Today's story is called Snow Wombat by Susannah Chambers and Mark Jackson. Has anyone ever seen a wombat before?

During Reading

The rhythmic text is laid out over each double spread with vivid illustrations bringing it to life! As the little wombat meanders through the snow we (the reader), share his view of this amazing landscape. Mark Jackson's stunning illustrations capture the crisp cool beauty of the area. He also creates visual sub plots, which add interest and depth to his illustrations. For example in each double spread there appear different animals, a fox slinking across a snowy mountain side, or a butterfly in the background which flutters into the next page! Children will enjoy looking for these animals and the details he has so cleverly added.

The text flows easily and its repetitive structure provides opportunity to inject lots of expression and fun! If children are sitting with their parents you could get them to touch or tickle the same body part as the little wombat...for example - Snow on my....TUM!, or snow on my....NOSE! Encourage the parents or carers to touch their child's tum, nose etc.

The story ends with an image of our little wombat sleeping – ask the children to snuggle up in a little ball like the little snow wombats!

After Reading

Take a few moments to reflect on the snow wombat's journey. What animals did we see along the way? Make a list and count them together!

Follow the link to a short video clip of Wombats foraging in the snow, watch how the little wombat moves through the snow just like in today's story! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7QHgVOsBWc>

Can you move like a wombat? Get the children to pretend to be a wombat and go for a little wander! Place a white sheet on the ground for snow!





Activity time

Snow Flakes

What you will need

- Cotton tips cut into halves or pipe cleaners into small sections
- Scissors
- Blue tac
- Beads, or cut up straws (optional)



What to do:

1. Place cotton tip/pipe cleaner halves into a bowl that children can access easily.
2. Give them a small piece of Blue Tac and get them to form a small ball. This is excellent for fine motor or small muscle coordination and development.
3. Push the cotton tip halves into the Blue Tac to create a snowflake. For added effect they could also add glitter or even thread small pieces of cut up straws or beads onto the cotton buds!
4. Repeat to make multiple snowflakes
5. Invite children to stick their snowflake onto a window and create a Snow Fall!



images sourced from:

handsonaswegrow.com/cotton-bud-q-tip-snowflake-craft/

Please Note: Parent supervision is essential.

This activity could also be done using play doh, but would not be able to stick onto a window

Extension Ideas

- Use shaving foam to create a snow scene! Place some plastic Australian animals on a big tray and surround them with shaving cream. Can the children find the animals?
- Make a wombat mask
- Paint with cotton buds onto blue paper! An instant snowy scene!





Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of relevant books that parents might want to borrow. The Little Big Book Club recommends the following books to support learning in this area -

- **One Wolly Wombat** by Kerry Argent
- **The Great Garden Mystery** by Renee Trembl
- **Diary of a Wombat** by Jackie French and Bruce Whatley
- **Once i heard a Little Wombat** by Renee Trembl

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush) or your preferred choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)

Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!