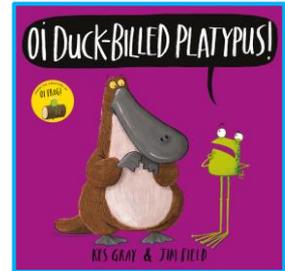




Oi Duck-Billed Platypus

By Kes Gray and Jim Field

Frog and his friends are at it again with a brilliantly funny rhyming picture book. Laugh along with the silliness as frog tries to rhyme all those animals that are impossible to rhyme with, like duck billed platypus or hippopotamus. How will frog get the rhyming flowing so the animals know what to sit on?



Key Message for Parents | Children learn language by listening to it and using it

The brain is naturally wired to learn language. The more language a child hears the bigger and stronger their vocabulary becomes and the more confident they become at using language. It is important to talk, read and sing with your child every day.

Rhyming is a great way to teach children how language works. Children learn the sounds within words through hearing rhymes. This is called phonological (sound) awareness. Being able to hear the smaller sounds in words is one of the key early literacy skills children need to develop to become a successful reader. Rhyming also teaches the rhythm of language. Lots of books contain rhymes as do songs and nursery rhymes.

Australian Early Years Learning Framework | Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

As educators we can help children become effective communicators by;

- Modelling language and encouraging children to express themselves through language.
- Listening to and responding to children's approximation of words.
- Reading and sharing a range of books and other texts with children- point out that language is everywhere- street signs, supermarket, library, preschool/Kindy.
- Talking explicitly about concepts such as rhyme and letters and sounds when sharing text with children.

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

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

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!

or



We Wave and Sing Hello

We wave and sing hello, we wave and sing hello

With our friends at story time

We wave and sing hello

Change up the chant replace the word 'wave' with other words like, clap, stand, stomp, sit, or stretch

Song

Humpty Dumpty

Humpty dumpty sat on a wall

Humpty dumpty had a great fall

All the king's horses and all the king's men

Couldn't put humpty together again

Build it up, up, up, up into the sky!





Before Reading

Start your session speaking in rhyming sentences. This peculiar and animated way of talking will prompt the children's curiosities and as a result they will be more engaged.

Try something like this;

*Welcome to story time
Today our stories all will rhyme*

*Place your hands in your lap
Take them out when it's time to clap*

*Switch on your listening ears
Watch, hear, sing and cheer*

*Let's begin, read 'til we're done
Story time is so much fun!*

Show them the cover of the book explain that the story is about rhyming. Ask the children if they know what rhyming is. Explain that rhyming words are words that have the same ending sounds.

During Reading

At the end of the story before you finish the last page ask for the children's suggestions of where the kangaroo should sit. See if anyone guesses the same place.

Talk about how the rhyming words are in bold. The author is emphasizing these words.

Do any of the animal's first names match any of the children in your group.

After Reading

Explore the end papers. Platypus is doing all sorts of things. See how many the children can name.

Play a game of bean bag rhyming. The children all sit in a circle. Person who starts holds the beanbag and says "My name is (insert child's first name) and I sit on (rhyming word with first name)". Ideally the child will think of something that rhymes with their first name, if not the rest of the group can help. When that person has finished the bean bag is passed to the next person in the circle.

TIP: If you know the names of the children in the session, have a list of rhyming words ready to help any tricky rhyming names!



Activity Time

Paper bag duck billed platypus

What you need

- Paper bag
- Templates of billed and feet
- Brown paper
- Googly eyes
- Glue/sticky tape
- Newspaper



What to do:

1. Fold the paper bag in half (length ways)
2. Glue down one side to hold it in position
3. Stuff the paper with scrunched up newspaper
4. Fold the corners of the paper bag down and glue/sticky tape
5. Print out the templates for bill, feet and tail and copy onto brown paper
6. Cut out the tail, bill and feet and attach to the paper bag body
7. Glue on the googly eyes.

Extension Activities:

- Rhyming scavenger hunt- prepare a checklist of pictures or words then hunt for words or items that rhyme with them.
- Rhyming basket game – collect a variety of toys with rhyming a pair eg: cat and hat and place into a basket/tub. Pick one item out and say the name then hunt for the item in the basket that rhymes with it.
- Rhyming Pairs game – Activity Time (add link)

STEM

Engineering is simply designing, building, and using structures and machines. Children use engineering skills all the time in their play. Pre-schoolers love to build things so provide some simple blocks and invite them to build something for the animals to sit on. As they are building go around and ask what they are building and what their reasoning is. Is it a good thing for an animal to sit on?





Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.

For some more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- **Oi Cat** by Kes Gray and Jim Field
- **Are You My Bottom?** by Kate and Jol Temple, illustrated by Ronjoy Ghosh
- **My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes** by Eve Sutton and Lynley Dodd
- **Parrot Carrot Car** by Kate and Jol Temple, illustrated by Jon Foye

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 choice.

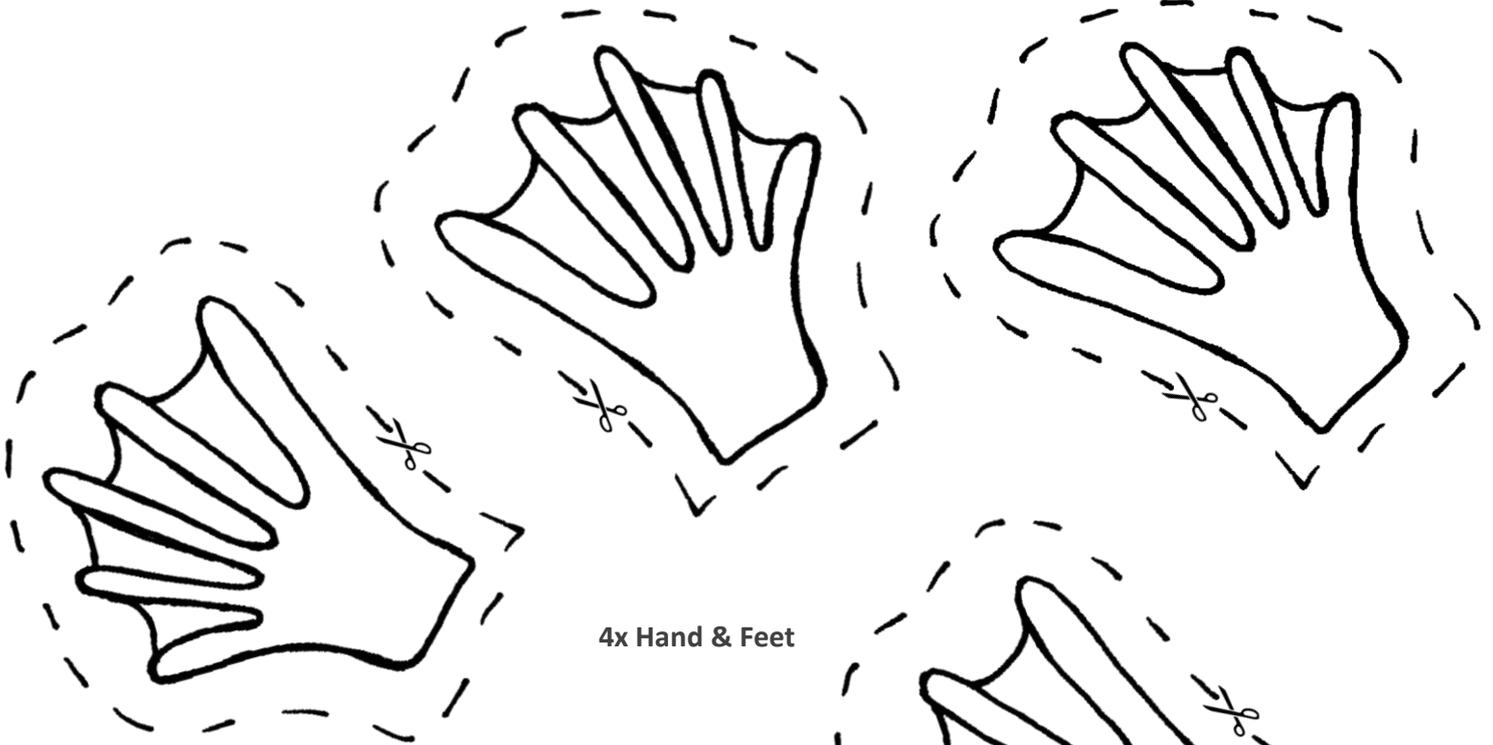
Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (wave) say goodbye, say goodbye

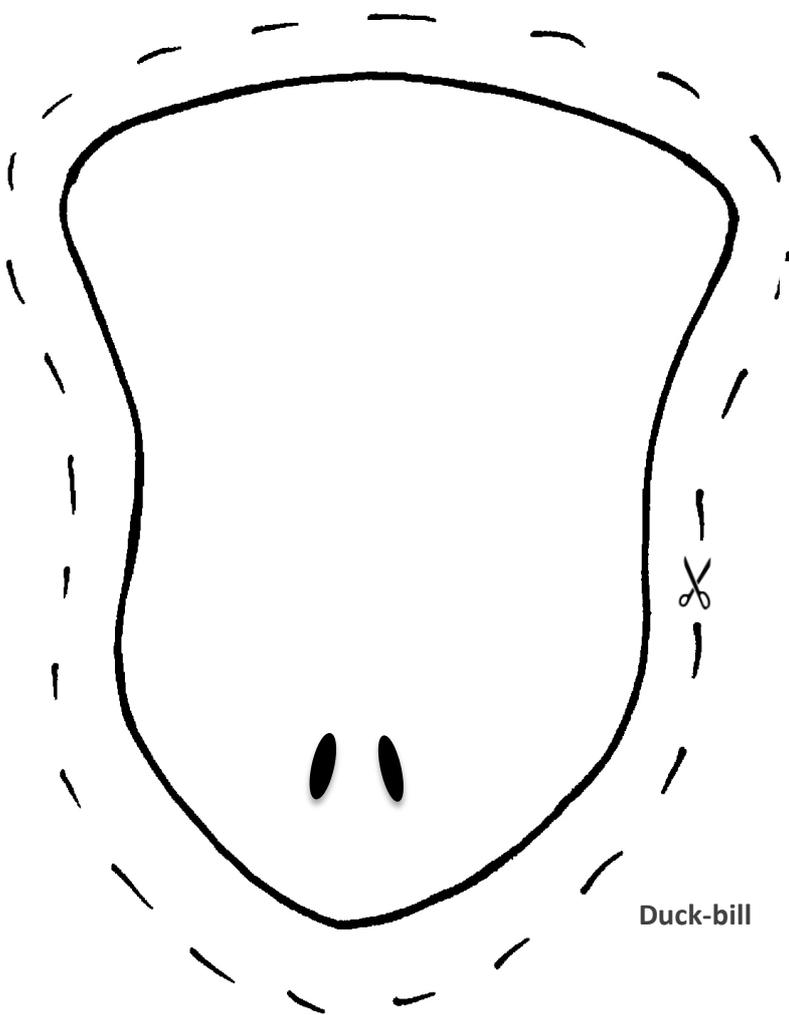
This is the way we say goodbye to all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!



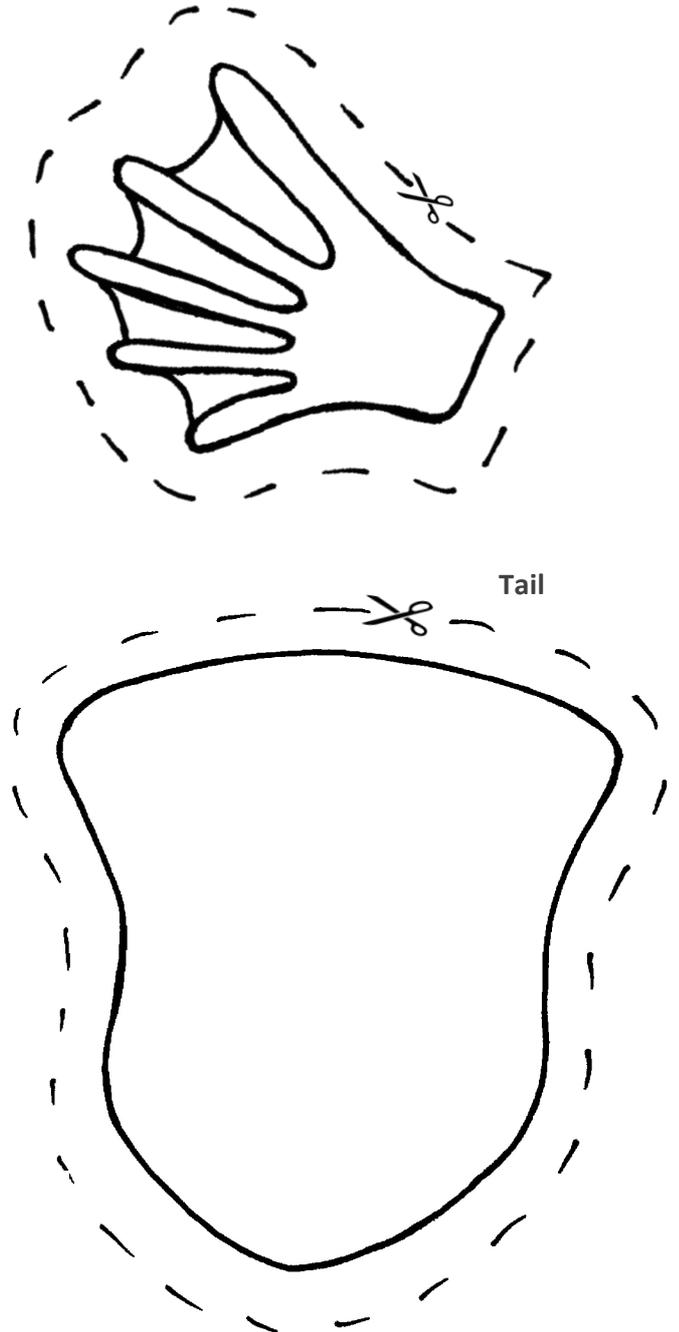
Duck Billed Platypus Template



4x Hand & Feet



Duck-bill



Tail