

**Aa**

**Bb**

**Cc**

**Dd**

**Ee**

**Ff**



**Gg**

**Hh**

**Ii**

**Jj**

**Kk**

**Ll**



**Mm**

**Nn**

**Oo**

**Pp**

**Qq**

**Rr**



**Ss**

**Tt**

**Uu**

**Vv**

**Ww**

**Xx**



**Yy**

**Zz**



# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter a in them. Practise writing a and these other letters.

a \_\_\_\_\_

m \_\_\_\_\_

t \_\_\_\_\_

c \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



map

map



tap

tap



cat

cat



bat

bat

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter a in them. Practise writing a and these other letters.

a \_\_\_\_\_

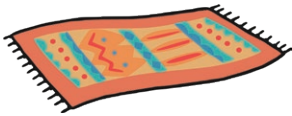
m \_\_\_\_\_

j \_\_\_\_\_

p \_\_\_\_\_

h \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



mat

mat



jam

jam



pan

pan



hat

hat

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter e in them. Practise writing e and these other letters.

e \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

p \_\_\_\_\_

r \_\_\_\_\_

p \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



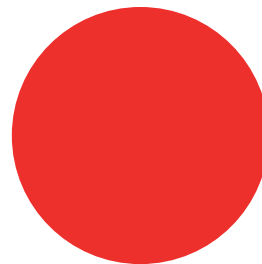
bed

bed



pet

pet



red

red



pen

pen



# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter e in them. Practise writing e and these other letters.

e \_\_\_\_\_

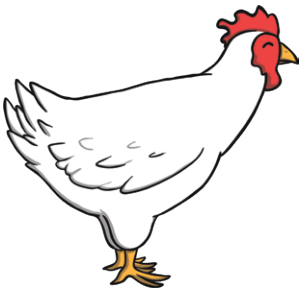
h \_\_\_\_\_

t \_\_\_\_\_

l \_\_\_\_\_

w \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



hen

hen

10

ten

ten



leg

leg



web

web

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter i in them. Practise writing i and these other letters.

i \_\_\_\_\_

w \_\_\_\_\_

z \_\_\_\_\_

d \_\_\_\_\_

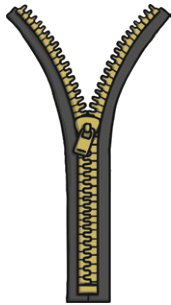
s \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



wig

wig



zip

zip



dig

dig



sit

sit

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter i in them. Practise writing i and these other letters.

i

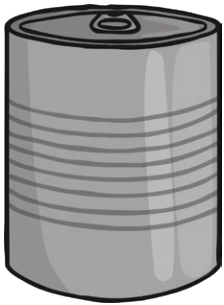
t

l

b

p

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



tin

tin



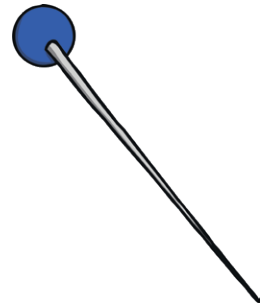
lip

lip



bin

bin



pin

pin

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter o in them. Practise writing o and these other letters.

o \_\_\_\_\_

d \_\_\_\_\_

h \_\_\_\_\_

l \_\_\_\_\_

j \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



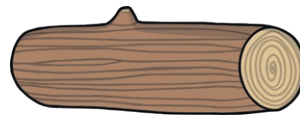
dog

dog



hot

hot



log

log



jog

jog

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter o in them. Practise writing o and these other letters.

o \_\_\_\_\_

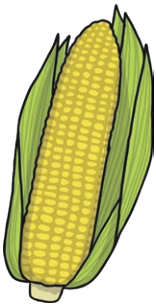
c \_\_\_\_\_

m \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

p \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



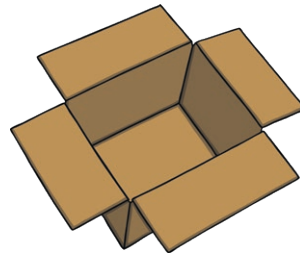
cob

cob



mop

mop



box

box



pop

pop

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter u in them. Practise writing u and these other letters.

u \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

r \_\_\_\_\_

r \_\_\_\_\_

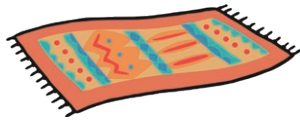
b \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



bus

bus



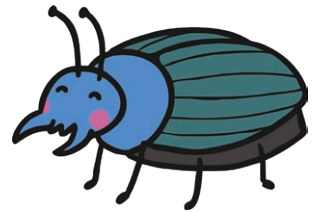
rug

rug



run

run



bug

bug

# CVC Words Handwriting

These words all have the letter u in them. Practise writing u and these other letters.

u \_\_\_\_\_

b \_\_\_\_\_

s \_\_\_\_\_

s \_\_\_\_\_

j \_\_\_\_\_

Trace over the word then write the word on the lines below.



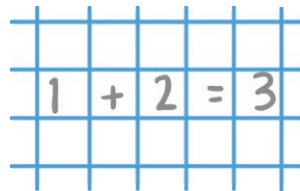
bun

bun



sun

sun



sum

sum



jug

jug

## HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE: SENTENCE BUILDER

- Students choose a sentence strip and copy the sentence on to the top of their Sentence Builder template, in the space provided.
- Students then use the chart to brainstorm appropriate adjectives, adverbs and a 'place' noun (the who/what noun and the verb should come straight from the simple sentence).
- Using these brainstormed words students construct a 'new and improved' version of the original sentence and write it in the available space below the chart.



# Sentence Builder

The simple sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Adjective</b> Describe the noun.	<b>Noun</b> Who or what?	<b>Verb</b> What did they do?	<b>Adverb</b> How did they do it?	<b>Noun</b> Where?

The new and improved sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The cat is sleeping.**

**The elephant is eating.**

**The girl is walking.**

**The train is stopping.**

**The police officer  
is driving.**

**The monkey  
is swinging.**

**The wind is blowing.**

**The echidna is digging.**

**The helicopter is flying.**

**The baby is crying.**

**The woman is singing.**

**The ninja is sneaking.**

**The kangaroo  
is jumping.**

**The flowers  
are growing.**

**The firefighter  
is running.**

**The cookies are baking.**

**The platypus  
is swimming.**

**The dog barked.**

**The lights are flashing.**

**The bird flew.**

**The sun is shining.**

**The snake slithered.**

**The chicken  
is scratching.**

**The frog hopped.**

**The penguin swam.**

**The tree fell.**

**The kookaburra  
laughed.**

**The mouse ran.**

**The boy danced.**

**The possum slept.**

**The house burned.**

**The cow ate.**

**The chicken yelled.**

**The yacht sailed.**

**The bear roared.**

**The man snored.**

**The spider scurried.**

**The rock rolled.**

**The bell rang.**

**The duck splashed.**

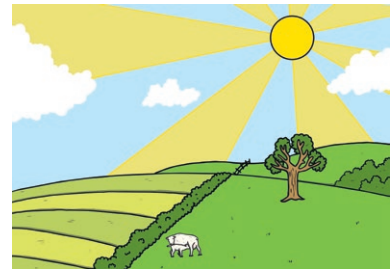
Once upon a  
time...



A long time  
ago...



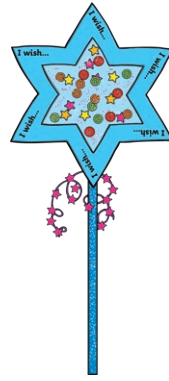
It was a beautiful  
day...



I heard a loud  
bang...



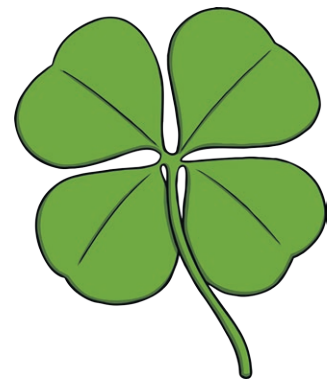
I made a wish  
and...



It was a stormy  
day...



I was so lucky...



I was so scared...





It all started while  
I was walking to  
school...



“Stop!” I yelled...



I had superpowers  
for one day...



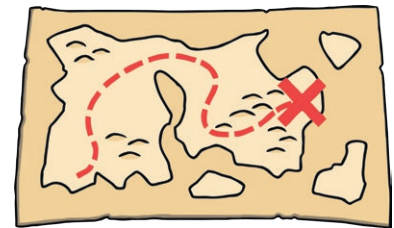
I was lost...



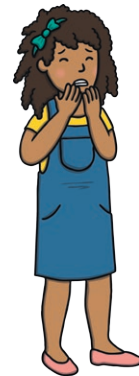
I walked up to the  
haunted house...



I looked at the  
treasure map...



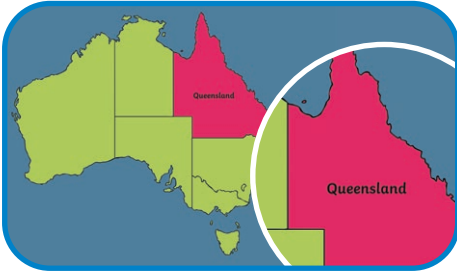
Oh no!



It was a terrible  
day...



# The Great Barrier Reef



## Where Is the Great Barrier Reef?

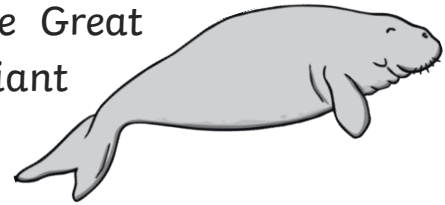
The Great Barrier Reef is in Australia. It has 2900 reefs and 900 islands. The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea, near Queensland.

## How Big Is the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is 2600 kilometres long. It is the world's biggest living structure. Astronauts can see it from outer space!

## Which Animals Live in the Great Barrier Reef?

Many thousands of animals live in the Great Barrier Reef, such as fish, sea turtles, giant clam, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, stingrays, sharks and many more.



## What Else Lives in the Great Barrier Reef?

Many other species live in the Great Barrier Reef; including corals and sponges. 360 species of hard coral grow there. Hot weather and warm water are bad for coral and cause 'coral bleaching'.

## How Do Aboriginal Peoples Use the Great Barrier Reef?

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are the traditional owners of the Great Barrier Reef. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have used the sea to give them food for thousands of years. Today, food from the sea is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, who still collect food and prepare meals using their traditional methods.



# Questions

1. In which country is the Great Barrier Reef?

---

2. In which sea is the Great Barrier Reef?

---

3. From where can the Great Barrier Reef be seen?

---

4. List four animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.

---

5. What causes coral bleaching?

---

6. Who are the owners of the Great Barrier Reef?

---

7. What do these people use the Great Barrier Reef for?

---

8. Describe an interesting fact that you have learned about the Great Barrier Reef.

---

---

9. Draw a picture of what you think the Great Barrier Reef looks like.

# Answers

1. In which country is the Great Barrier Reef?  
**The Great Barrier Reef is in Australia.**
2. In which sea is the Great Barrier Reef?  
**The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea.**
3. From where can the Great Barrier Reef be seen?  
**The Great Barrier Reef can be seen from outer space.**
4. List four animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.  
**Any 4 from: fish, sea turtles, giant clam, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, stingrays, sharks.**
5. What causes coral bleaching?  
**Hot weather and warm water causes coral bleaching.**
6. Who are the owners of the Great Barrier Reef?  
**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are the owners of the Great Barrier Reef.**
7. What do these people use the Great Barrier Reef for?  
**They use it to source food.**
8. Describe an interesting fact that you have learned about the Great Barrier Reef.  
**Responses will vary.**
9. Draw a picture of what you think the Great Barrier Reef looks like.  
**Responses will vary.**

# The Great Barrier Reef



## Where Is the Great Barrier Reef?

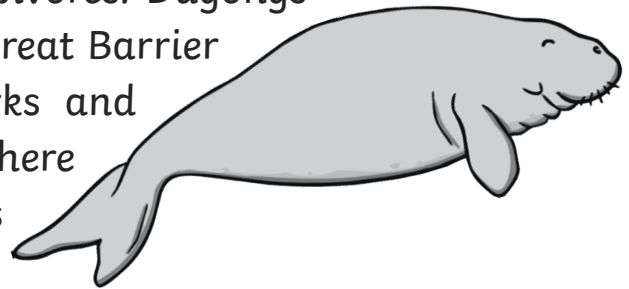
The Great Barrier Reef is a huge living formation in Australia. It has 2900 reefs and 900 islands. The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland, Australia. It runs along the Queensland coast, from near the southern town of Bundaberg to up past Cape York.

## How Big Is the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is 2600 kilometres long. It is not only the world's largest reef but also the world's largest living structure. The Great Barrier Reef is bigger than Tasmania and Victoria put together. Astronauts can even see it from outer space!

## Which Animals Live in the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is home to many animals, such as fish, sea turtles, giant clam, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, stingrays, sharks and more. One of the most interesting is the dugong. These unusual animals are closely related to dolphins and whales. They are large mammals and are herbivores. Dugongs feed on the many plants of the Great Barrier Reef. They are hunted by sharks and saltwater crocodiles. Today, there are more than 50,000 dugongs living in Australian waters.



## What Else Lives in the Great Barrier Reef?

Many other species live in the Great Barrier Reef; including corals and sponges. 360 species of hard coral grow there, including bottlebrush coral, bubble coral, brain coral, mushroom coral, staghorn coral, tabletop coral and needle coral. Hot weather and

warm water are bad for coral and cause 'coral bleaching'.

### **How Do Aboriginal Peoples Use the Great Barrier Reef?**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are the traditional owners of the Great Barrier Reef. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have used the sea to give them food for thousands of years. Today, food from the sea is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, who still collect food and prepare meals using their traditional foods.



# Questions

1. Where is the Great Barrier Reef?

---

2. How long is the Great Barrier Reef?

---

3. From where can the Great Barrier Reef be seen?

---

4. Why is this possible?

---

5. In alphabetical order, list examples of animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.

---

6. Are dugongs extinct? Give reasons for your answer.

---

---

7. What does 'herbivore' mean?

---

---

8. What do you think 'coral bleaching' means?

---

---

9. Using information from the text, draw a detailed and labelled picture of the Great Barrier Reef.



# Answers

1. Where is the Great Barrier Reef?

**The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland, Australia.**

2. How long is the Great Barrier Reef?

**The Great Barrier Reef is 2600 kilometres long.**

3. From where can the Great Barrier Reef be seen?

**The Great Barrier Reef can be seen from outer space.**

4. Why is this possible?

**It is possible because of the Great Barrier Reef's size.**

5. In alphabetical order, list examples of animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.

**dugongs, fish, giant clam, salt water crocodiles, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, sharks, stingrays.**

6. Are dugongs extinct? Give reasons for your answer.

**No, dugongs are not extinct. There are more than 50,000 of them living in Australian waters.**

7. What does 'herbivore' mean?

**Herbivore means an animal that only eats plants.**

8. What do you think 'coral bleaching' means?

**Coral bleaching means coral loses its colour.**

9. Using information from the text, draw a detailed and labelled picture of the Great Barrier Reef.

**Responses will vary but should include the animals and plants described, with labels.**

# The Great Barrier Reef



## Where Is the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is an enormous living formation in Australia. It has 2900 individual reefs and over 900 islands. The Great Barrier Reef is located in the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland, Australia. It stretches along the Queensland coast from near the southern town of Bundaberg, to up past Cape York. It is a popular tourist attraction with over 2 million visitors every year.

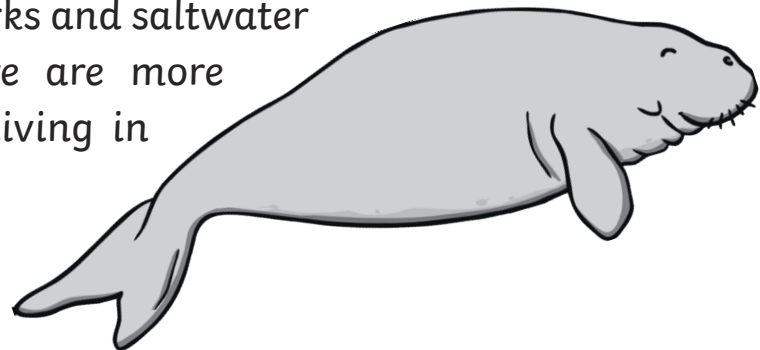
## How Big Is the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is a staggering 2600 kilometres long. It is not only the world's largest reef but also the world's largest living structure. The Great Barrier Reef is bigger than Tasmania and Victoria put together. Astronauts can even see it from outer space!

## Which Animals Live in the Great Barrier Reef?

The Great Barrier Reef is home to many thousands of animals, such as fish, sea turtles, giant clam, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, stingrays, sharks and more. One of the most interesting, is the dugong. These unusual animals are closely related to dolphins and whales. They are large mammals and are herbivores. Dugongs feed on the many plants of the Great Barrier Reef.

They are hunted by sharks and saltwater crocodiles. Today, there are more than 50,000 dugongs living in Australian waters.



### **What Else Lives in the Great Barrier Reef?**

Many other species live in the Great Barrier Reef; including a wide variety of corals and sponges. 360 species of hard coral grow there, including bottlebrush coral, bubble coral, brain coral, mushroom coral, staghorn coral, tabletop coral and needle coral. Hard corals grow in shallow water and help build the structure of coral reefs. They grow in several forms, such as mounds, plates and branches. When a coral colony dies, a new one will grow on top of the skeletons of the dead coral. This creates three-dimensional architecture. Hot weather and warm water are bad for coral and cause 'coral bleaching'. This means they lose their natural colour and become a white-greyish colour.

### **How Do Aboriginal Peoples Use the Great Barrier Reef?**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are the traditional owners of the Great Barrier Reef. More than 70 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural groups have ownership over parts of the Great Barrier Reef. Many animals that live there are important to Aboriginal Dreaming, specifically the turtle and dugong. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have used the sea to give them food for thousands of years. Today, food from the sea is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who still collect food and prepare meals using their traditional foods.



# Questions

1. Where is the Great Barrier Reef?

---

2. Which two states is the Great Barrier Reef bigger than?

---

3. How is it possible that astronauts can see the Great Barrier Reef from outer space?

---

---

4. In alphabetical order, list examples of animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.

---

5. Are dugongs extinct? Give reasons for your answer.

---

---

6. Describe what 'coral bleaching' means.

---

---

7. What happens when a coral colony dies?

---

---

8. Using information from the text, draw a labelled diagram of the Great Barrier Reef.

# Answers

1. Where is the Great Barrier Reef?

**The Great Barrier Reef is in the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland, Australia.**

2. Which two states is the Great Barrier Reef bigger than?

**The Great Barrier Reef is bigger than Tasmania and Victoria put together.**

3. How is it possible that astronauts can see it from outer space?

**It's possible for astronauts to see it from outer space because of the size of the Great Barrier Reef and the equipment they use.**

4. In alphabetical order, list examples of animals that live in the Great Barrier Reef.

**dugongs, fish, giant clam, salt water crocodiles, seahorses, sea snakes, sea turtles, sharks, stingrays.**

5. Are dugongs extinct? Give reasons for your answer.

**No, dugongs are not extinct. There are more than 50,000 of them living in Australian waters.**

6. Describe what 'coral bleaching' means.

**Coral bleaching is when the coral lose their natural colour and become a white-greyish colour.**

7. What happens when a coral colony dies?

**When a coral colony dies, a new one will grow on top of the skeletons of the dead coral.**

8. Using information from the text, draw a labelled diagram of the Great Barrier Reef.

**Responses will vary but should include the animals and plants (including the coral colonies) with labels.**

# How to Write a Good Story

## Characters

Who are the characters in your story?



## Setting

Where is your story set? Is it in a forest, a town, in the park or somewhere else?



## Opening

Introduce the characters and the location of the story.



## Build-Up

Begin to write about what is happening at the start of your story. Don't forget to use the characters you introduced at the beginning of your story.



## Dilemma

Write about a problem that is happening in your story. What is it that has gone wrong?



## Resolution

Write about how the problem will be fixed. Think about how the characters might work together to solve whatever has gone wrong.



## Closing

Bring everything in the story to an end and make sure the problem has been fixed.

# Persuasive Writing



# Aim

- To understand the purpose of a persuasive text.

# Success Criteria

- State your opinion about a topic.
- List two reasons to support your opinion.



# What Is a Persuasive Text?

## What is a persuasive text?

A persuasive text is a text which argues a point of view, to convince the reader to agree with the author.



## What's in a persuasive text?

**Opening statement:** Introduce your point of view.

**Arguments:** State your point of view and reasons for each argument.

**Conclusion:** Summarise your arguments and repeat your point of view.

# Organisation

**How is a persuasive text organised?**

A persuasive text is organised into paragraphs to make it easier to read.

**What's in a persuasive text?**

**Opening paragraph:**

Include opening statement and a list of arguments.

**Main body paragraphs:**

Include one argument in each paragraph.  
Support your argument with two reasons.

**Concluding paragraph:**

Summarise your arguments and restate your point of view.



# Features

Persuasive writing is written in the present tense.

- Children spend too much time doing homework.
- Dogs are the greatest pets for kids.
- Fidget spinners are a popular toy.



**Logical connectives** are used in persuasive writing to make the arguments flow.

**For example:** because, however, this shows, therefore.

**Time connectives** are used to begin the main body paragraphs.

**For example:** firstly, secondly, finally.

# Features

When writing persuasive text, always use facts.  
It gives evidence and proof to your arguments.

Give a reasonable argument to get the reader  
interested and on your side.

Interest the reader by using interesting, strong and emotive words.

Simple sentences help the reader to understand your arguments.

Persuasive writing is about informing the reader about a subject and  
convincing them to agree with you. Choose a topic you believe in.

# Features

Using strong, clear, emotive language helps the reader to agree with you.  
Below, are some helpful phrases that are used in persuasive writing.

## Persuasive phrases:

It is outrageous that...

I strongly believe...

It's disgraceful that...

It's concerning that...

How could we possibly...

# Features

Finally, reread your persuasive text.

Would you be persuaded?



# Persuasive Text Example

Read this example of a persuasive text. Underline the title, the point of view, arguments, reasons and persuasive language.

## Children Should Stop Watching Television!

I strongly believe that watching television is bad for children. It is not educational, it creates laziness and it increases bad behaviour.

Firstly, because television involves watching, not thinking, it is not educational. When children are not thinking, they are not using their imagination, which is tragic! A lack of thinking and imagination can also affect a child's schoolwork.

Secondly, when watching television, students are sat for long periods of time. Sitting still for a long time can create bad habits like not wanting to play outside, which in turn can affect a child's health, weight and friendships.

Continues on next page

Finally, there are countless shows on television that are not appropriate for children to watch. Some of these show swearing, being mean, bad manners and fighting. If children watch shows that have these things in them, it's possible they will think these behaviours are OK in real life. This means that children could become rude and violent.

In conclusion, it's obvious that children watch too much television and should be stopped. This is because children's education, physical fitness and behaviour are at risk. Make yourself smarter, fitter and better behaved TODAY by not watching television!





# Topics for a Persuasive Text

Here are some examples of topics you could use for a persuasive text.  
Which ones are you passionate about?

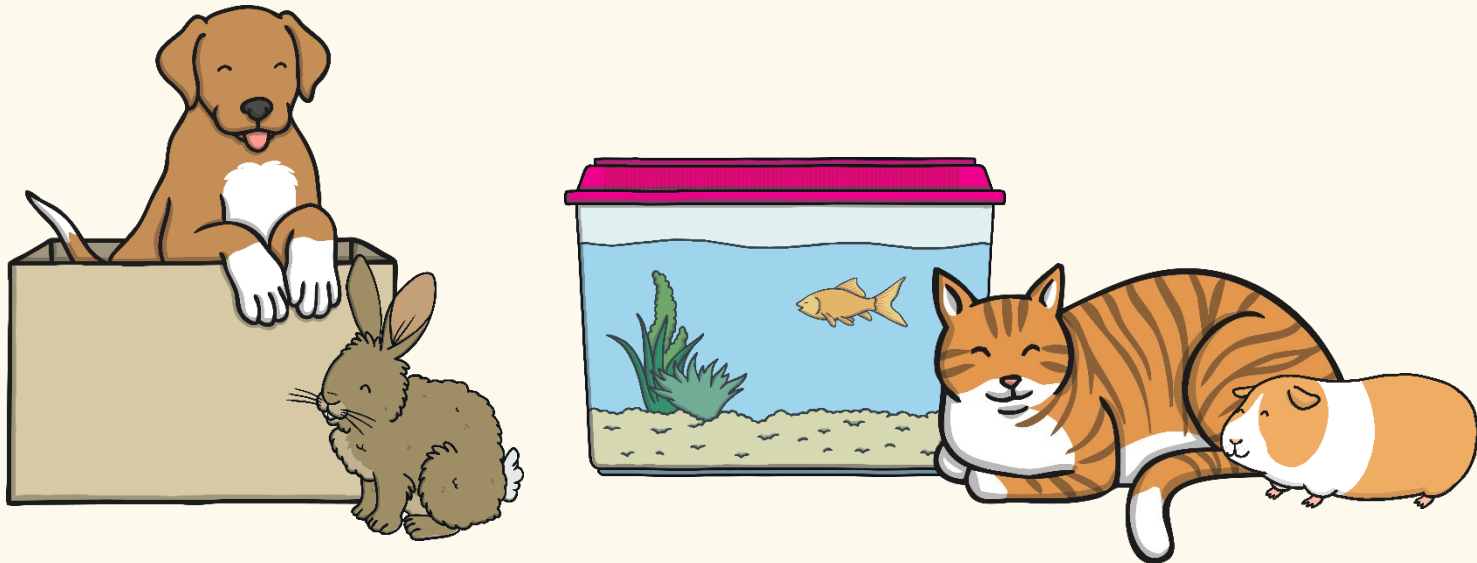
- Fidget spinners should be banned.
- All children should receive pocket money.
- All children should do homework every night.
- Dogs are the best pets for children.
- Every child should play a team sport.
- The beach is more fun than a pool.
- All children should read at least one book a week.
- Weekends should be three days.



# Plenary

**'All Children Should Have Pets.'**

Using the above topic, state your opinion and two reasons.  
Compare these with your partner's opinion and reasons.





# Emu

The emu is Australia's largest bird and the world's second largest. It comes second to the ostrich.



Emus are very unique in the way they look. They have long necks and very sharp beaks.



Their ears are quite small and they have two sets of eyelids. One eyelid is used to keep the dust out while the other is used for blinking. Altogether they have six toes, three on each foot. On each foot there is a talon which is used for fighting and protecting themselves against predators. Emus have very soft light brown feathers. They are also known to grow between 1.5-2 metres in height and can weigh up to 60kg. They are flightless birds.

Emus like to eat whatever they can find. However, they really enjoy grains, flowers and berries. They also like to eat insects and grubs which they find by digging around in the ground.

Emus like to eat a lot of food, especially if there is a lot around them. When they eat lots, the food is stored as fat. They can then survive for longer periods as they go in search of more food. Emus live in flocks or pairs.

## Did you know...?

**Males make a grunting sound like a pig and females make a loud booming sound.**

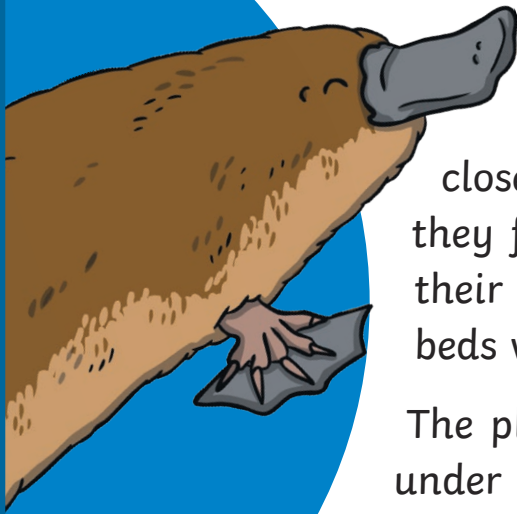


# Platypus

The platypus is a semi-aquatic mammal found in small rivers and streams in Queensland, New South Wales, ACT, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.



It is duck-billed, has a beaver-like tail, has otter-like fur and webbed feet. Platypus are monotremes, which means they lay eggs instead of giving birth.



Platypus are nocturnal, which means they come out at night or at twilight to feed. They close their eyes and ears when under water. When they feed on worms, insects and shrimp, they use their sense of electroreception and dig up the river beds with their bills.

The platypus is an excellent swimmer. It can stay under water for around 30 seconds before coming up for air. The average length of a male platypus is 50cm and the average length of a female is 43cm. They can weigh between 1 and 2.4kg. Their predators include snakes, water rats, hawks, owls, eagles and sometimes crocodiles.

## Did you know...?

**The platypus has been used as a mascot for national events in Australia and is featured on the Australian 20 cent coin.**



# Wombat

Wombats are native only to Australia. They are mammals and marsupials. Wombats are small and look like a cross between a bear, a pig and a gopher.



Their bodies are built for digging, with short legs, a compact head, short broad feet and strong claws. There are two kinds of wombats, the bare-nosed wombat and the hairy-nosed wombat. Hairy-nosed wombats are nocturnal grazers, which means they hunt for their food at night.



Wombats mainly eat grass and roots. They live in burrows up to 30 metres long. The burrows are made mainly from roots of fallen trees, soil, leaves and rocks.

They are extremely strong and excellent diggers. Wombats can be many different colours, from light brown to black or grey. The average wombat is about 1 metre long and weighs about 25kg. Wombats are generally solitary, which means they are unsociable and like to be alone.

**Did you know...?**

**A wombat's pouch is backwards and their poo is cube-shaped.**



# Tasmanian Devil

The wild Tasmanian devil can only be found in the wild in Tasmania, Australia. The Tasmanian devil is a marsupial.



Female marsupial animals have pouches in which they carry their young. The pouch helps the Tasmanian devil mother to feed and protect newly born babies. There are four teats in the pouch, so she can look after four little devils at one time.



Tasmanian devils are mostly black, but usually have white markings on their bottom or the chest. Tasmanian devils are carnivores which means they only eat meat. They are also known to be scavengers. They eat lizards, frogs, insects and any animal meat they can find.

The Tasmanian devil stores fat in its tail so that it has something to draw on when there isn't a lot of food to eat. Their eyesight is better when it's dark. They are good at spotting things that are moving, but if things are still they probably won't see it as clearly.

Male devils are usually bigger than females. They are about 30 centimetres tall and weigh up to 14kg.

## Did you know...?

Devils can eat up to 40% of their body weight in a day.



# Kangaroo

Kangaroos are mammals and marsupials that are found in every state in Australia.



The kangaroo has large and powerful hind legs, large feet, a long muscly tail for balance and a small head. Male kangaroos can be seen boxing when competing for the attention of a female.



Kangaroos are social animals that live in groups called mobs. They are herbivores so they eat plants, leaves and different grasses.

Kangaroos can reach a weight of 90kg, and can hop at speeds of up to 60km/h.

A male kangaroo is known as a boomer, buck, jack, or old man. The female kangaroo is known as the doe, jill, or flyer. A baby kangaroo is known as a joey. The Red Kangaroo is the largest marsupial in the world. It can leap as far as 8m and can jump up to 3m high.

## Did you know...?

**Kangaroos cannot move backwards and adult kangaroos can live for months without drinking anything at all.**





# Possum

There are 23 possum species in Australia. The most common species are the brushtail possum and the ringtail possum.



Most possums live in hollows of tall trees, while some build nests (known as 'dreys') in bushes or trees. Possums are nocturnal marsupials.

While possums are mainly herbivores, they have been known to eat insects and bird eggs. They mainly eat eucalyptus and other leaves, and they also love eating nectar, flowers and fruit.

Most possums are solitary animals, except when they are raising their young. Ringtail possums tend to live in family groups of three or more.



**Did you know...?**  
Possums are native to Australia.

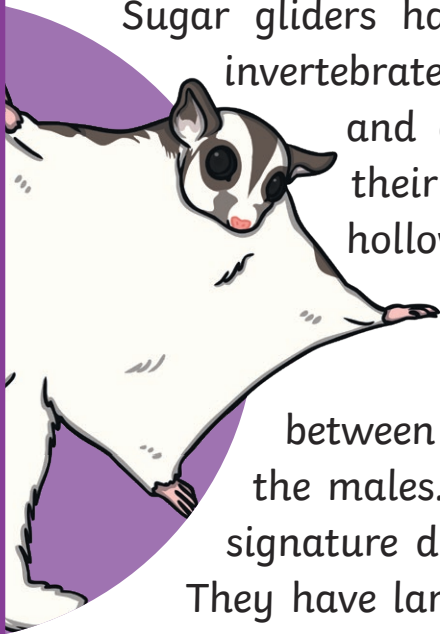
# Sugar Glider

The sugar glider is a small nocturnal marsupial that has stretchy membranes that extend from both sides of its body between the front and back legs. When the sugar glider jumps from tree to tree, it extends these membranes and glides between the trees. This is where the sugar glider gets its name.



The sugar glider is most common in parts of the north and eastern coastal areas of Australia. They can also be found in parts of Western Australia, Victoria and Tasmania. They are common where there are many tree hollows for shelter and food.

Sugar gliders have a diet of tree sap, nectar, pollen and small invertebrates that they hunt for at night. They live in colonies and during the day these groups (several adults and their young) can be found huddled together in the tree hollows or balls of leaves.



Adult sugar gliders are 16–21cm long, with a tail that can grow to the same length. They can weigh between 100–160 grams with the females weighing less than the males. They are covered with grey-brown fur with their signature dark stripe that runs the length of their foreheads.

They have large eyes that help them see at night. Sugar gliders communicate with one another using sounds and odours. They can produce a number of sounds that include a barking sound and hissing. Their chemical odour is the most common way they communicate and these odours are a way to mark territory, indicate the health of a glider or mark the rank of the colony members.

## Did you know...?

The sugar glider can withstand very cold temperatures. As they live in groups, when the weather is cold, they group together and sleep near one another to keep warm. They conserve energy by going in to 'torpor' – a condition similar to hibernation.

# Echidna

The echidna is a highly adaptable creature that can be found throughout Australia. They are found in coastal forests, alpine meadows and deserts. The echidna has the widest distribution of any native Australian mammal.



The echidna has a skinny snout and a long flicking tongue which is perfect for catching insects. It also has very sharp spines, known as quills, along its back and sides.

When an echidna is threatened, it will curl inwards leaving only its quills exposed. This is a form of protection from predators. Termites and ants are what echidnas love to eat.

They especially love eating beetle larvae which are a type of soil invertebrate. Their sharp claws are what help them to find termites, as they often hide in rotting logs.



**Did you know...?**

**Echidnas have no teeth.**

# Koala

Koalas are native to Australia. People still incorrectly refer to koalas as 'koala bears'. They are actually marsupials and are closely related to the wombat and kangaroo.



Koalas have sharp claws which they use to help them climb trees. They have five digits on each front paw, with two of them acting like thumbs. This helps them to hold firmly onto the branches and to grip their food. Their back paws are used as grooming paws.



A baby koala is called a 'joey'. Joeys live in their mother's pouch for around six months and will remain with them for another six months or so afterwards. An adult koala can eat about half a kilogram to one kilogram of leaves each night. Koalas are mostly nocturnal which means they are awake at night and asleep during the day. Koalas sleep a lot during the day because they require a lot of energy to digest the toxic, low-nutrient diet that they eat. Sleeping is the best way to conserve their energy.



**Did you know...?**

**Koalas sleep for around 18-20 hours a day.**

A book review by: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

What was the story about?

Who were the characters?

What did you like about the book?

Draw your favourite picture from the book.

Your rating: \_\_\_ / 10

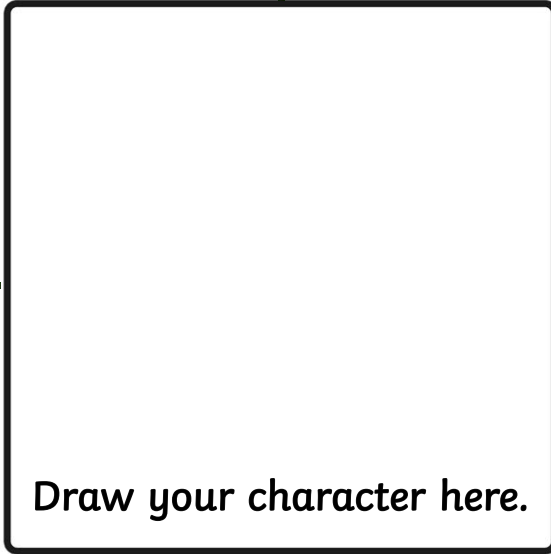
My character is \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



What was the character's problem? Did they manage to solve their problem? If so, how?

What do you know about the character?



Draw your character here.



What are the character's traits?

How did the character change over time?

