



TEACHERS' RESOURCES

RECOMMENDED FOR

Preschool and early primary
(ages 3–7)

CONTENTS

Plot summary	1
About the author	2
Key study topics	2
Further reading	3
Worksheets	4

KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- **Learning areas:** English, Science, HASS
- **General capabilities:** Literacy, creative thinking

PREPARED BY

Random House Australia

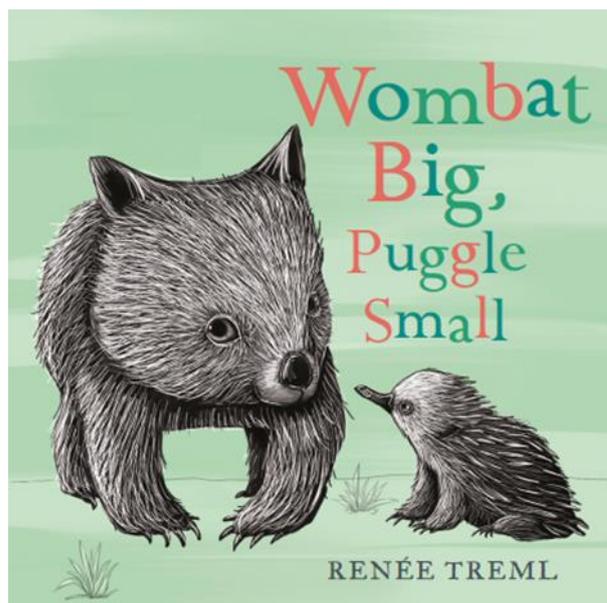
PUBLICATION DETAILS

ISBN: 9780143782940 (hardback)
9780143782926 (boardbook)

These notes may be reproduced free of charge for use and study within schools but they may not be reproduced (either in whole or in part) and offered for commercial sale.

Visit www.penguin.com.au/teachers for information on other Penguin Random House Australia teachers' resources and great books for the classroom, and to sign up for our Teachers' eNewsletter.

Copyright © Penguin Random House Australia 2017



Wombat Big, Puggle Small Renée Treml

PLOT SUMMARY

Wombat is big, and puggle is small. Can two very different critters play together happily? Explore opposites, contrasts and word pairs as the young wombat and juvenile echidna eat, play and adventure through their Australian bush environment.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Renée Trembl has been fascinated with Australia's wildlife since arriving in Australia in 2007. Renée loves to create artworks that highlight the subtle details of nature while also bringing a smile to the viewer's face. Renée creates limited edition prints for design markets and online retailers and her work is becoming well known in the Australian art and design world.

PRE-READING QUESTIONS

1. Look at the front of the book. What do you think it might be about?
2. Look at the way each animal is standing/sitting, and the expressions on their faces. Based just on the pictures, what do you think each animal is thinking? How do you think they might be different from one another?
3. Look at the back of the book. What is each animal doing?
4. As a class, write a short list of things you know about echidnas and wombats. What do they have in common? How are they different?

KEY STUDY TOPICS

English

1. A young wombat and a young echidna (*puggle*) are the stars of this book. Can you name two other types of animal that appear in the story?
2. Read the story aloud, or listen as it is read aloud. Do you notice any patterns in the way the story sounds? What is this pattern called? See *Worksheet 1*
3. See *Worksheet 2* for an activity on opposites and contrasts.
4. See *Worksheet 3* for an activity on parts of speech.
5. *Extension question*: Look at the first four pages of the book. The pages say:

"wombat big, puggle small"

and

"wombat short, puggle tall"

How can wombat be big *and* short at the same time?

Here is another example: I say that I am young and my father is old. But my baby sister says that *she* is young and *I* am old.

This tricky concept is called *relativity*. Wombat is big in relation to the puggle, but wombat is small in relation to the emu. I am young compared to my father, but my baby sister is young compared to me.

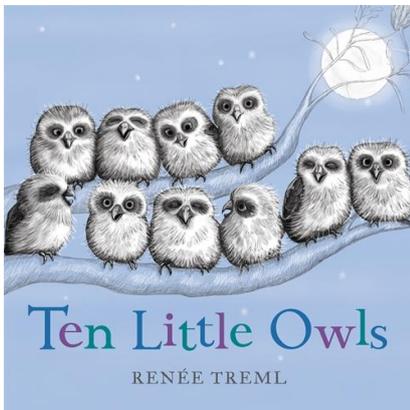
Can you draw two pictures and write matching text that show this concept? There are lots of traits that you could compare, including size, age, colour, texture, distance, taste and more. You might like to compare countries; planets; types of vehicles; three buildings you see every day; the skin, fur, scales or feathers on three animals; or foods.

Animals and their environment

1. Where do you think this story takes place? What makes you think that? What features of the animals' environment can you list?
2. See *Worksheet 4* for an activity on the different traits and habits of Australian animals.
3. *Extension question*. Pick two other Australian animals and write your own story that compares them. Try to think of two very different animals, such as a platypus and a kookaburra, a crocodile and a dingo, or a possum and a green tree snake.

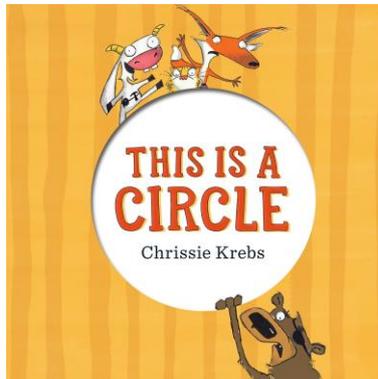


FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



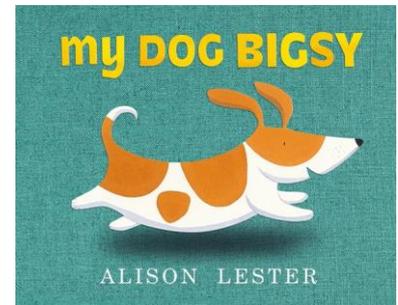
Ten Little Owls
by Renée Trembl

Why this story? Count along with young Australian animals, and learn about how they play, eat, sleep and communicate. Written in catchy, engaging rhyming verse, *Ten Little Owls* is suitable for pre-school aged children, and showcases Australian animals in their natural environment while introducing new vocabulary.



This Is a Circle
by Chrissie Krebs

Why this story? What begins as a 'name the shape' story turns into a wild tale of wilder critters playing with their environment. Great for teaching rhyme, rhythm, parts of speech and expanding vocabulary



My Dog Bigsy
by Alison Lester

Why this story? A lively story about a small dog who's boss of the farmyard. Full of energy and character, *My Dog Bigsy* is great for interactive reading and for building vocabulary.



WORKSHEET 1: Rhyming words

Five pairs of rhyming words from *Wombat Big, Puggle Small* appear below. Draw a line to connect each pair. Can you write in four more pairs of rhyming words?

small	puggle
out	run
tum	tall
fun	shout
snuggle	yum

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



WORKSHEET 2: Word pairs: opposites or contrasts

Some of the word pairs in *Wombat Big, Puggle Small* are opposites – the meanings of the words are as different from each other as they can be.

Some of the word pairs show contrasts – they are different, but not as different as opposites.

Look at the word pairs below and decide whether they are opposites or contrasts, then circle your answer.

Can you think of two more pairs of opposites, and two more pairs of contrasting words?

in + out	opposite or contrast
big + small	opposite or contrast
yuck + yum	opposite or contrast
bottom + tum	opposite or contrast
sweet + sour	opposite or contrast
quiet + shout	opposite or contrast
sing + whistle	opposite or contrast
smile + frown	opposite or contrast
run + roll	opposite or contrast
up + down	opposite or contrast
near + far	opposite or contrast
_____	opposite
_____	opposite
_____	contrast
_____	contrast



WORKSHEET 3: Parts of speech

Look at the list of words below. Decide whether they are a noun, verb or adjective, and rewrite the word in that circle.

quiet, big, shy, wombat, runs, fur, puggle, tail, rolls, spines, small, ant, shouts, plays, yawns, emu, snuggles, crawls, feathers, claw

nouns

verbs

adjectives



WORKSHEET 4: Comparing the animals

In pairs or groups, see what facts you already know about the four animals in the book. How many details can you fill out in the table below? Can you think of other qualities that you can compare? Lastly, can you think of Australian animals that would fit the final two columns?

	wombat	echidna (puggle)	emu	ant		
Classification	mammal	monotreme	bird	insect		reptile
Where do they live?						
How do they move?	walk or run				swim	slither
What covers their bodies?					scales	
How many limbs do they have?					none	none
What do they eat?						
Do they have eggs or live babies?					eggs	
Do they feed their babies milk?						
Do they have a nose, a beak or a snout?						



ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QUANTITY	TOTAL
<i>Wombat Big, Puggle Small</i> (hardback)	Renée Treml	9780143782940	Pre-K-1	\$19.99		
<i>Wombat Big, Puggle Small</i> (board book)	Renée Treml	9780143782926	Pre-K-1	\$14.99		
<i>Ten Little Owls</i> (board book)	Renée Treml	9780143780564	Pre-K-1	\$14.99		
<i>Once I Heard a Little Wombat</i> (board book)	Renée Treml	9780857987396	Pre-K-1	\$14.99		
<i>This Is a Circle</i>	Chrissie Krebs	9780857988058	Pre-K-1	\$24.99		
<i>My Dog Bigsy</i>	Alison Lester	9780670078936	Pre-K-1	\$24.99		
TOTAL						

PLEASE NOTE THAT PRICES ARE RECOMMENDED RETAIL ONLY AND MAY HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE TIME OF PRINTING. PRICES ARE GST INCLUSIVE.

<p>NAME: _____</p> <p>SCHOOL: _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>STATE: _____</p> <p>POSTCODE: _____</p> <p>TEL: _____</p> <p>EMAIL: _____</p> <p>ACCOUNT NO.: _____</p> <p>PURCHASE ORDER NO.: _____</p>	<p>PLEASE SEND ORDER FORMS TO YOUR LOCAL EDUCATION SUPPLIER.</p>
---	--

