

## Actions Rhyme: I Can Build A Snowman

I can build a snowman (hands stack over each other)

I can build it high

I can build a snowman

Reaching for the sky (reach up above)

I can build a snowmanFingers stack over each other)

I can build it small

I can build a snowman

As tall as a blade of grass.

(Hold fingers as if measuring a blade of grass)



## Song: Winter Is Here

Winter is here.

Nights now are cold.

Frost early in the morning

And leaves red and gold.





### Rhyme: Jack Frost

Watch out, watch out  
Jack Frost is about  
He's after your  
Fingers and toes.  
And all through the night,  
That dear little sprite,  
Is hiding where  
Nobody knows.



### Song: Snowflakes

Oh where do you come from  
You little flakes of snow  
Falling softly, softly falling,  
On the earth below.  
On the trees and on the bushes,  
On the mountains so far  
Tell me snowflakes do you come  
From where the angels are.





## Song: This Little Light of Mine

Sing chorus between each verse.

### Chorus

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. X3  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### Verse 1

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine X3  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### Verse 2

Deep down in my heart, I'm gonna let it shine X3  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

### Verse 3

All down the road, I'm gonna let it shine X3  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.



## Song: My Little Lantern

I'm walking with my little lantern,  
And my little lantern with me.

Above me (or 'from heaven') the stars are a shining.  
Down here shines my lantern on me.

Burn bright my light,  
Burn bright my light.  
La bimba la bamba la bim bim bom,  
La bimba la bamba la bim bim bom.

Burn bright my light,  
Burn bright my light.  
La bimba la bamba la bim bim bom,  
La bimba la bamba la bim bim bom.





## Song: Peas Porridge hot

Peas porridge hot,  
Peas porridge cold,  
Peas porridge in the pot  
Nine days old.  
Some like it hot  
Some like it cold  
Come like it in the pot  
Nine days old.



## Verse

Brave and true I will be  
Each kind deed sets me free  
Each kind word makes me strong  
Fight for the right  
Conquer the wrong





## A Wish for the Fields

Night is dark, and cold and long  
Winter's hold is still so strong.  
But beneath the frozen dust  
Life is growing, moving, striving.  
Buds are swelling on the trees.  
In the hives, still sleep the bees.  
But moving, humming, strumming, sing.  
Soon we all will welcome Spring.



## Song: We All Go Round The Mulberry Bush

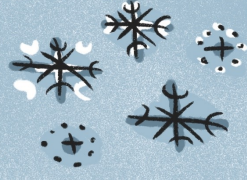
### Chorus

Here we go round the Mulberry bush,  
the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush  
Here we go round the Mulberry bush  
on a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we...wash our hands,  
Wash our hands, wash our hands.  
This is the way we was our hands  
On a cold and frosty morning.

### Chorus

...comb our hair  
...clean our teeth.





### Mittens Rhyme

Here is a mitten (hold up one hand)  
A snug, fuzzy one (rub palms together)  
With a place for my fingers (wiggle four fingers)  
And a place for my thumb (wiggle thumb)

Here are two mittens (hold up two hands)  
A colourful sight (move hands back and forth)  
One for my left hand (hold up left hand)  
And one for my right (hold up right hand)

Here are our mittens (hold up two hands)  
As soft as can be (stroke the back of the hand)  
A warm pair for you (point to a neighbour)  
And a warm pair for me (point to self)



### Action Rhyme: We stare the porridge

We stir the porridge  
We stir the porridge  
We stir it in the pot

We stir the porridge  
We stir the porridge  
We stir it till it's hot.





## Turkish Lentil Soup

Serves 2-3

1 cup of red lentils  
1 chopped onion  
2.5 pints vegetable broth  
1 chopped carrot  
2 cloves of garlic  
1 teaspoon cumin  
tablespoon tomato paste  
pinch of cayenne pepper  
Salt  
Lemon juice  
Oil

Soften the onion in some oil in a large saucepan, then add the carrot, garlic, tomato paste, cumin, cayenne pepper, lentils and vegetable stock. Bring to the boil then simmer for 25 minutes, until the vegetables are soft. Use a hand blender or transfer to a blender to liquidise the soup. Serve with bread, chilli flakes and a squeeze of lemon is a must!





## Kale Crisps

Kale  
Salt  
Olive Oil

Preheat oven to 150 degrees celsius. Strip the stalks of the kale away as they are too woody and chewy. Take the leaves and put them in a big bowl, add the oil and massage it with your hands into the kale, the more you massage the better they will cook. Transfer the oily leaves to an ovenproof tray, possibly covered with baking paper. I use a wire rack as it stops the kale from burning. Sprinkle with rock salt. Cook for 15 minutes but keep an eye on them to make sure they aren't overdone. Leave to cool as long as you can before you get the urge to gobble them up.





## Flapjacks with Honey

200g butter  
200g brown sugar  
200g honey  
400g porridge oats  
50g raisins

Preheat oven to 180 degrees Celsius. In a large saucepan, melt the butter, sugar and honey and mix together, once the butter has melted take them off the heat. Add the oats and raisins to the mixture and combine it all together. On a greased baking tray, you can use greaseproof paper if you like, add the mixture, flatten out to about an inch or 2/3 cm, it doesn't need to be perfect. Place in the oven and bake for about 20 mins or until it starts to turn golden. Let it cool then chop with a knife into tasty squares.





## Winter Vegetable Pie

### *For the filling:*

5 tablespoons olive oil  
3 onions, peeled and thinly sliced or chopped  
4 teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon freshly ground black or white pepper  
12 cloves garlic, peeled and thinly sliced  
14 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting  
1 tablespoon ground mustard  
1 cup dry white wine or dry white vermouth  
1 cup low-sodium vegetable stock  
1 cup double cream  
4 parsnips, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces  
2 turnips  
300 grams potatoes  
3 carrots, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces  
Bag of Chestnuts  
1 small bunch fresh thyme, leaves finely chopped  
1/2 small bunch fresh flat-leaf parsley, leaves finely chopped  
Grated nutmeg  
2 teaspoons soy sauce or vegan Worcestershire sauce

### *For baking:*

Cooking spray  
1 large egg yolk  
1 teaspoon water  
400g puff pastry

Cook the onion in the oil in a big saucepan until the onions soften, about 7 minutes. Add some salt and pepper. On a low heat add the garlic and cook for 5 minutes. Remove the onions and garlic mix, then add the butter to the pan. Once melted add the flour and mustard, mix together. Then add the wine. Once combined add the stock and cream, and cook for 3 minutes til the mixture thickens. Chuck all of the other veggies in, as well as the thyme, parsley, nutmeg and soy sauce, onions, some more salt and pepper. Cook for 20 minutes until the veggies are tender.

Heat oven to 200 degrees celsius. Coat a pie dish with butter, and add the hot filling. Roll out the pastry so that it is wider and longer than the dish, place on top of the filling, pinch the sides down and poke some holes in the top, then add an egg wash to the top with a brush. Cook for 20 minutes until the pastry is golden brown.





## Veggie Lancashire Hotpot

4 Carrots  
900g Potatoes  
2 Onions  
2 Parsnips  
50g Flour  
Thyme  
1 pint Vegetable stock  
butter  
salt pepper  
Olive Oil

Preheat oven to 200 degrees Celsius.

Chop the onions and cook in the oil in a frying pan for 5 minutes. Chop the carrots and parsnips and add to the onion, fry gently til they soften. Add the flour to the vegetables and coat them. Then add the stock and thyme and always season the sauce with salt and pepper. Cook until the sauce thickens, about 15 minutes. Slice the potatoes into 5mm slices or thinner, and cook in boiling water for 5 minutes. Add the vegetable mixture to an ovenproof dish and then layer the potatoes over the top, I'd start from the outside and work my way to the middle, or do it in lines. Spread the butter over the finished potatoes and add a bit more salt and pepper and then chuck it in the oven for about 40-50 mins, until the potatoes go crispy and brown on top.





## Baked eggs

Serves 2

Onions  
Tinned toms  
Peppers  
eggs  
cayenne pepper  
Salt pepper  
Oil

Use a deep pan with a lid, ideally a deep frying pan with a lid. Slice onions and cook for 5 minutes in oil, then add the peppers and cook for 5 minutes more or so. Add the tinned tomatoes and cook them down, add the cayenne pepper and salt and pepper. Make two wells for the eggs to sit in, in the sauce, then crack and drop them into the wells. Stick the lid on the pan so the eggs cook on the top. Leave for about 5-10 mins until the eggs are cooked. Serve with bread to mop up all the juice





## Cabbage and Potato Pasta

Potatoes (baking, or any good for boiling and baking)  
Pasta (Any buckwheat or wholewheat)

Green Cabbage  
Cheese (Cheddar, Mozzarella or Reblochon)  
Butter  
Garlic  
Oil

Preheat the oven to around 200 degrees celsius.

Bring a large pan of water to the boil, the bigger the pan the better to fit it all in.

Slice the potatoes into thick slices and add to the boiling water. Add the pasta 5 minutes later and then the cabbage five minutes after that. Cook for another five minutes or until the potatoes have softened.

Transfer to a casserole dish. Add the butter to a frying pan or any pan and put on the hob. Add the sliced garlic to the pan and cook gently til the garlic starts to create bubbles in the butter, add a bit of oil if it gets too hot. You want foamy, garlic butteriness.

Add the cheese in chunks into the potatoes, pasta and cabbage, and mix around. Then top with the garlic butter and some more cheese.

Add the casserole dish to the oven and cook for about 20-30 mins or until the top is crispy and the cheese has melted. Sometimes the garlic on top burns, so you may want to discard or tuck it deeper down.

Enjoy, garlicky, buttery, carby goodness : )





## Chai Tea

1 mug milk

1 tbsp loose black tea or rooibos tea (or 1 teabag)

1 tsp cinnamon

1 tsp fresh grated ginger

1 tbsp honey

Measure your milk into your favourite mug or mugs. Pour into a small saucepan. Allow to gently come to an almost boil (but don't let it boil). Take off the heat and add tea, cinnamon, ginger and honey. Place lid on pan and allow to steep for 5 minutes. Strain tea into cup with a tea strainer.





## Golden Turmeric Milk

1 cup milk (could be dairy or non dairy)

$\frac{3}{4}$  tsp turmeric (dried or freshly grated)

1 tsp honey

$\frac{1}{4}$  tsp freshly ground black pepper

Place the milk into a pan and bring to boil (but don't allow to boil). Lower heat. Add turmeric, honey and pepper and allow to simmer for 2-3 minutes. Enjoy this immune boosting goodness.





## Apple and Cinnamon Muffins

250g soft brown sugar

80ml of vegetable oil (could use coconut)

1 egg

2 tsp vanilla extract

250ml buttermilk (kefir also works)

175g chopped apple

75g chopped walnuts (or other nuts)

300g flour (a mix of white and wholemeal works well)

1 tsp cinnamon

2 tsp baking powder

1 tsp bicarbonate of soda

50g wheatgerm

Preheat oven to 200C. Line a 12 muffin baking tray

In a bowl mix sugar, oil, egg, vanilla and butter milk. Add the chopped apples and nuts and mix in. In another bowl mix together flour, cinnamon, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda and wheatgerm. Add the dry ingredients to the wet and mix quickly. The mixture should be well blended but it will be lumpy.

Spoon mixture into cupcases.

Bake for 20-25 minutes until golden. These are delicious eaten warm.





## Tea Loaf

4 rooibos tea bags (or any strong tea)

500g raisins/currants

125g light brown sugar

250g self raising flour

1/2 tsp mixed spice

1 medium egg beaten

Make strong tea using teabags and 300ml of boiling water. Let teabags steep for at least 10 minutes. Allow raisins/currants to soak overnight (or at least for two hours) in the tea.

Line a 1kg loaf tin with butter and greaseproof paper. Set oven to 180C

Add sugar, flour, mixed spice and egg to the tea and raisins/currants. Mix well. Spoon into the loaf tin and level the top. Bake for one hour. Allow to cool on a wire rack. Slice and serve with butter.





## Flatbread

500g strong white flour

2 tsp salt

7g sachet fast action yeast

3 tbsp olive oil

300ml water

Mix flour, salt, yeast and oil in a bowl. Add water slowly and keep mixing to make sure your dough is soft, not sloppy.

Turn out onto a floured surface and knead well. You can break some off for your little one to knead.

Divide the dough into about 8 pieces. Use a rolling pin to flatten each one into a round shape about 1 cm thick.

Place to one side on a lightly floured plate and allow to prove for 5 minutes.

To cook, heat a large frying pan to medium heat. Dry fry each flat bread on both sides until golden.





HIBERNATE

WEEK ONE





## Collecting Food in Winter

Autumn was coming to an end, leaves were falling to the ground. The trees in the bushland stood still like shimmering statues. The low sun shone down, casting shadowing on the bushland floor. The Old Eucalyptus Tree stood strong in the middle of the bushland. Inside, Lolly, Boppy, Pippet and Snickle were keeping warm, Lolly was stoking the fire and Boppy was stirring the porridge. Around the table they sat, ready for breakfast. Snickle rubbed his sleepy eyes and Pippet placed the wooden bowls and spoons out on the table.

Together the Hiddles enjoyed their hot porridge, each enjoying their favourite topping. Snickle sprinkled dried berries on his, Pippet dolloped lillypilly jam on hers, Lolly chose a drizzle of nectar, and Boppy looked at the empty jar which usually had toasted macadamia nuts inside. Where was his favourite topping? Where were all the macadamia nuts? The four of them stared into the empty jar, wondering what had happened to their macadamia nuts. Had they used them all up and not realised? Boppy ate his porridge plain, and he was somewhat disappointed by the lack of toasted nuts. Pippet and Snickle decided to go out for a walk and see if they could collect some more toppings for Boppy. They put on their snug felt boots, wrapped scarves round their necks and headed out the door.

As Snickle and Pippet walked along they chatted about the bushland and what their friends were up to. They chatted about the creatures who were hibernating, who they wouldn't see till Spring. They missed their sleepy friends. As they walked around mushrooms and hopped over gumnuts, they heard a quiet rustling in the leaves. Pippet and Snickle watched to see who it was. From under a rust coloured leaf they saw a tiny nose, then two big ears, a little round body and a very long tail. It was Bilby! A very sleepy Bilby.

"Bilby, what are you doing up?" exclaimed Snickle. "Shouldn't you be asleep?"

"Hello Snickle, hello Pippet" said Bilby with a little wave. "The trouble is that I have run out of food. I'm hoping that I'll find some today".

"We're looking for food as well, let's search for some together". The three of them slowly walked around The Old Eucalyptus Tree. All the gumnuts on the ground had begun to rot. The shells were cracked and the nuts were damp.

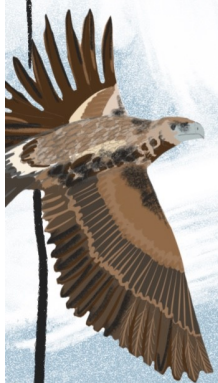
"Which of our friends may have some fruit to share?" wondered Pippet aloud.

"Let's go and visit Rainbow Lorikeet" suggested Snickle, "he loves fruit!". Together they went to find Rainbow Lorikeet and sure enough he was on one of the branches of The Old Eucalyptus Tree.

They called him down, "Rainbow Lorikeet! Rainbow Lorikeet! Hello Rainbow Lorikeet, please could you come down and chat with us?"

Rainbow Lorikeet swooped down, his wings stretched wide, showing off his bright feathers.

"Hello all" said Rainbow Lorikeet in a friendly voice. "It's a beautiful day isn't it". Pippet and Snickle explained that they and Bilby were looking for food.





## Staying Warm in Winter continued page 2

"I have lots of fruit" said Rainbow Lorikeet, "and I'd be happy to share some with you. I can't have my bush friends going hungry over winter, now can I?" Rainbow Lorikeet pulled three bush berries out and dropped them, one by one, into Pippet's basket. Bilby's eyes lit up and she smiled. The three of them thanked Rainbow Lorikeet for his kindness and walked on.

"Who else might have some food to share?" wondered Bilby.

"Quokka?" replied Pippet. The three of them stopped and looked out over the bush. Sure enough Quokka was hopping about outside her home.

"Quokka! Quokka! Please can you come and chat with us" called Snickle. They explained to Quokka that they were collecting food and wondered if she had any to share. Quokka gave a little smile, she then paused for a moment to choose the juiciest leaves for her friends. She began picking leaves around them. Soon enough she had handfuls of juicy greens to share and gave them to Snickle, Pippet and Bilby, who dropped them in the basket.

"That should help you out" said Quokka with a little grin. They thanked Quokka and went on their way.

They decided it was time to have a cup of tea. They made a campfire, and boiled a little water in their billy. They sat together and looked at the food.

"Perhaps we could have a little now" suggested Bilby with a sleepy yawn. Snickle and Pippet glanced at each other, knowing that they should probably save the food for home.

"Ok, but only a little bit" said Pippet.

"We need this food for winter time" Snickle told Bilby. Together they each nibbled at a bush berry and enjoyed their tasty snack and a drink of tea. They carefully put out their campfire and went on their way.

"Now that we've eaten some, we don't have that much" said Bilby. "Perhaps we should ask Possum for some more".

"But Possum will be asleep" replied Pippet. "She like to sleep in the daytime".

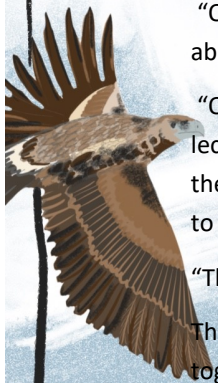
"I don't think she'll mind if we wake her up" said Bilby, "I'm her friend".

So Snickle and Pippet followed Bilby to a nook in a nearby tree.

Bilby surprised Snickle and Pippet as she began shouting 'Possum! Possum! Wake up my friend!' Snickle and Pippet felt rather embarrassed as they saw poor Possum creep out from the hollow in the tree looking rather dazed and very sleepy.

"What's all this commotion?" asked Possum, giving her friend Bilby a somewhat grumpy look.

"I've eaten all my food" said Bilby "I've woken up to collect some more, and I wondered if you have any to share". Possum did not look impressed,





## Staying Warm in Winter continued page 3

"I should have known this would be about food. You really should have saved your food for when it gets really cold"

Possum told Bilby. Bilby looked at the ground and shuffled her feet. Snickle and Pippet looked at each other. Possum disappeared inside her nook and came out with three big macadamia nuts and handed them to Bilby.

Bilby gave Possum a big hug and said "Thank you".

The three of them went on their way. Snickle and Pippet walked Bilby back to her burrow. They handed her some berries, greens and a macadamia nut and said goodbye. Bilby climbed into her nest, lay the food by her bed and closed her eyes, ready for a deep sleep. Snickle and Pippet took their food back to Hiddle House. Lolly and Boppy were very pleased to see the basket full of food, especially the macadamia nuts.

"Our friends shared them with us" Snickle told Lolly. Lolly immediately began chopping them up and toasting them over the fire, ready to fill the jar for tomorrow morning's breakfast. Snickle and Pippet sat by the fire, under a blanket and warmed their hands and noses. Together the four of them sat and enjoyed cups of hot tea, and a little nibble of toasted macadamia nut.







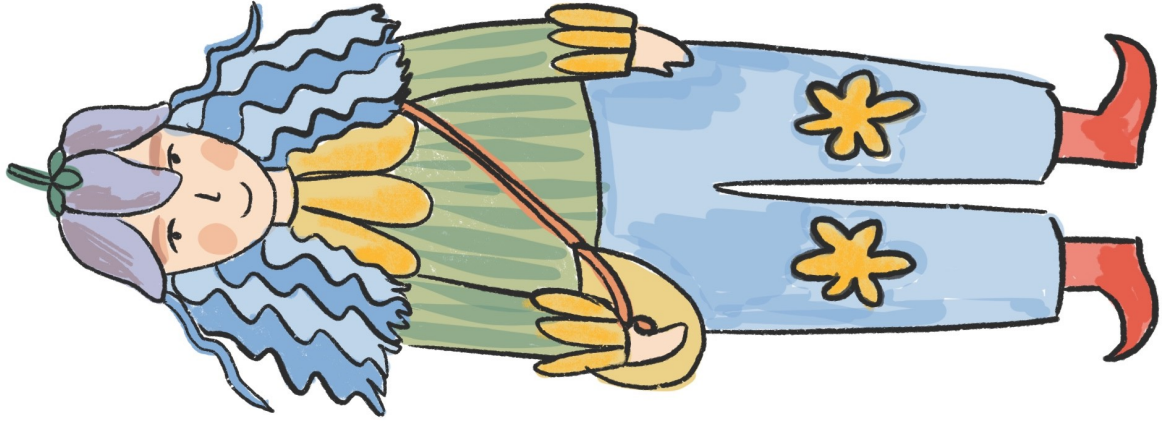
Boppy Hiddle



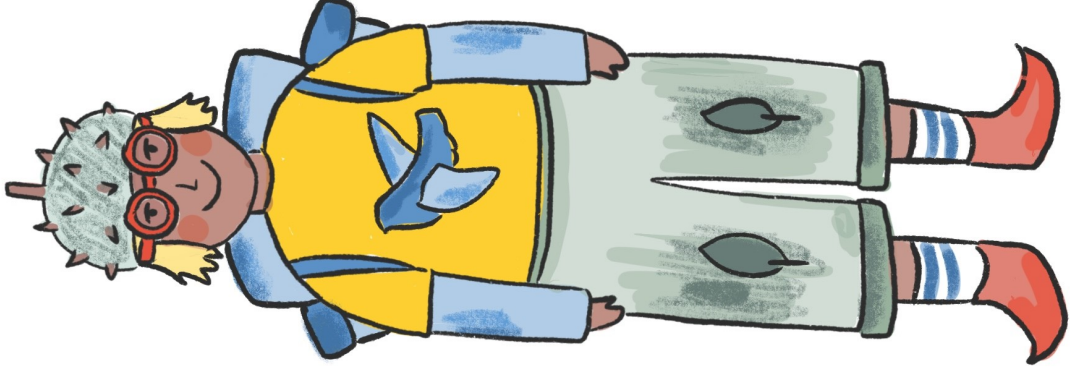
Lolly Hiddle



Pippet Hiddle



Snickle Hiddle

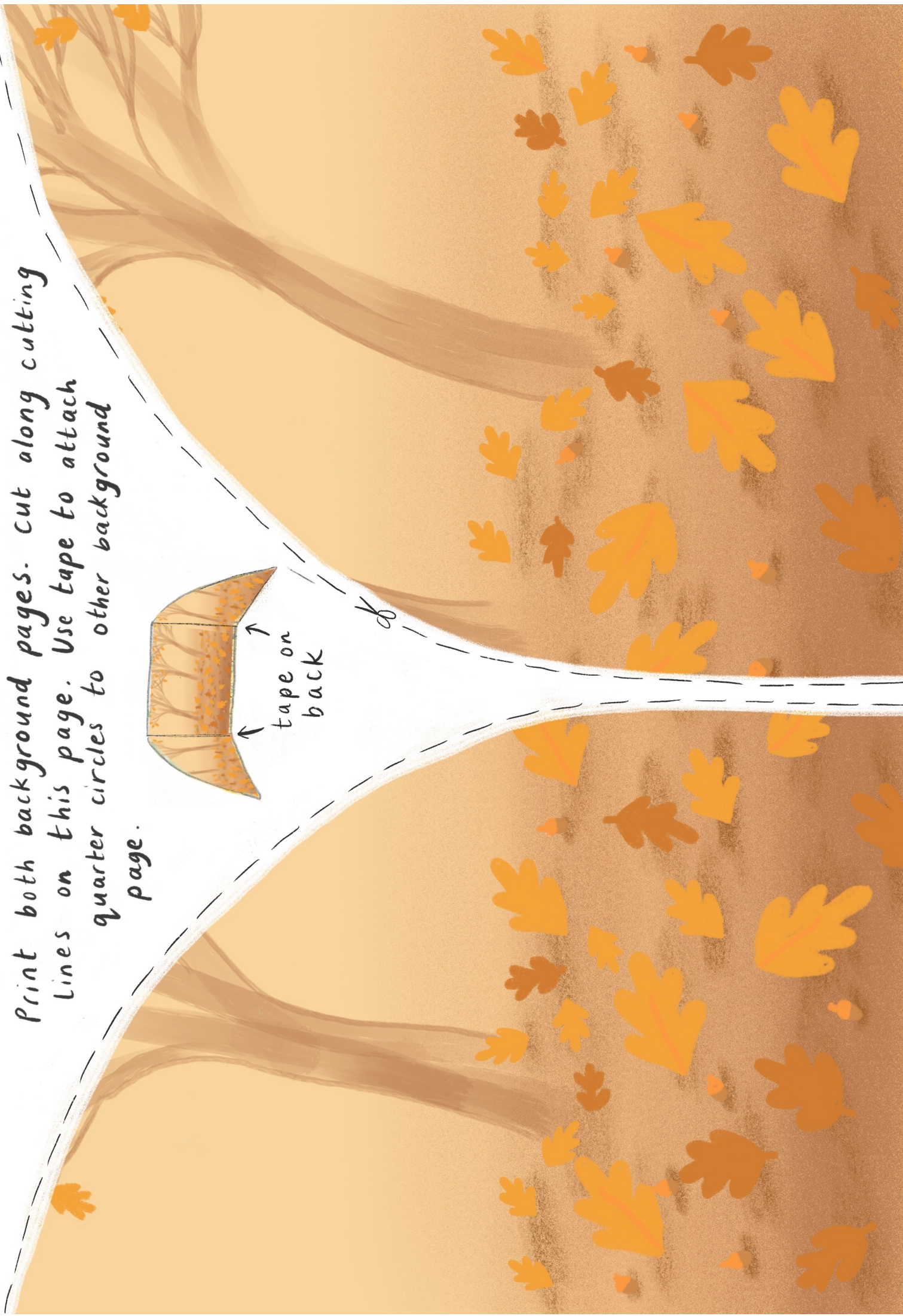
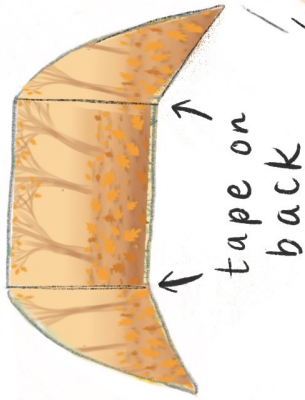








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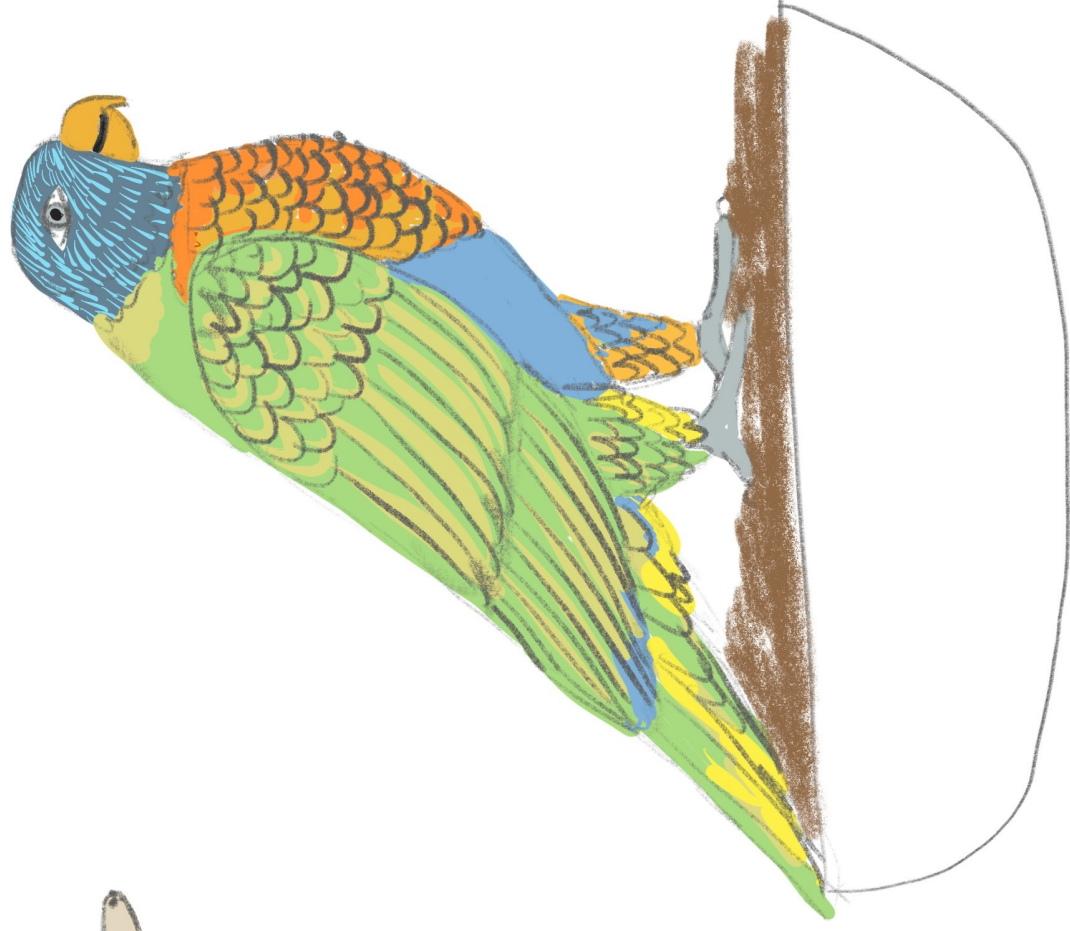




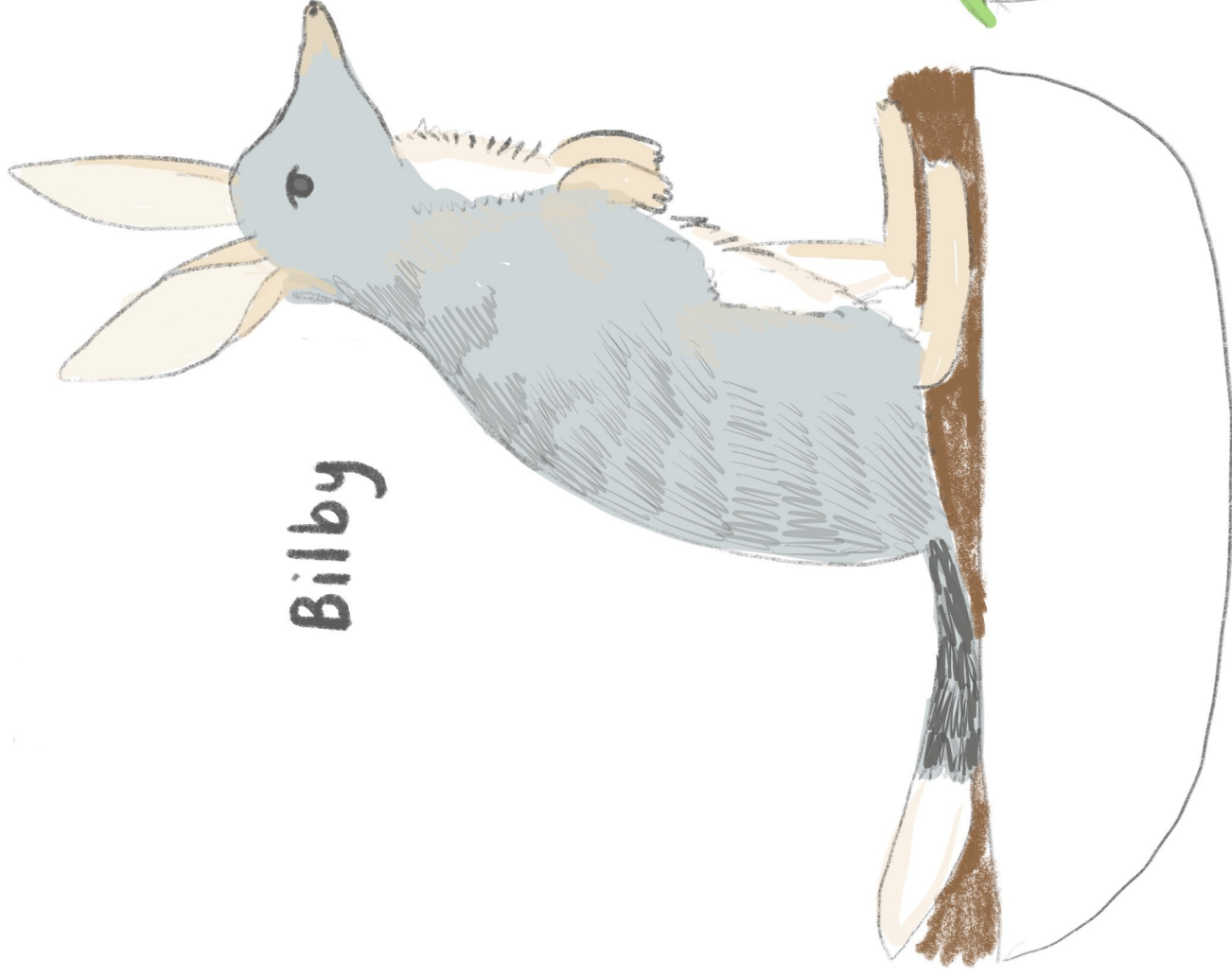
HIBERNATE

STORY CHARACTERS

Rainbow Lorikeet



Bilby





HIBERNATE

STORY CHARACTERS

Quokka



Pygmy Possum





## HIBERNATE WEEK ONE

# Make salt dough hedgehogs / echidnas

## Make salt dough

1 cup salt



2 cup flour

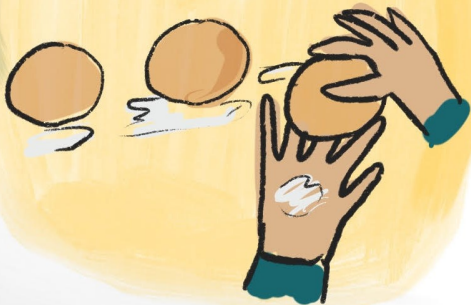


3/4 cup water



Mix salt + flour. Gradually mix in water.  
Turn out + knead until smooth.

## Roll balls from dough



## Use scissors to 'snip' little spikes onto dough balls



## pinch end of dough ball to create nose.



## Use a pointed tool to poke eyes in



## Bake at 180°C in oven.



HIBERNATE

NATURE WALK

WEEK ONE



make a nest  
for a hibernating  
animal.



discuss materials that  
could be used in nests/hides  
to keep animals warm.

look  
for  
places  
that  
would  
make  
good  
hibernation  
spots.



make bird feeders  
at home and take  
on your nature walk  
to hang up. Discuss  
animals that don't  
hibernate.





HIBERNATE

WEEK TWO



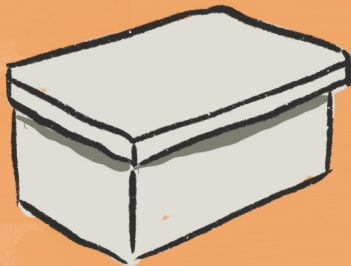


## HIBERNATE WEEK TWO

Make a hibernation  
home for animal friends.

Collect together :

shoebox with lid      knife      soft materials



moss



fabric

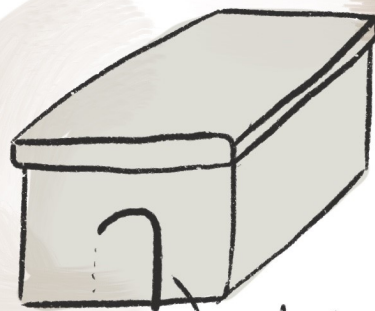


cotton  
wool

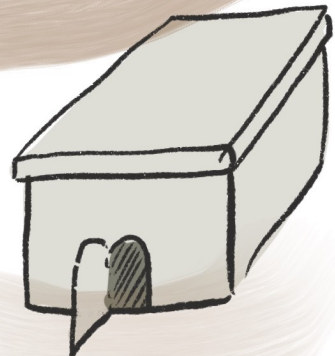
crayons



Use knife to  
cut a door in  
shoebox



cut here



Decorate  
outside of box.



fill box  
with soft  
materials.

♥ perhaps mouse/possum will leave  
a few crumbs in the box at night...



HIBERNATE

NATURE WALK

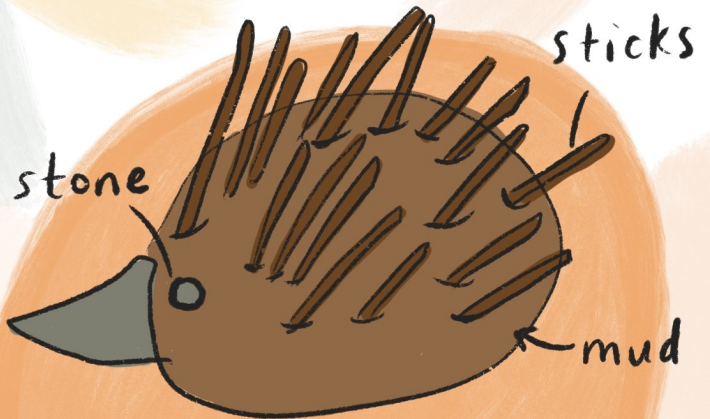
WEEK TWO

Take a basket  
with you and



collect materials  
as if you are an  
animal going into  
hibernation.

Build a hedgehog/  
echidna house.



create a mud  
sculpture of a  
hedgehog/echidna

Pretend to be  
different animals  
preparing for the winter





DARKNESS + LIGHT

WEEK ONE





## The Lantern Festival

It was still dark outside. The moon was still shining. The stars were still twinkling. Inside Hiddle House, the candles were lit, the fire was crackling and The Hiddles were enjoying breakfast around the table.

"How did you sleep my loves?" asked Lolly.

"Snug as a bug in a rug!" replied Pippet.

Snickle paused, "I didn't sleep well at all. I kept having bad dreams and I felt scared of the dark".

"Oh my" said Lolly, "The light is always there. You just have to look for it". She took Snickle to the window and showed him the moon and stars. Snickle gently squeezed Lolly's hand.

Back around the table Lolly, Boppy, Pippet and Snickle were chatting about the lantern festival which would take place that evening. They talked about the lantern festivals of years gone by and Boppy told a story of the first festival that he attended as a child. For as long as they could all remember, the lantern festival had happened at this time of year, when the days were at their darkest and everyone in the bush celebrated light.

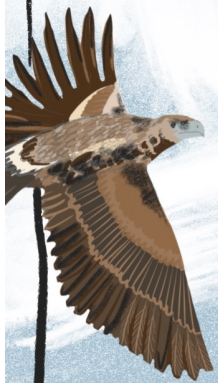
The Sun came up as they washed and dried their dishes from breakfast. Beams of light gently streamed in through the windows. Inside Hiddle House was now glowing with soft, hazy, sunshine as they prepared for their days outing. Today they would be creating their lanterns for the festival that evening. Lolly and Boppy prepared a packed lunch for them all; hot vegetable soup in a flask, freshly baked bread, and a biscuit each. Snickle and Pippet gathered together tools that might help them in creating their lanterns, a bundle of string that Boppy had spun on the spindle, knives for whittling wood and a jar of sticky sap to use as glue. Everything else they would gather in the bush. They all wrapped up very warm, in thick layers, hats, scarves and mittens. They headed out the door together.

It was a beautiful morning in the bush. The sun was shining, making shadows on the ground as it streamed through the tree tops and reached the bush floor. The birds were singing and lots of their bush friends were busying about, also preparing for the festival. The Hiddles began collecting materials for their lanterns. Everyone wanted to be creative and make their lantern special. Pippet began collecting skeleton leaves and carefully gluing them together into a bell shape. Snickle had found a nut shell and was carefully carving a pattern into it. Lolly was pasting lots of tiny leaves onto the broken edge of an old eggshell and Boppy had found a caterpillar chrysalis which he was painting with chalk and mud. Soon their friends came over to have a look at their creations. They were delighted to see such beautiful lanterns.

Soon it was time for lunch and the Hiddles sat with their bush friends and enjoyed soup and bread and biscuits. As they finished their lunch Echidna hopped over.

"Where can we get candles?" asked Echidna.

"We'll make them" replied Pippet and Snickle together.





## The Lantern Festival continued page 2

"We'll ask the bees for some wax" said Lolly. The Hiddles sat looking around for their friends, the bees.

"You know, I haven't seen a bee all day" said Boppy. Lolly, Boppy, Pippet and Snickle got up and began looking around. Lolly looked inside the nook of a tree, Boppy looked under the ivy, Pippet looked over by the stream and Snickle looked behind The Old Eucalyptus Tree, but none of them could see any bees. They thought for a moment.

"Perhaps the bees are in their hive staying warm" said Pippet.

"Let's go and see them" suggested Snickle. Snickle led the way for he knew that at the top of The Old Eucalyptus Tree was the bees hive, where they all lived.

Snickle knocked on the front door of the hive and the Hiddles waited patiently. Bee peered from around the door, that was open just a crack, as Bee didn't want to let the cold into the hive.

"Hello Hiddle Family, what can I do for you today?" asked Bee.

"Hello Bee" replied Lolly, "would it please be possible for us to have some wax, to make candles for our lantern festival this evening?" Bee thought for a moment.

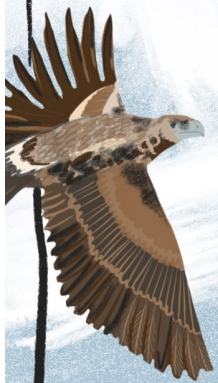
"I'll just have to ask the rest of the bees if they mind. You know us, we always work as a team" Bee said with a little smile from behind the crack of the open door. Bee closed the door to keep the heat in and went to ask the other bees. The Hiddles waited, looking down from the top of The Old Eucalyptus Tree. They could see their bush friends below busily making lanterns. Bee came back to the door and said

"All the bees are happy for you to have some wax for your candles" giving the Hiddles a smile and a basket full of honey comb. "I'd come out and help you, but I need to stay in here to keep warm. We hope you have a wonderful festival". The Hiddles thanked Bee.

"Thank you Bee! Please thank the other bees for us! This wax will make beautiful candles".

The Hiddles took the wax down to the ground to make candles with their friends. They melted the wax in a big pot on the campfire. Snickle cut little pieces of string for everyone and handed them out to their bush friends. Everyone took turns dipping their strings into the wax, over and over, and soon they began to look like candles. As dusk arrived they brewed chai tea on the fire, dipped apples in toffee and cut up flapjacks. Snickle remembered his dreams from the night before. Dark would soon be here again and he didn't like it. He held onto Lolly's hand tightly. Lolly picked up Snickle's lantern and gently handed it to him. She lit the end of a stick on the fire and carefully lit the lantern. Snickle and Lolly looked at the glowing light.

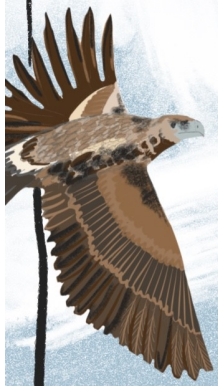
"Here's a little light for you" said Lolly in a kind and caring way. Snickle looked at Lolly and gave her a little smile. They toasted macadamia nuts on the fire and began to play music on their instruments. Mouse was playing a fiddle and Echidna was drumming. The sun had almost set and the moon had risen. As darkness filled the bush the rest of the Hiddles and their bush friends lit their candles and held their glowing lanterns. They filled the dark bush with beautiful twinkling light. The stars shone down, the moon glowed and together they all sang "This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine".



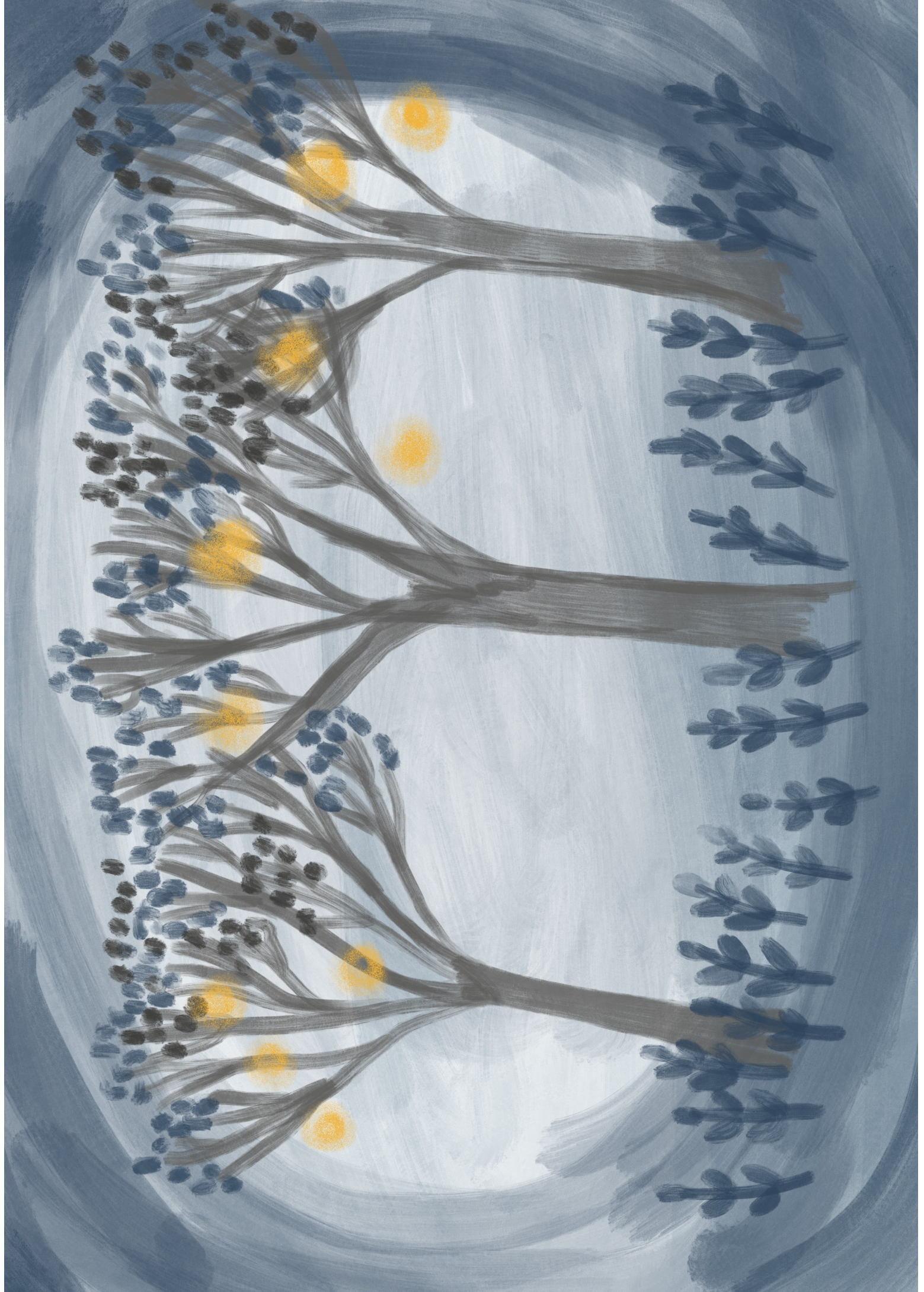


## The Lantern Festival continued page 3

They walked around The Old Eucalyptus Tree, creating a procession of beautiful light, singing songs and playing music long into the dark night, filling the forest with joy and beauty.



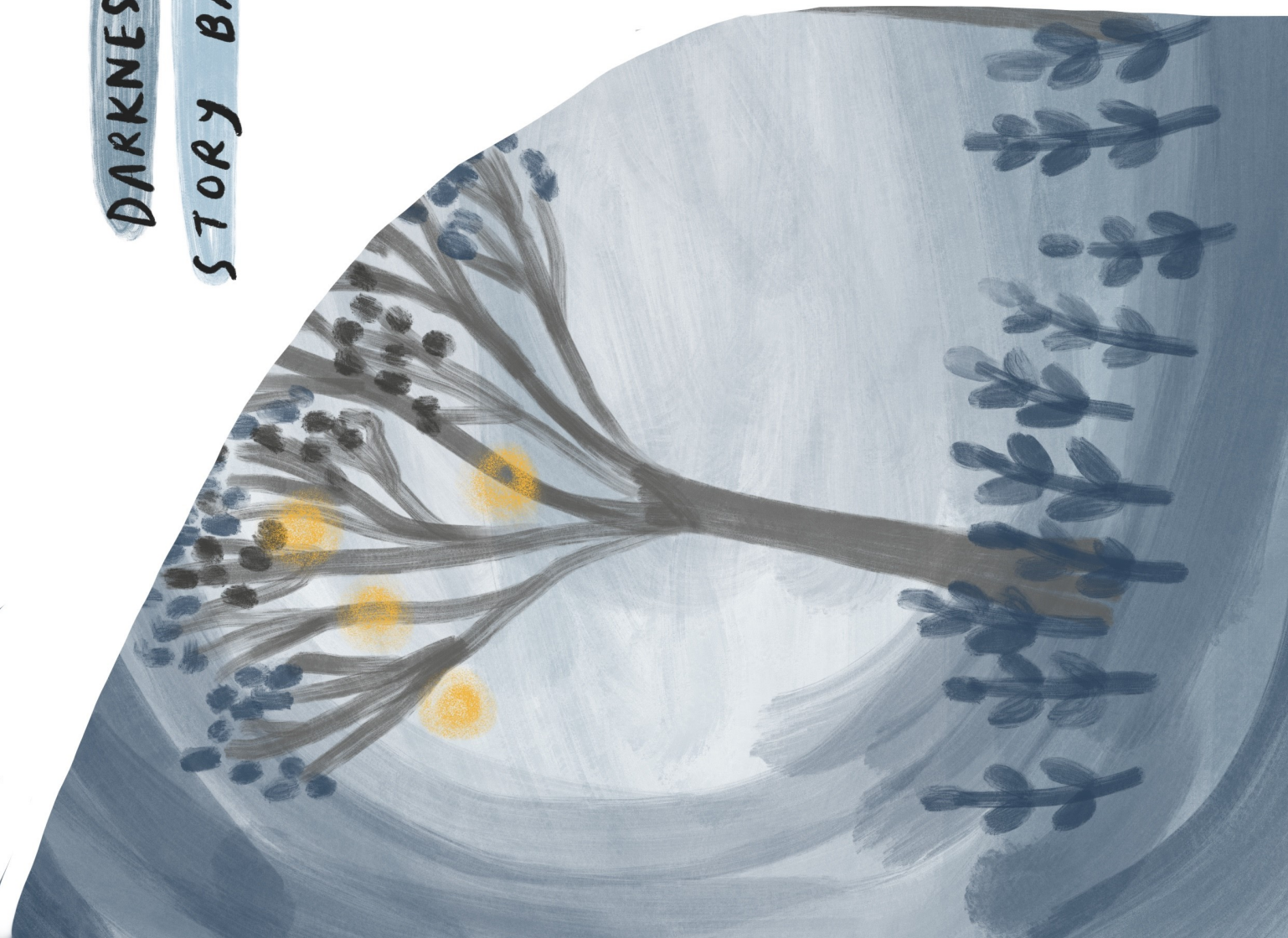






DARKNESS + LIGHT

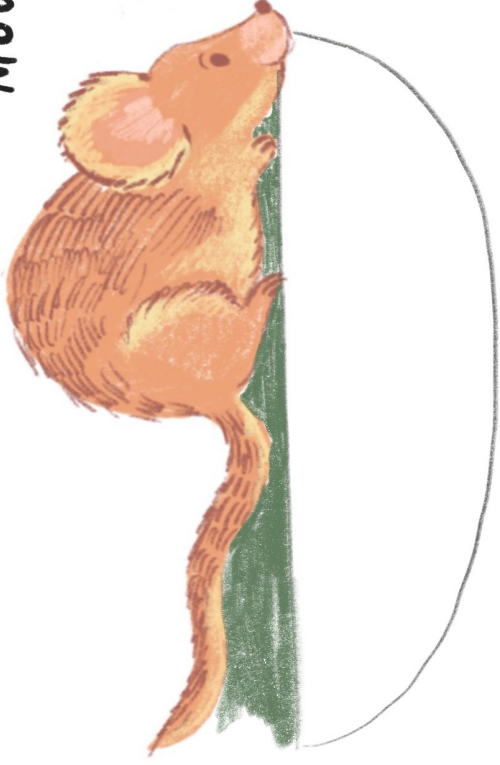
STORY BACKGROUND



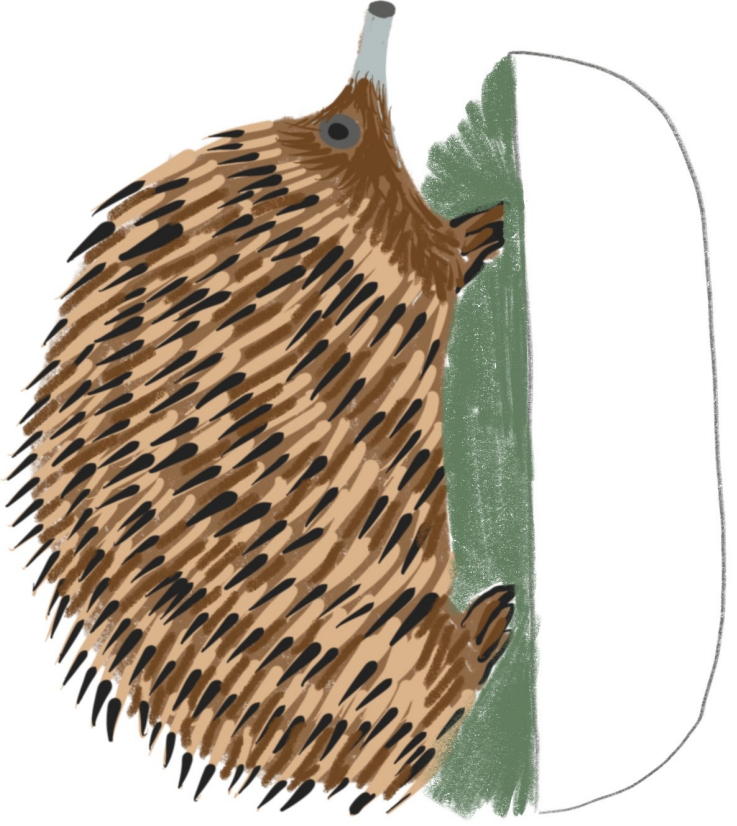
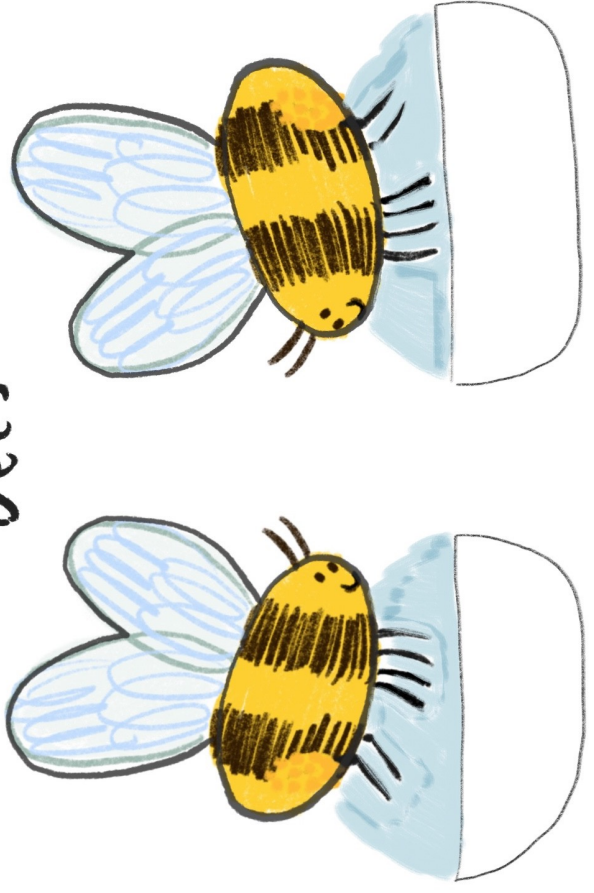


**DARKNESS + LIGHT**  
**STORY CHARACTERS**

Mouse



Bees





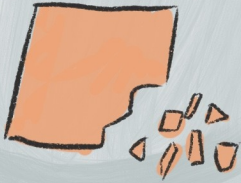
DARKNESS + LIGHT  
WEEK ONE

Glass jar votive

Gather:



Cut little shapes from tissue.



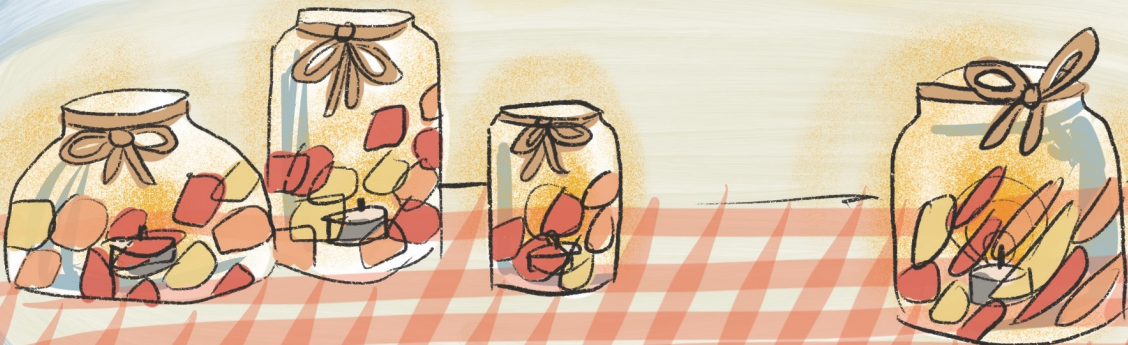
Use glue to stick shapes onto clean glass jars



tie string around top of jar



place candle inside





DARKNESS + LIGHT

NATURE WALK

WEEK ONE

Support and help others.  
Help neighbours, friends or family.  
Sweep paths, do shopping, etc.



Create a Hiddles small world scene on your nature walk. Sit and play with it.



Talk about creatures that create light in darkness.

Make a solstice spiral.





DARKNESS + LIGHT

WEEK TWO





# DARKNESS + LIGHT

## WEEK TWO

### Willow Lantern

you will need:



willow rods  
(or any sticks)



masking  
tape



small sponge



secateurs

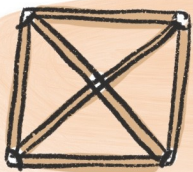
wire



wet strength  
tissue  
in white

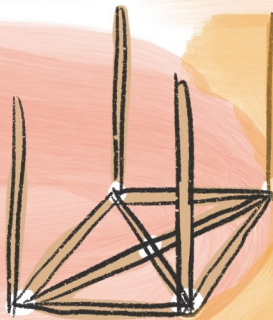


PVA glue  
1:1 water

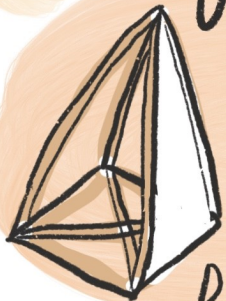
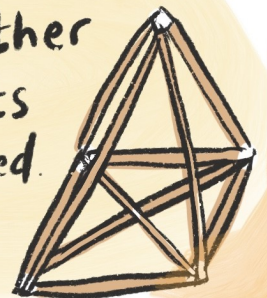


Create base by cutting willow rods and taping together at joins. Ensure joins are well taped together.

Attach four long poles at each corner using tape.



Tape four ends together. Ensure joints are well taped.



Use the PVA-water mix + sponge to begin covering in tissue.

Do not cover base.



Tape candle to centre of base. Tape wire hook to top.

- As you will probably need to order these materials, it is worth making an event of it. Have a lantern procession with neighbours or friends and a few days prior gather together for a lantern making workshop.



DARKNESS + LIGHT

NATURE WALK

WEEK TWO

Consider doing a walk at dawn or dusk. Take torches and explore the changing light.



Write two lists about dark + light. Your list could be 'what we know about dark and light' or 'what we enjoy about dark and light'.

A time of turning inward to reflect - take extra time for reflection - talk about each season and the past year.



Collect wood to have a fire at home. If you don't have a fire you could use firepit/BBQ outside, or pretend and use candles.



CELEBRATE

WEEK ONE





## Snickle's Very Special Gifts

It was a beautiful, crisp morning in the bush. The Hiddles were cosy inside Hiddle House, eating their porridge from little wooden bowls around the table. Lolly, Boppy, Pippet and Snickle were chatting about the days ahead. Tomorrow would be a special day of celebrating and they would all exchange gifts. Pippet had finished making all her gifts and just needed to wrap them up. Lolly and Boppy had almost finished their gifts and would spend the day finishing them off. Snickle sat quietly and listened to his family chatting about celebrations of years gone by.

After breakfast they all washed up and tidied away. Pippet went into her sleeping cove and shut the curtain so that she could wrap her gifts in private. She didn't want to spoil any surprises. Lolly and Boppy curled up on the arm chairs and each had a little bag full of secrets and surprises. They both looked at Snickle, waiting for him to leave the room so that they could work on his gifts. Snickle shuffled about a bit and then announced that he was going for a walk. He put on his boots, hat and scarf and went outside.

The truth was that Snickle didn't have any presents for his family. He knew he was supposed to make them things, or find things to give them, and he really wanted to, but he just wasn't quite sure what to do. Snickle felt sad and a little worried that tomorrow was the day of celebration and he still didn't have anything to give. He wandered through the bush, thinking hard about what to do.

As Snickle wandered past the bushes and beside the trees Rabbit hopped out from behind a bush.

"Hello Snickle, how are you today?" said Rabbit cheerily.

"Hi Rabbit. I'm ok, but I'm a bit worried. I haven't got any presents sorted for tomorrow."

"Ah, I see" replied Rabbit, "yes, I've been working on making clothes for my little ones for the last few weeks now".

"What am I going to do?" replied Snickle, in a worried tone.

"Don't worry. How about I help you to spin some of our soft rabbit fur into yarn as a gift for Lolly"

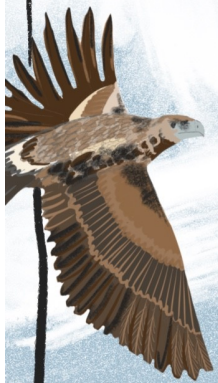
"That would be wonderful!" replied Snickle. Rabbit got a big sack of fluffy fur from her burrow and handed Snickle a drop spindle. They both got to work and soon had a big ball of fluffy yarn.

"I'm sure Lolly will love to knit a scarf or hat with this beautiful yarn" said Rabbit. Snickle wholeheartedly agreed and thanked Rabbit for all her help.

Snickle felt relieved that he had a present sorted for Lolly. Now he just needed presents for Boppy and Pippet. As he walked he heard the buzz of Bee. Bee came over to say hello. Snickle explained to Bee that he was trying to find presents for Boppy and Pippet.

"What does Boppy like to do?" asked Bee with a little buzz. Snickle thought for a moment and then replied,

"Boppy loves to cook. Boppy also likes spending time with our friends, playing music and telling stories"





## Snickle's Very Special Gifts continued page 2

Bee thought for a moment. Bee said "If Boppy likes to cook, perhaps he would like some of our honey for when he is baking cakes"

"That's a wonderful idea! Thanks so much" replied Snickle. Bee buzzed off and a moment later a group of bees flew down carrying a little jar of golden honey.

"Oh how kind, thank you so much. Boppy will really enjoy this" said Snickle. The bees buzzed happily.

Now Snickle just needed a present for Pippet. As he walked along he heard the rustling of Wedge-tailed Eagle making a nest. Snickle looked up. Wedge-tailed Eagle flew down to say hello to Snickle.

"Hello Wedge-tailed Eagle" said Snickle.

"Hello Snickle" said Wedge-tailed Eagle. "What are you doing today?"

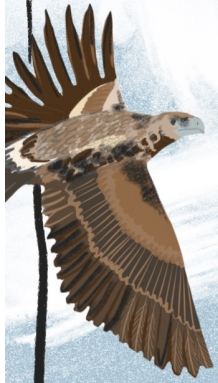
Snickle explained that he was looking for presents and he now only needed a present for Pippet. He explained that he wanted it to be really special because Pippet is his best friend. Wedge-tailed Eagle thought and had a wonderful idea.

"How about this heart shaped pebble that I found this morning?". They both grinned, for they knew this was a very good idea.

"Let's make it into a necklace" suggested Snickle. Wedge-tailed Eagle smiled. Snickle took his mittens off to plait some stems into a long thread to use as the necklace. They sat side by side, Snickle plaiting away. As he finished they both held up the thread and pebble and held them together. They tied the pendant onto the necklace and admired it's beauty. Snickle thanked Wedge-tailed Eagle for helping him and they hugged.

Snickle found a big leaf to wrap up his presents and take them into Hiddle House without anyone seeing what he had in his arms. He went inside and crept past Lolly and Boppy, who were still in the arm chairs working hard. He took the present filled leaf into his sleeping cove. He shut the curtain and spent the rest of the evening wrapping his gifts ready for tomorrow. Snickle went to sleep feeling happy and excited to give his beautiful gifts to his family. He loved them very much and he wanted to show them how much he cared. Snickle drifted off to sleep dreaming of how happy his family would be the next day when he gave them his gifts.

What an exciting.....day it was going to be!









CELEBRATE

STORY BACKGROUND

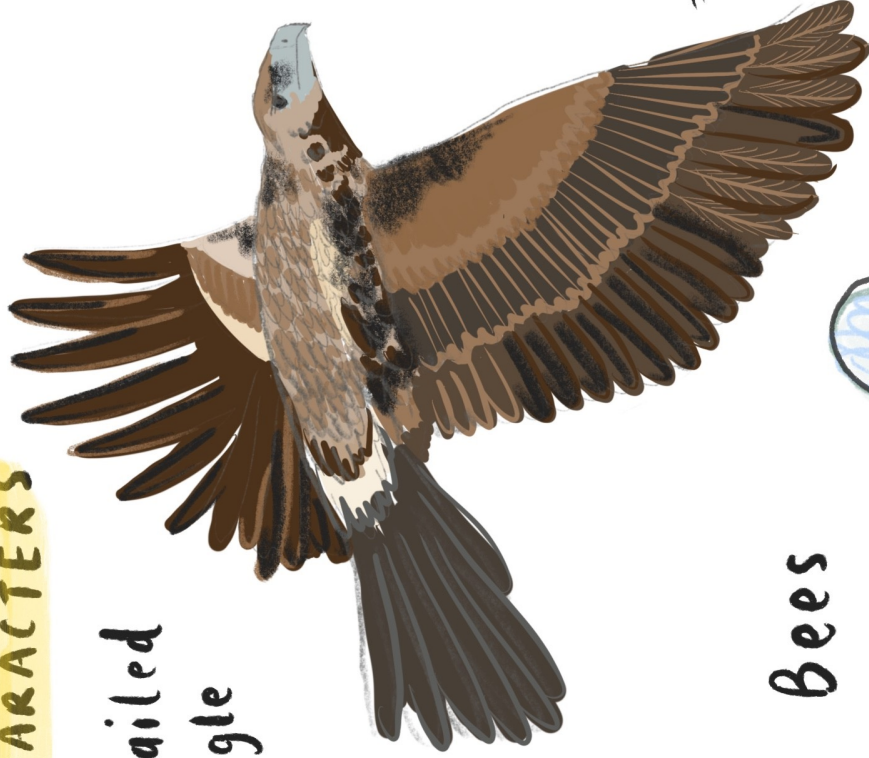




CELEBRATE

STORY CHARACTERS

Wedge-tailed  
Eagle



Rabbit



Bees






CELEBRATE  
WEEK ONE

# Make a Tree of Thanks

You will need

 string

 pebbles

vase

paper

envelopes  
made from  
template

a nice  
big branch.

 crayons

 tape

Write notes and  
draw pictures of all that you are  
grateful for.



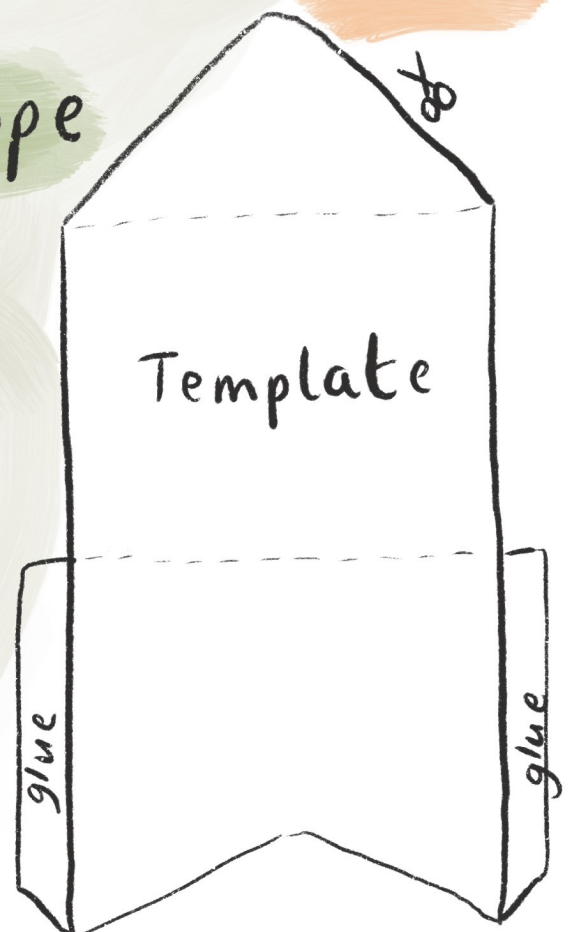
Put inside envelopes.

Tape string to envelope  
and hang on tree.

cut out



Each day  
open a  
note and  
read aloud.





CELEBRATE

NATURE WALK

WEEK ONE



Deliver gifts  
to forest  
friends  
(bird feeder,  
moss, homemade  
nests, decorations)

Take story puppets  
with you and set up  
a little tea party.



Use sticks and  
string or elastic



bands to make  
twig stars.



Take a candle, Find  
a dark place such as  
deep in the trees.  
Light a candle and  
say a few words.



CELEBRATE

WEEK TWO



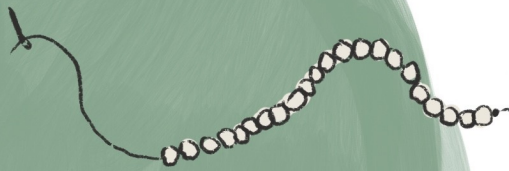


## CELEBRATE WEEK TWO

# Decorate a tree outdoors

Decorate a tree to bring cheer to all those who pass by. You can use your own decoration or make new ones.

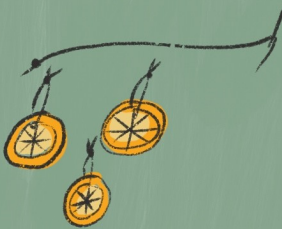
String popcorn



Dry oranges



place on a tray  
on a low heat



Make garlands



Remember to take down your decorations after a few weeks to keep the outdoors how you found it



CELEBRATE  
NATURE WALK  
WEEK TWO

Draw a chalk heart  
and fill with treasures.

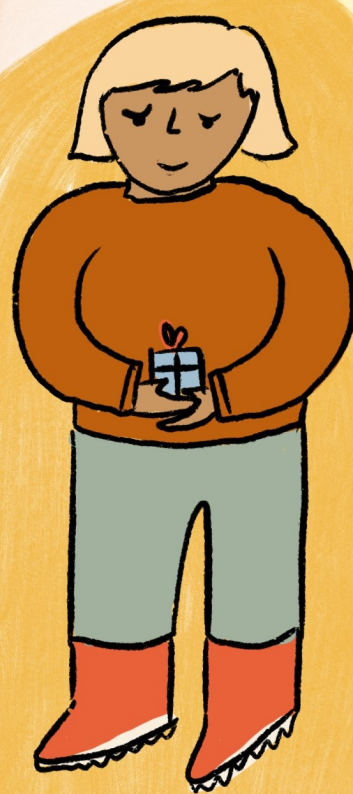


Take a notebook +  
write a list of all that  
you are celebrating.

Gather natural  
materials to use at



home when making  
gifts - pinecones,  
sticks, pebbles etc.



Unwrap a special  
gift in the  
outdoors.



DECORATE  
WEEK ONE





## Decorations for Hiddle House

All was quiet in Hiddle House. The days had become short and the dark nights were long. Snickle and Pippet were waking from a long slumber on a frosty morning. Lolly and Boppy were sitting in their arm chairs. Lolly was painting a small picture and Boppy was studying a hand drawn map. The porridge was gently simmering on the stove as they waited for Snickle and Pippet to get up.

Snickle and Pippet uncurled out of bed, washed and dressed and walked into the living room sleepily. Now it was time for breakfast and together they began to lay the table with bowls and spoons and the big pan of porridge. Everyone was rather quiet and subdued. They talked about how the house was feeling dark, even a little bit gloomy.

"It feels as though we need some light in here" said Pippet, looking around.

"We need something to bring some cheer to the house" said Boppy.

"Perhaps it's time to get the decorations out" suggested Lolly.

Snickle grinned "oh yes, let's get the corn dollies out and the twig stars that we made last year".

"Great idea, that will bring some cheer to the place" smiled Boppy.

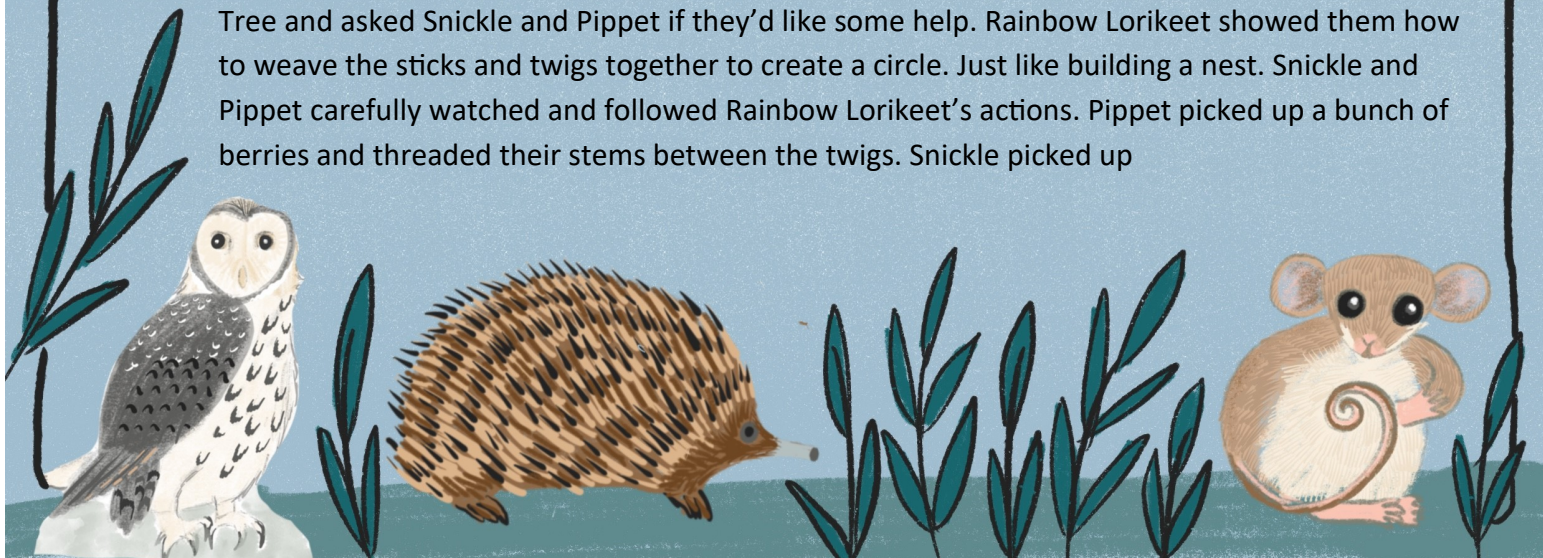
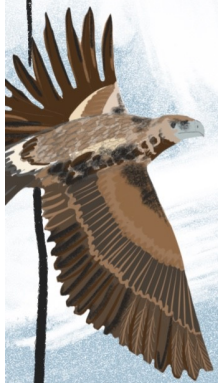
After breakfast The Hiddles tidied away there dishes. Lolly looked in the cupboard where they keep decorations but alas, the winter decorations couldn't be found. Where could they be? Boppy, Pippet and Snickle all helped Lolly and searched each cupboard, drawer and shelf in Hiddle House but the Winter decorations couldn't be found anywhere. Snickle felt disappointed.

"How about you two head outside and see if you can make some more decorations for us" suggested Boppy.

Snickle and Pippet liked this idea and went to get their boots and hats and scarves on. As they headed out the door they chatted about what materials they could collect and what decorations they'd like to make.

"A wreath is a wonderful idea!" exclaimed Pippet.

They immediately got to work, collecting twigs and sticks and bundles of berries. Now to weave them into a wreath. Pippet picked up a long stem and began twisting and turning it to try and make a circle, but it kept coming undone. Rainbow Lorikeet flew down from The Old Eucalyptus Tree and asked Snickle and Pippet if they'd like some help. Rainbow Lorikeet showed them how to weave the sticks and twigs together to create a circle. Just like building a nest. Snickle and Pippet carefully watched and followed Rainbow Lorikeet's actions. Pippet picked up a bunch of berries and threaded their stems between the twigs. Snickle picked up





## Decorations for Hiddle House continued page 2

a bunch of leaves and threaded them on to the wreath. Soon enough they had a beautiful wreath and the three of them admired their work.

"This is going to look beautiful on the door of Hiddle House" said Pippet, "Thank you Rainbow Lorikeet".

"Your welcome," said Rainbow Lorikeet, "I'm happy to do a little weaving in winter time".

As Pippet and Snickle began to walk back to Hiddle House they met Brush Tail Possum. Brush Tail Possum asked what they were doing.

"We've made a wreath to decorate Hiddle House. It was looking gloomy and we want to brighten it up" explained Snickle.

"What a lovely idea," said Brush Tail Possum "Perhaps we could make some baubles for you as well"

"Oh that would be lovely" replied Pippet.

"Let's look for nuts and pine cones to turn into baubles".

Together they began scouring the ground. Soon they each had a handful of nuts, pine cones and seed heads. Now it was time to make some twine to hang the baubles from. Pippet gathered some stems and twisted them into string. Brush Tail Possum helped to tie a small piece of string to each pine cone, seed and nut. They held them up and admired their work. Brush Tail Possum got out a tiny paintbrush and some paints and painted a little picture of a tree onto one of the nuts. It looked beautiful and so Pippet and Snickle did the same. What special decorations they had made. They thanked Brush Tail Possum and took the decorations with them.

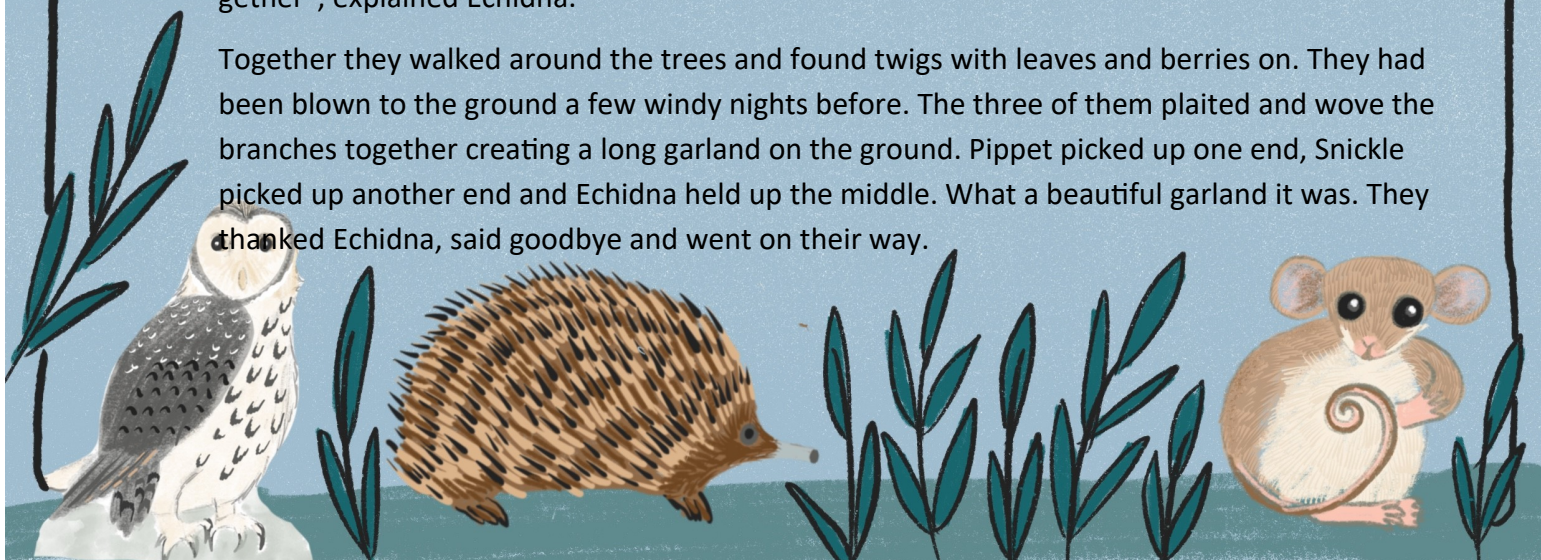
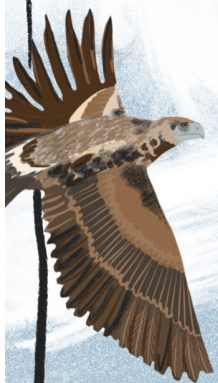
As they began to walk home, arms full of beautiful decorations they saw Echidna. They told Echidna what they had been doing and Echidna suggested that they make a garland.

"That's a nice idea", said Pippet.

They placed down the decorations they had made so far and listened to Echidna talk about what they need to make a garland.

"We just need to collect lots of long stems of leaves and berries and then we'll twist them together", explained Echidna.

Together they walked around the trees and found twigs with leaves and berries on. They had been blown to the ground a few windy nights before. The three of them plaited and wove the branches together creating a long garland on the ground. Pippet picked up one end, Snickle picked up another end and Echidna held up the middle. What a beautiful garland it was. They thanked Echidna, said goodbye and went on their way.





### Decorations for Hiddle House continued page 3

Pippet and Snickle Hiddle really had their arms full now. They carefully walked home carrying their wreath, baubles and garland. At the door Lolly and Boppy greeted them, and took some of the decorations from the pile they carried. Once inside, Boppy put some music on and Lolly warmed some tea. The four of them hung the decorations and oh, what cheer it brought to their home! The wreath was now proudly hung on the front door, the garland hung above the fireplace and the baubles hung down from above each doorway. They spent the evening cosy inside, admiring their new decorations.

How charming Hiddle House looked now!



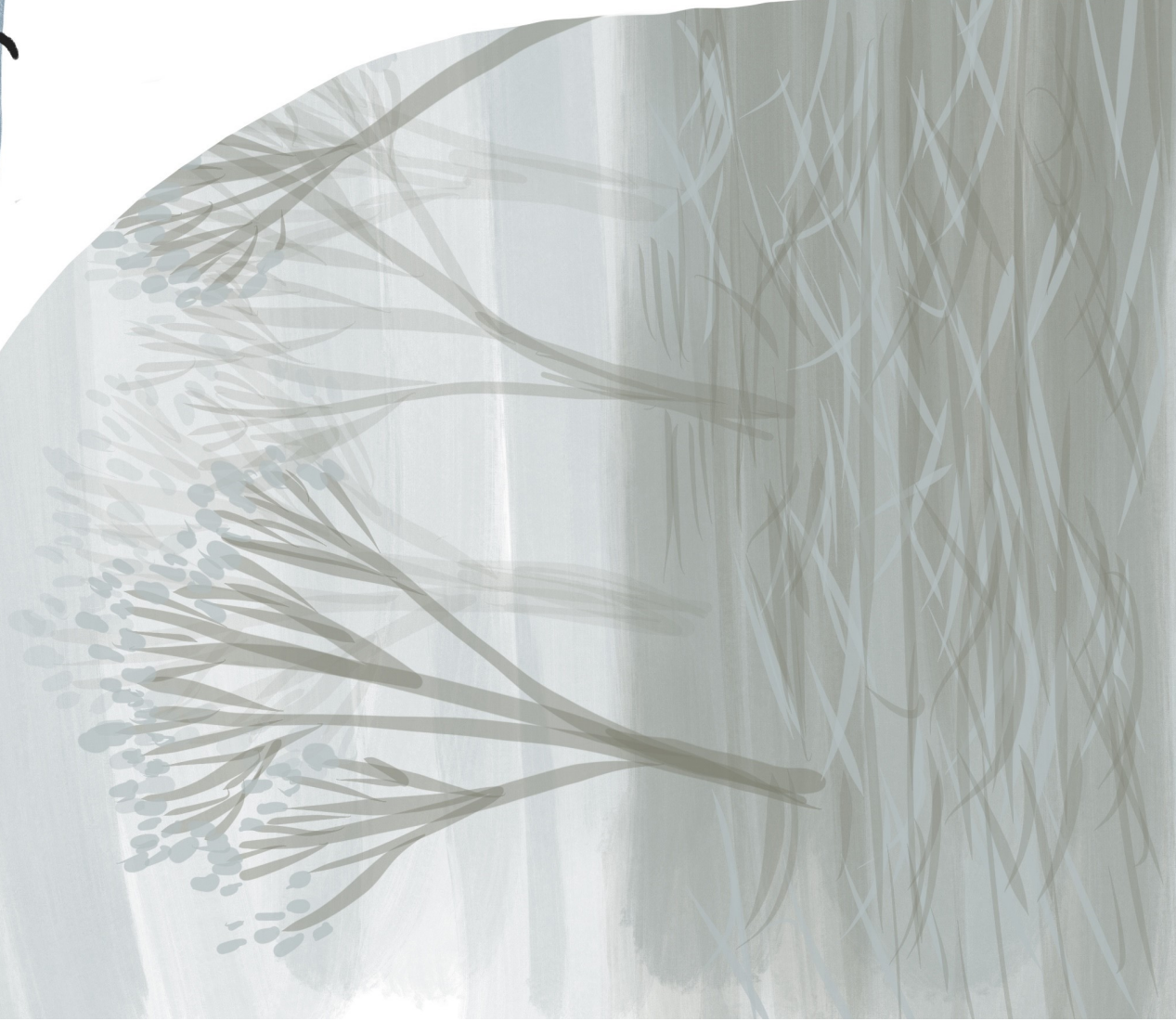
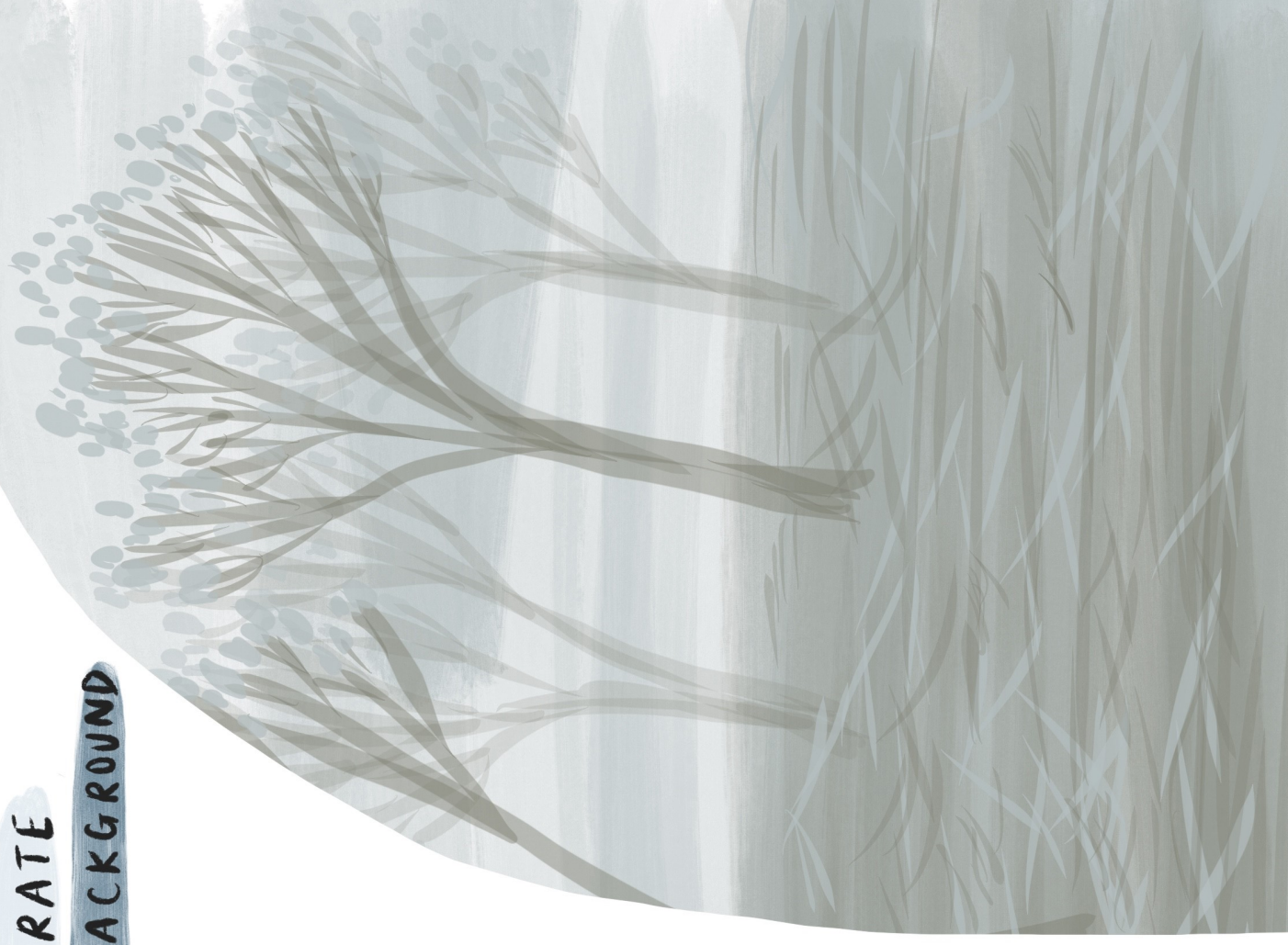






DECORATE

STORY BACKGROUND





DECORATE

STORY CHARACTERS

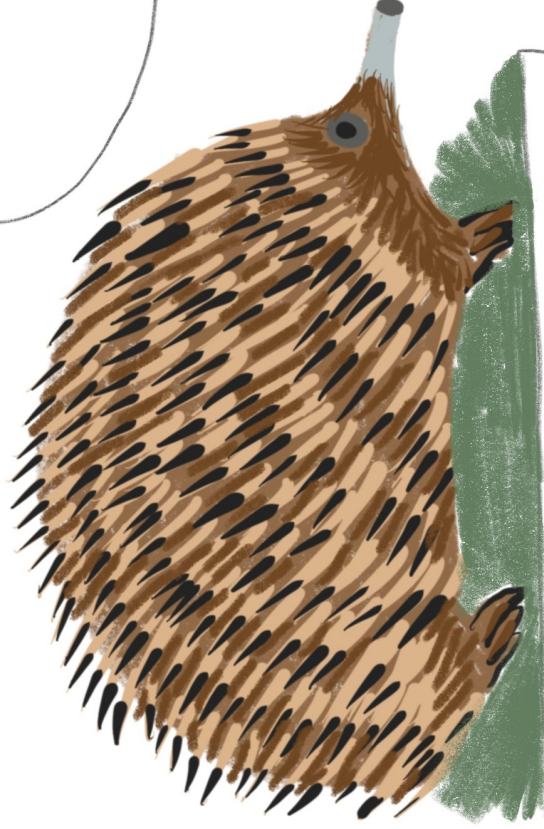
Bush tail Possum



Rainbow Lorikeet



Echidna





DECORATE  
WEEK ONE

# Craft Orange Pomander

Ribbon



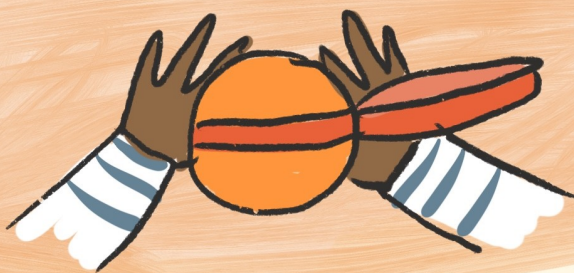
Cloves



Firm  
Oranges



Tie ribbon around orange.



Stud cloves into oranges. You can  
pre-prick wholes into the oranges  
to help little one to press cloves in.





DECORATE

NATURE WALK

WEEK ONE



make a wreath



gather natural materials  
to make a small world  
scene at home.  
moss, bark, twigs, pinecones...



Take a piece of string and make a  
nature garland.

Make  
'Nature Art'  
Andy Goldsworthy  
is great inspiration.





DECORATE  
WEEK TWO





## DECORATE WEEK TWO

# Clay Decorations

you will need :

Rolling Pin



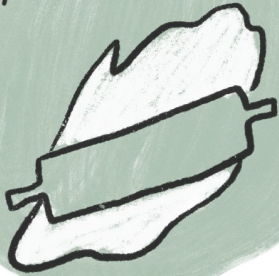
Evergreens



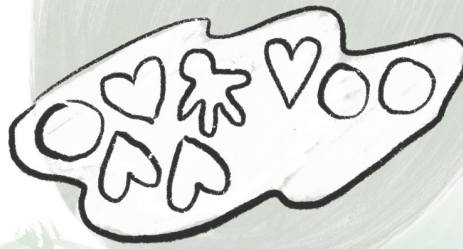
Airdry  
White  
Clay



Roll out a  
piece of clay



Use cookie  
cutters to  
make shapes



Use  
evergreens  
to imprint  
leaf patterns



Make holes  
in tops of  
shapes



leave to  
airdry



thread  
string



♡ You can use letter stamps to  
write words on you decorations.



DECORATE

NATURE WALK

WEEK TWO

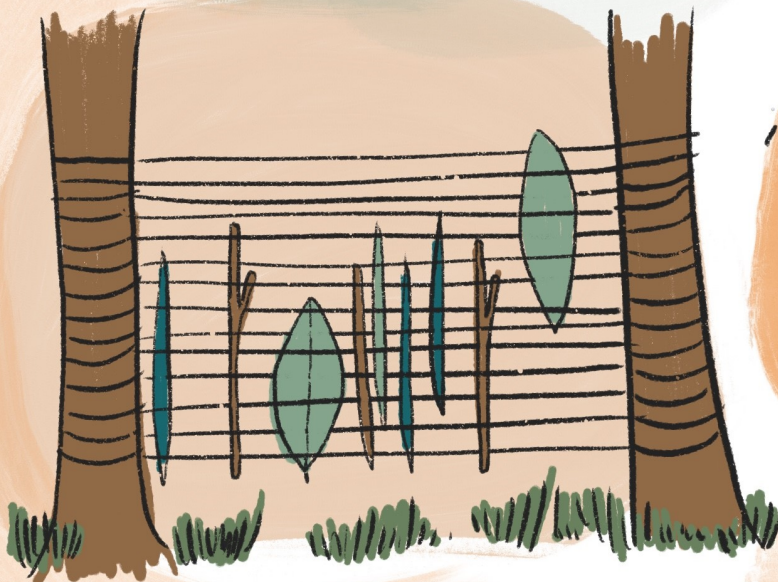
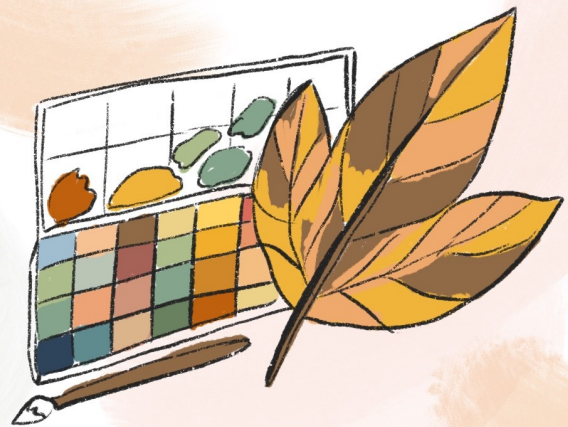


Take an egg box with you and collect pinecones + nuts to hang on a tree.



Decorate a tree trunk using clay and leaves. Use the clay to stick leaves on the trunk.

Paint a leaf and take it home.



Create a natural 'weaving loom' between two trees. Each time you return you can add to your weaving



SNOW + FROST

WEEK ONE





## A Visit From Aunt Mimi

The bushland was covered in a soft white blanket. The snow glistened and sparkled as the sun shone down. Inside Hiddle House, Snickle and Pippet were just waking up. They could see their breath in front of them as they snuggled down deep into their beds. Snickle pulled his moss blanket a little further up to his chin. He could hear the fire crackling and knew that soon the house would be warm and cosy again. They got up and put on the warmest layers; woollen felt Booties, knitted jumpers, flannel trousers and gumnut shell hats on, ready for a day in the snow.

Lolly and Boppy were wrapped up warm too. They'd already heated water for tea, got the fire going, lit candles, heated porridge and were ready to enjoy breakfast with Snickle and Pippet. Together they admired the gentle snowflakes falling down outside the windows. They chatted about how they were very much looking forward to a visit from Lolly's sister, Aunt Mimi, and they hoped that her journey would go well even with so much snow. Aunt Mimi was travelling my bird from the far side of the bush. The Hiddles decided it was best to spend their morning keeping warm inside. Lolly worked on albums. She liked to paint little pictures of special memories and place them inside her album. Boppy was busy carving spoons. Snickle and Pippet played a card game with their favourite little critter cards which Lolly had painted for them.

As the Hiddles went about their activities they heard chattering voices outside. Snickle went to the door to find out who it was. When he opened the door, instead of being greeted by Aunt Mimi or some of his bush friends he was greeting by a wall of white snow. The snow had completely covered the Hiddle's front door and there was no way of getting in or out! Snickle shut the door quickly, turned to the rest of his family, who were all staring, rather surprised.

"What will we do now?" asked Snickle. Pippet looked surprised, Lolly looked worried and Boppy looked like he really didn't mind.

"Well we'll stay here and carry on with our day, of course" said Boppy.

"What about Aunt Mimi?" asked Pippet "How will she get in?"

"Exactly!" replied Lolly, giving Boppy a look.

"Oh! Yes! Aunt Mimi! Of course, I had forgotten about our visitor" said Boppy. Together they all got up from the table and went over to the door. Boppy opened the door and they all stared at the white wall of snow in front of them.

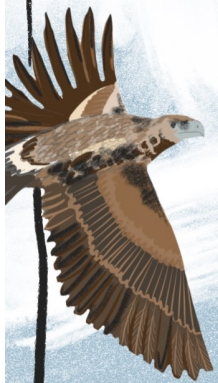
"Hello" Pippet let out a quiet call.

"Hello!" called Snickle with much more rigour.

"Hello" shouted Lolly at the top of her voice.

On the other side of all the snow Echidna, Pygmy Possum and Owl all heard the very faint call of Lolly. It was hard to hear each other through all the snow.

"Hello" the animals all called back loudly. "Can you hear us?"





## A Visit From Aunt Mimi continued page 2

"We can" shouted back the Hiddles. At that moment a wedge tail eagle swooped down with Aunt Mimi sitting on his back. The eagle lowered his head and Aunt Mimi slid down his neck and landed on her feet in the snow. She thanked the eagle, fed him some bread from her bag and off he flew. Aunt Mimi introduced herself to Echidna, Pygmy Possum and Owl then said

"Well, it doesn't look like I'll be seeing my family any time soon does it?," as they all looked at the snow piled up against The Old Eucalyptus Tree.

"Perhaps we can think of a plan" suggested Echidna . Owl was already busy thinking.

"Now, if we could only move all that snow away" said Owl "then Mimi could get in and the Hiddles would be able to come in and out".

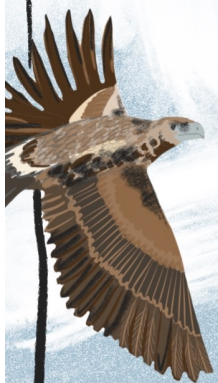
"But, how are we going to move all that snow? There's just so much of it" said Pygmy Possum. Owl was thinking,

"Many hands make light work" he said in a calm voice. "We shall get help from our friends and the big job of moving the snow shall be done quickly" explained Owl. Mimi went with Pygmy Possum and together they asked Wombat if he could come and help. Owl flew up to the branches and asked Willy Wagtail if she could come and help. Echidna scurried over to Ring Tail Possum and asked if she could come and help. Now there was a small crowd of animals and Aunt Mimi ready to start moving the snow. They began to use their beaks and paws and hands to scoop the snow, but quickly they all had very cold hands and hadn't moved much snow at all.

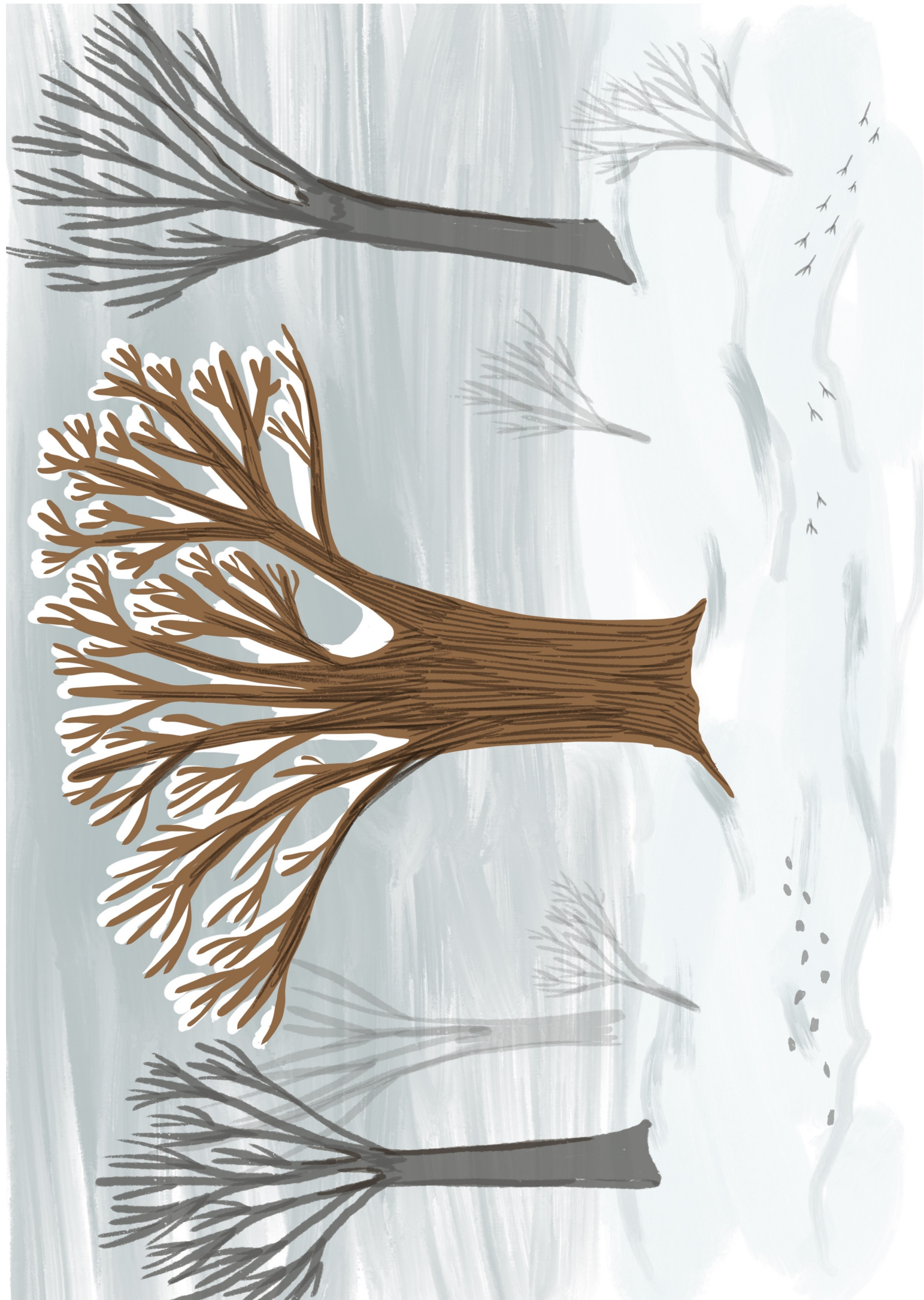
"We need containers" announced Owl. So they all went to find some containers for scooping up the ice. They found gumnut shells, seed pods and nut shells. Lolly could hear what was going on outside and dropped a couple of their wooden bowls out of a window. Echidna picked them up. Now everyone had something they could scoop the snow with. They all began scooping up bowlfuls of snow and dropping it behind them. After a little while the level of snow was getting lower and lower. Their hard work was paying off. Snickle opened the door again. The wall of snow was lower now and they could see out over the top of the snow. He and Pippet stood on chairs and called to all their friends cheering them on. Boppy could see that soon the snow would be cleared and he put the kettle on for tea and checked the biscuits he had already put in the oven.

Soon enough all the snow was cleared and Aunt Mimi was able to come into Hiddle House. She gave her family big hugs as Lolly welcomed her in. The Hiddles saw all the animals stood outside and could see that they were tired from all their hard work.

"Would you like to come in for some tea and biscuits?" Boppy asked Echidna, Pygmy Possum, Owl, Wombat, Willy Wagtail and Ringtail Possum. The animals didn't usually come into the cosy Hiddle House as it was so small, but this was an exception. The animals had worked very hard to help Aunt Mimi and the Hiddles. They all squeezed into Hiddle House and managed to sit around the Hiddles tiny table. Together they all enjoyed a nice, hot cup of tea and warm anzac biscuit, straight from the oven.



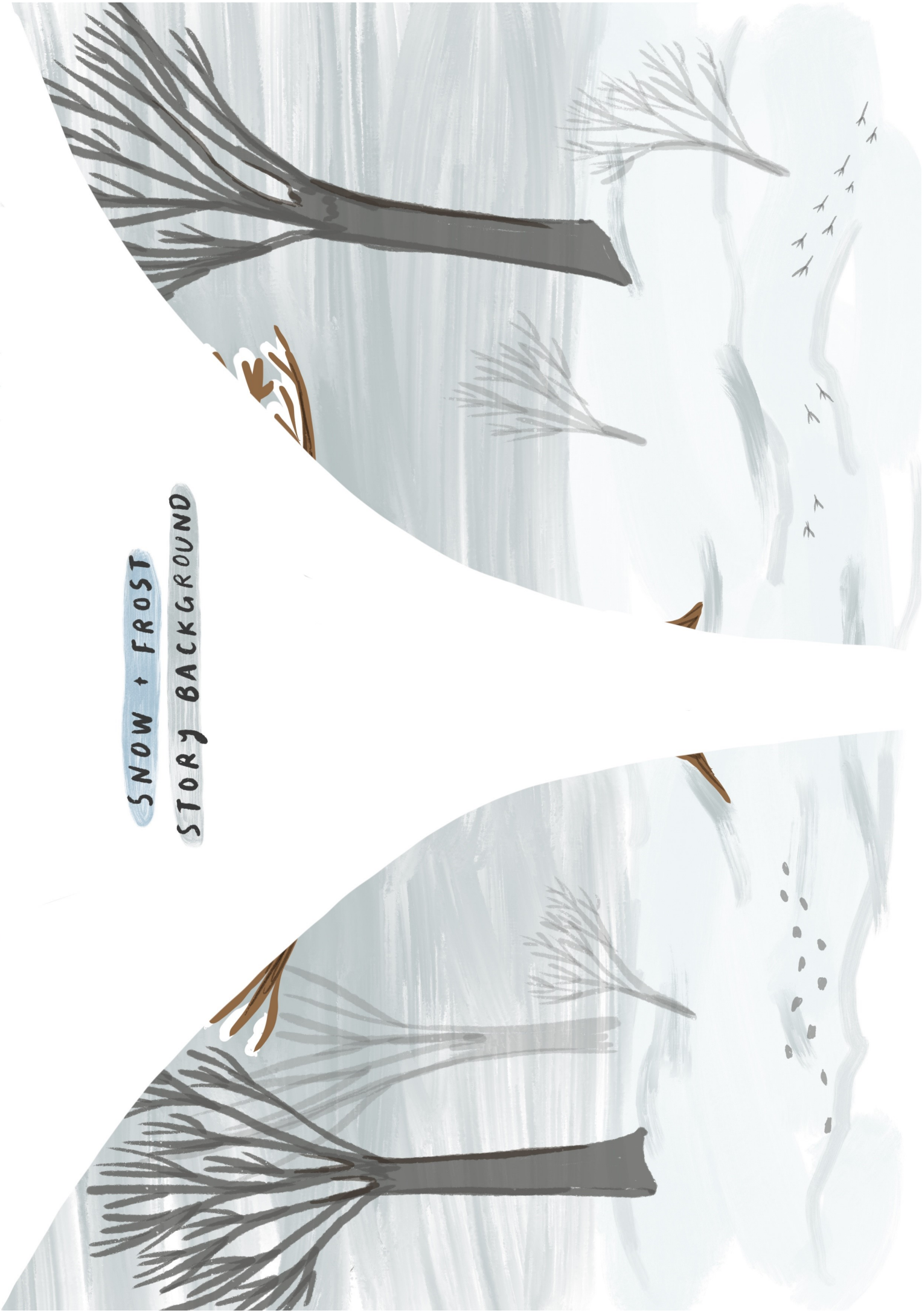






SNOW + FROST

STORY BACKGROUND





## SNOW + FROST

## STORY CHARACTERS

Echidna



Pygmy Possum





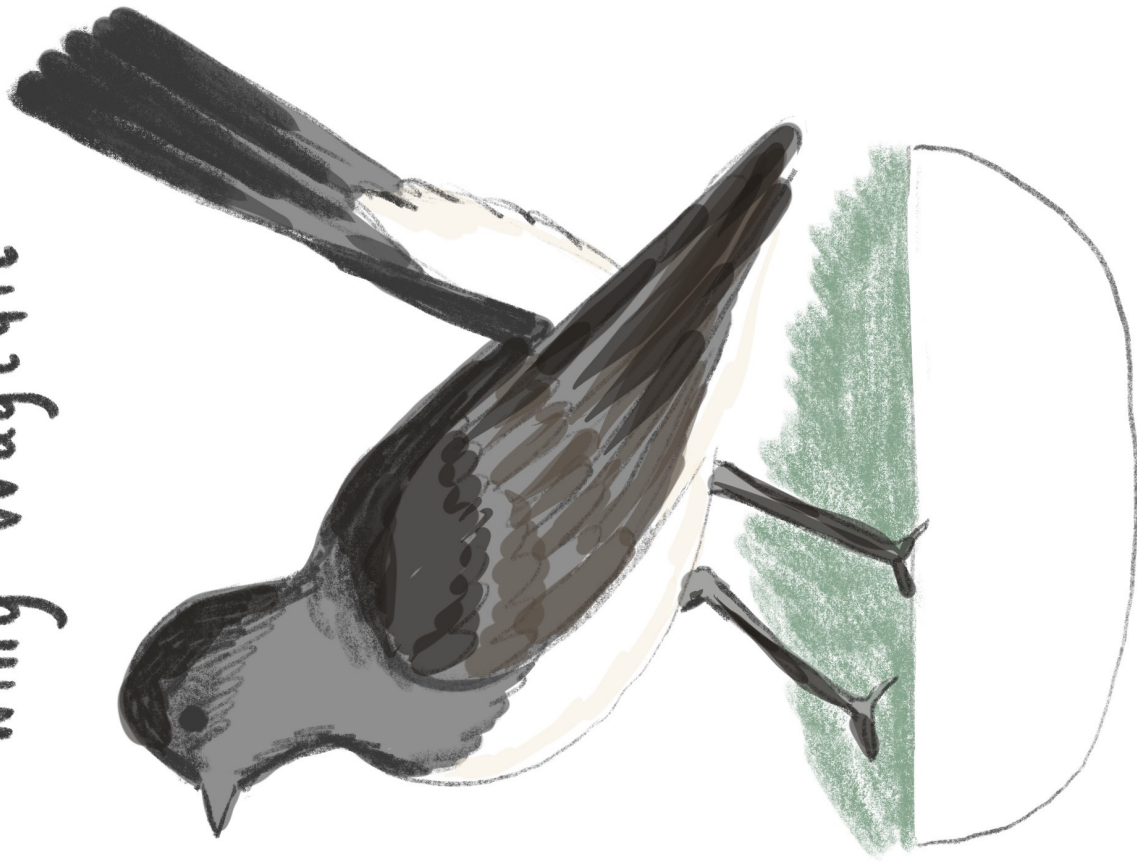
SNOW + FROST

STORY CHARACTERS

Ring Tail Possum



Willy Wagtail

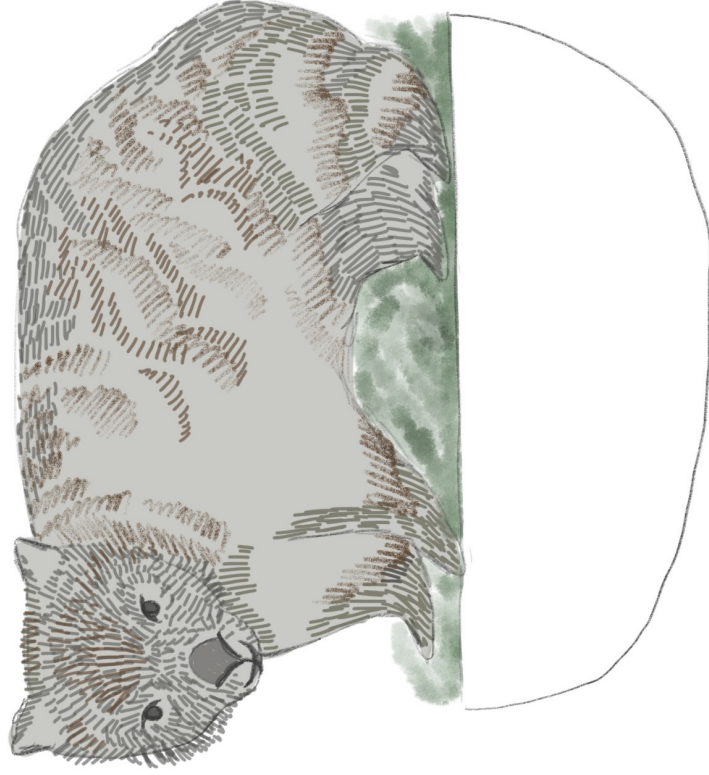




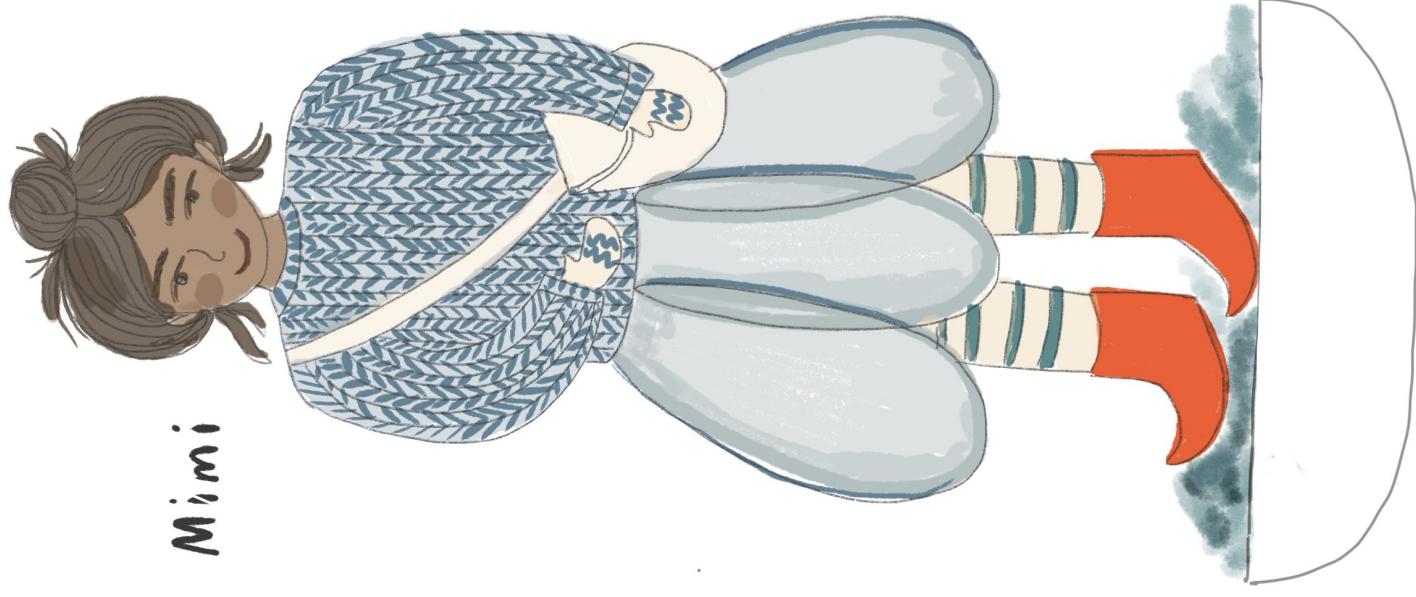
# SNOW + FROST

## STORY CHARACTERS

Wombat



Aunt Mimi





SNOW + FROST

STORY CHARACTERS

Wedge-tailed  
Eagle



Owl





SNOW + FROST  
WEEK ONE

## Make Winter Suncatchers



Baking Trays  
+ Cake tins



foliage



ribbon



water



Arrange  
foliage into  
tins.



pour water  
into  
trays

place loops  
of ribbon into  
trays of water



leave outside in  
freezing temperatures  
(or place  
in your  
freezer)





# SNOW + FROST

## NATURE WALK

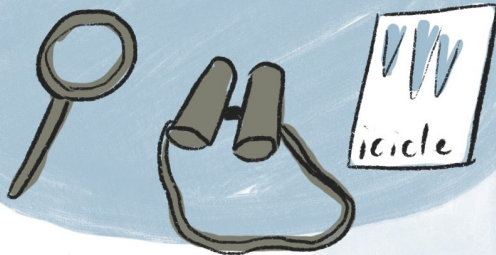
### WEEK ONE

#### WITH SNOW + FROST

- let snow fall on a piece of black card + look closely at snowflake shapes.



- search for icicles



- hang ice wreaths and keep notes each day to see if it's melted/changed shape



- ice sensory play outside or inside.

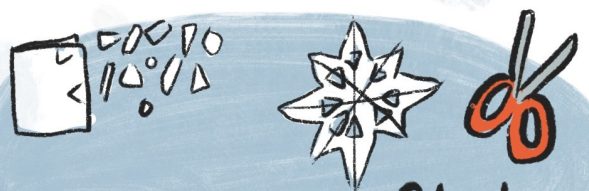
#### WITHOUT SNOW + FROST

- 'pretend' to go sledding down hills or sand dunes.

- set up a small world play for cold animals.



- make sensory ice play.



- paper snowflakes



SNOW + FROST

WEEK TWO





SNOW + FROST  
WEEK TWO

# Paper Snowflakes

you will need :

wax candles



paper



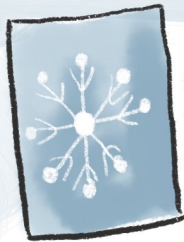
scissors



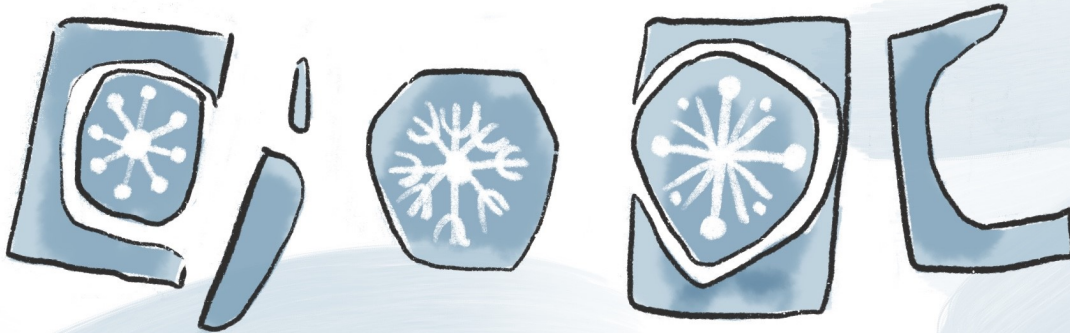
watercolour



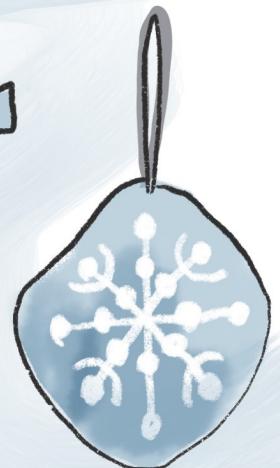
Use wax candles to draw patterns on paper.



Use watercolour paints to brush over the wax and see snowflake patterns.



cut out and hang  
in your home.





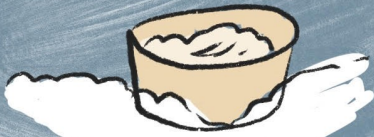
# SNOW + FROST

## NATURE WALK

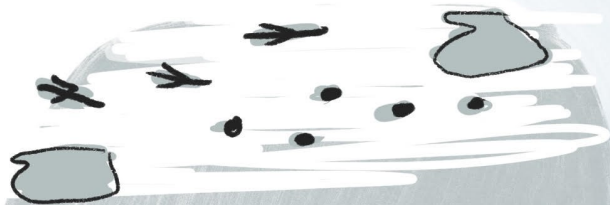
### WEEK TWO

#### WITH SNOW + FROST

- make icecream in the snow.

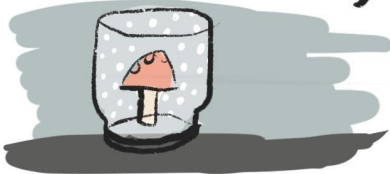


- make your own frost using a can, salt and ice.



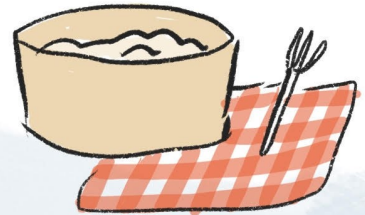
- make tracks in the snow using sticks, stones, hands, feet.

- Make a snowglobe using a jam jar.



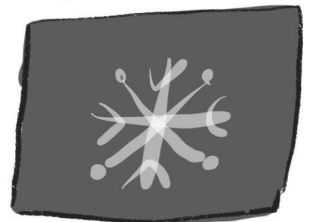
#### WITHOUT SNOW + FROST

- make icecream at home in a freezer.



- make your own frost using a can, salt and ice.

- make snowflake pictures using glue and salt



- Make a snowglobe using a jam jar.





WARMTH  
WEEK ONE





## A Chilly Day

What a chilly morning it was! Pippet could see her breath in front of her face as she lay in her cosy bed, plucking up the courage to get up. Snickle pulled his felt hat a little further on to keep him warm. It wasn't easy getting up, but alas, they had to and they got quickly into their warmest clothes and woollen booties.

Snickle and Pippet went into the kitchen to find Lolly and Boppy standing over the fireplace with no fire lit. Boppy was crouched over, trying to get the fire going, and Lolly was passing twigs and paper to Boppy. They tried and tried, but the fire would not get started.

"It must be damp" sighed Lolly,

"Too damp to light" said Boppy.

Snickle and Pippet watched on, rubbing their hands to keep warm. They asked what was happening.

"We think the wood is damp" said Lolly. "We won't be able to get the fire lit until the wood dries in the sunshine".

Snickle and Pippet were puzzled. This hadn't happened before. How would they make tea? How would they cook soup? How would they dry their wet mittens and hats?

"We'll go for a walk and see if our friends can help us" suggested Pippet. Lolly and Boppy smiled and nodded their heads. They didn't seem too worried about the fire. Snickle and Pippet put on their boots, hats, scarves, coats and headed outside into the bush.

"Let's go and see Brush Tail Possum" suggested Snickle "He always seems to be cosy and warm". The two of them climbed up the branches of The Old Eucalyptus Tree, swinging and scampering from branch to branch. They wandered along a long branch and arrived at Brush Tail Possum's house. They knocked on Brush Tail Possum's door and he quickly answered,

"Hello my dears", happy to see his friends, "What can I do for you today?" Snickle and Pippet explained that the Hiddles wood was damp and they were hoping to get warm. Brush Tail Possum thought for a moment.

"When I'm feeling chilly I always wrap myself up in my fluffy tail" and with a quick spin Brush Tail Possum had wrapped his tail around Snickle and Pippet. They both giggled.

"That tickles" giggled Snickle. The three of them laughed.

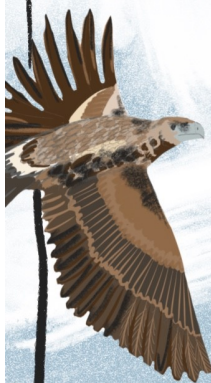
"Laughing also helps to not feel cold" said Brush Tail Possum with a smile.

Pippet replied "Well we don't have tails but we do have some warm jumpers and lots of blankets"

"And we're always making each other laugh" chimed Snickle.

"Well in that case, you'll be fine" said Brush Tail Possum. "The sun will shine soon enough and dry your wood for a fire".

"Thank you Brush Tail Possum. Bye!" Pippet and Snickle said as they walked down the branches.





## A Chilly Day continued page 2

As they made their way down the tree they saw Wombat. They told Wombat that they were trying to keep warm as their firewood had become damp and there wasn't a fire at Hiddle House.

"I like to keep warm by eating lots of food" replied Wombat. Wombat showed them all the food he had stored and gave them some.

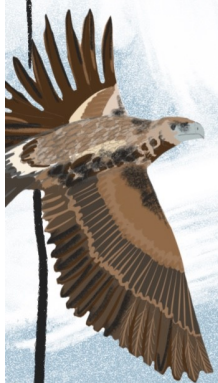
"Oh thank you Wombat, you're always so generous with your food" smiled Pippet.

"Well we certainly have lots of food at home" said Snickle, "so that should help us to keep warm".

"Thank you Wombat" said Snickle and Pippet as they went on their way.

As they began to walk home they passed Mouse's house. They gave a quiet knock to see if she was awake. Indeed mouse answered and Snickle and Pippet asked Mouse how she stays warm through the winter. Mouse invited the two Hiddles into her home. Snickle and Pippet had never been inside Mouse's home before. What a beautiful little place it was! Most of Mouse's home had been made into a bed. She had all kinds of pillows and cushions and blankets made from straw, moss, cotton and grasses. She invited Snickle and Pippet to get comfortable on her bed whilst she put the kettle on for tea. Snickle and Pippet were ever so cosy. Snickle's eyes started to close and his head started to bop. Pippet gave him a quick nudge, stopping him from falling asleep. It was so cosy! The three of them enjoyed their cups of tea, chatting about the winter, the weather and what they had been doing. Soon it was time to go home. Snickle and Pippet thanked Mouse for her hospitality and for showing them how she keeps warm.

As Pippet and Snickle arrived back at Hiddle house they were smiling, ready to tell Lolly and Boppy all that they had learnt about keeping warm. When they got home they saw Lolly and Boppy looking happy and warm. Lolly and Boppy had lots of jumpers on, just as Brush Tail Possum had told them to. They had a tray of food next to them, just as Wombat had suggested, and they were cosied up with lots of cushions, blankets and pillows, just as Mouse had done. Snickle and Pippet didn't tell Lolly and Boppy all that they had learnt. It seemed they knew already!. Snickle and Pippet giggled and climbed into the pile of blankets with them. They snuggled up and felt toasty warm.



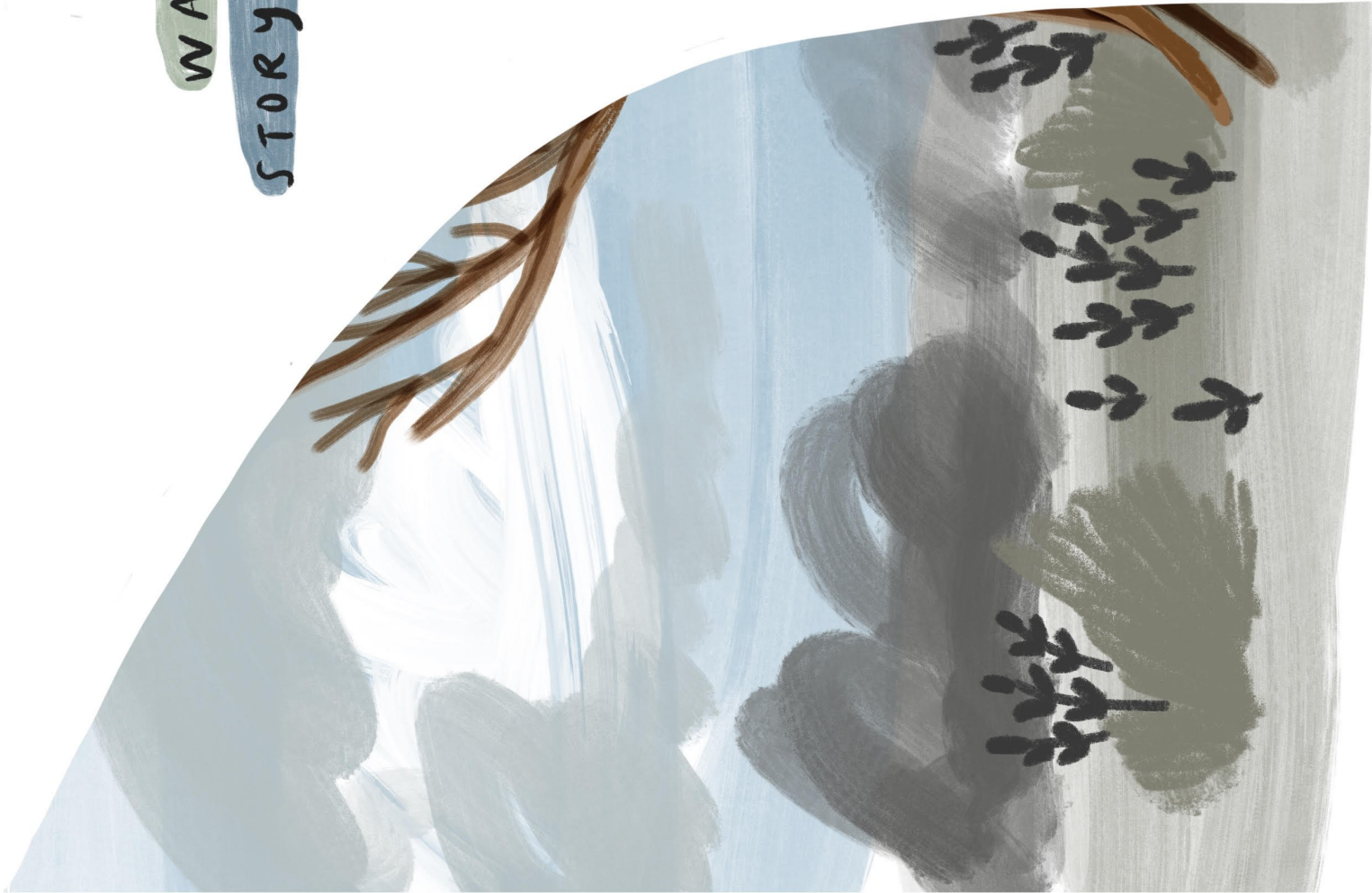
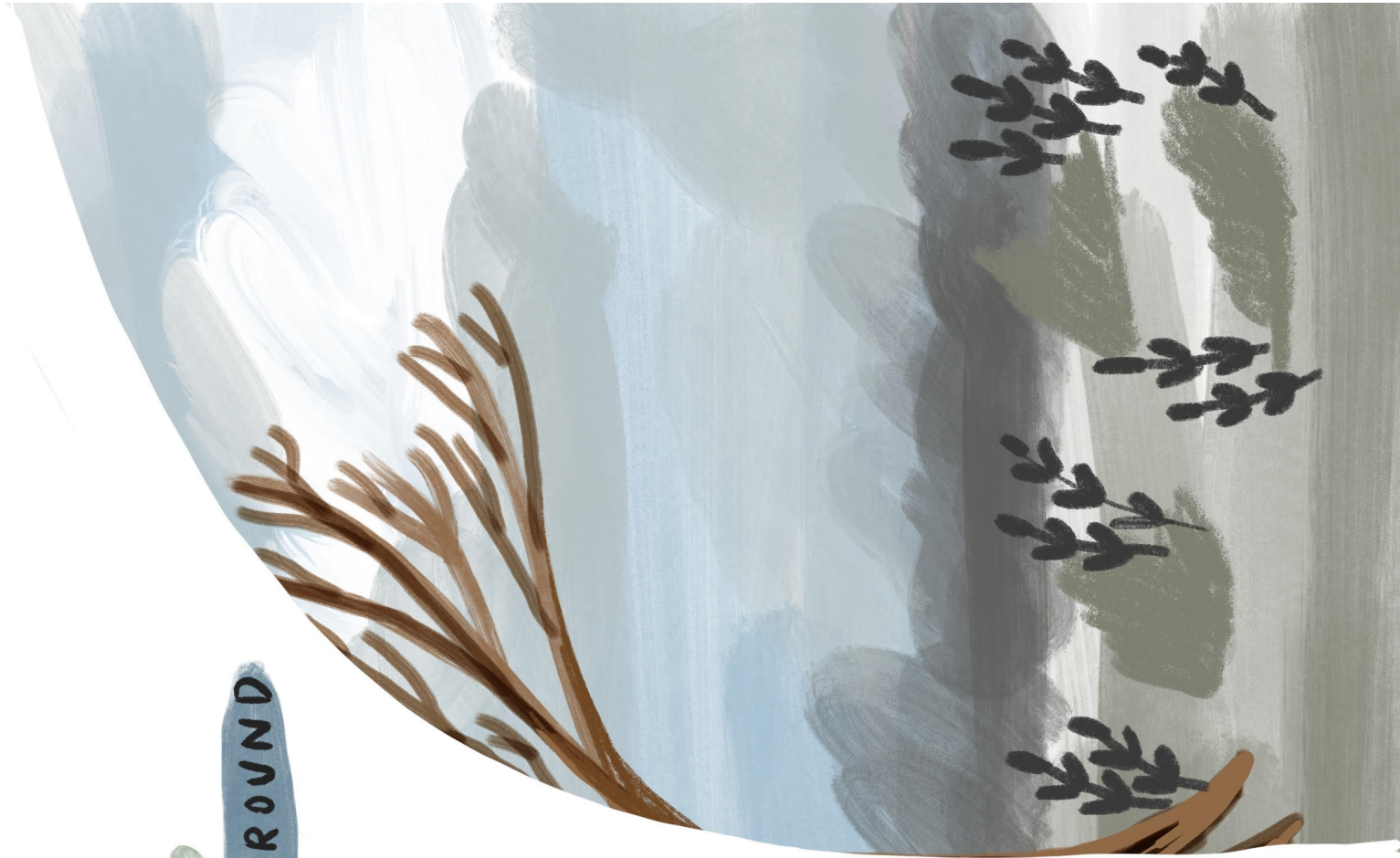






WARMTH

STORY BACKGROUND

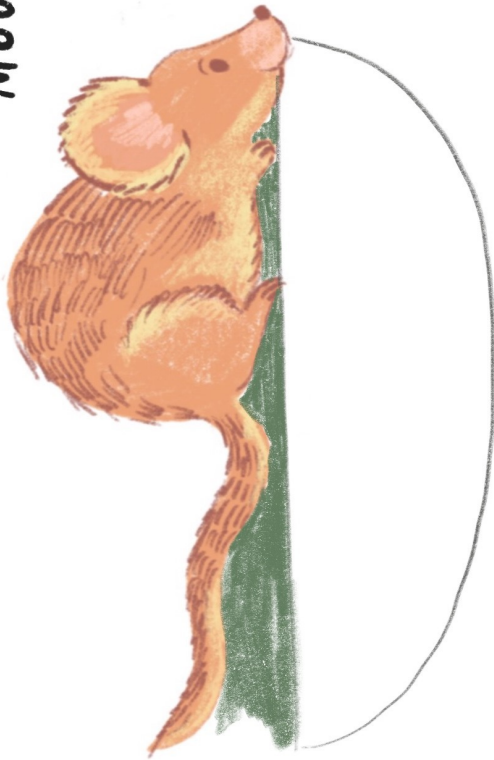




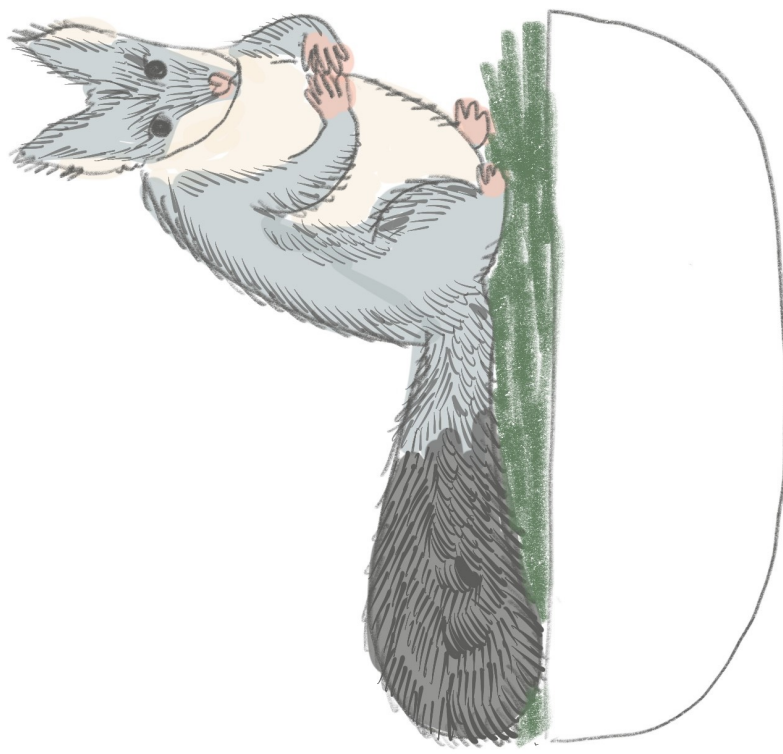
WARMTH

STORY CHARACTERS

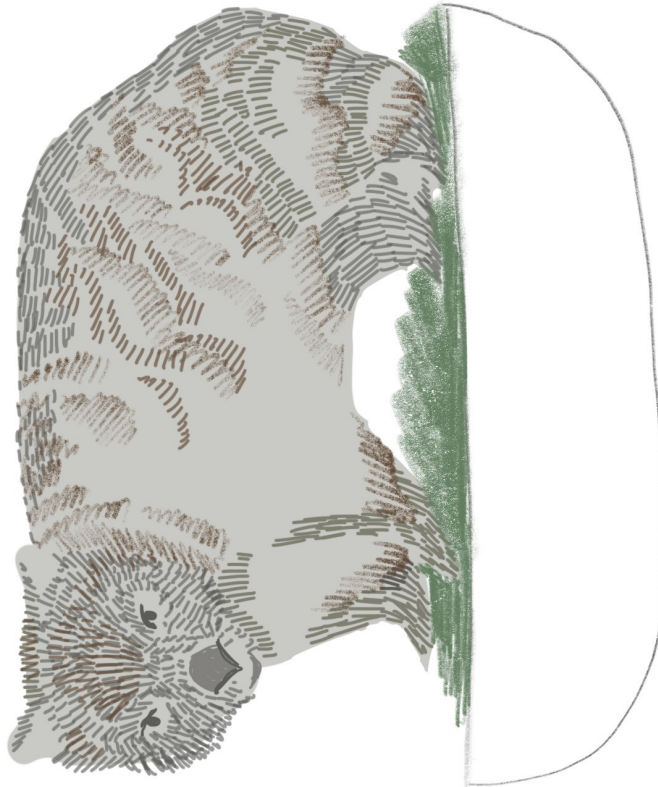
Mouse



Bush tail Possum



Wombat





WARMTH  
WEEK ONE

Make centre pieces.

Materials:



candle



playdough  
(or salt dough)

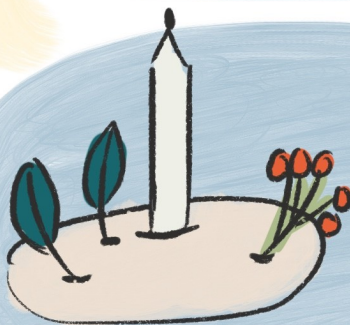
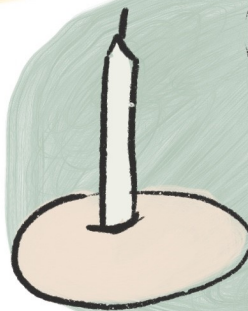


foliage

roll playdough  
into ball. Flatten  
slightly.



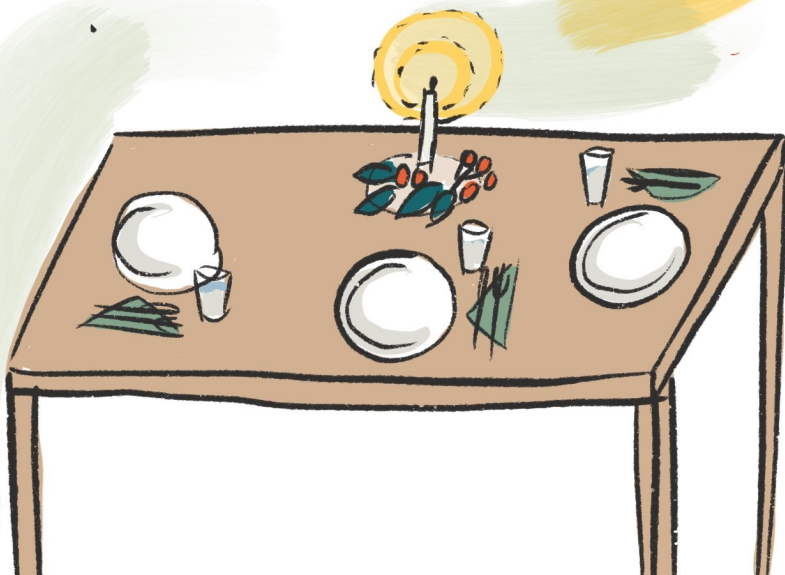
push candle  
into centre.



begin  
placing  
foliage into dough.



continue until  
you have a  
beautiful centre  
piece.





WARMTH

NATURE WALK

WEEK ONE

Look to see if any animals are eating food ... berries, grubs, nuts, worms?



Use golden coloured leaves, twigs, stones to make a play campfire.



Pack tasty snacks and talk about keeping warm by eating.



At the end of your nature walk talk about going inside to stay warm. Talk about animals staying warm in their 'homes'.



WARMTH

WEEK TWO





WARMTH  
WEEK TWO

# Paper Bonfire

Make a play bonfire to keep you cosy.



orange +  
yellow  
tissue  
paper



glue



wrap  
toilet  
rolls in  
brown tissue  
or paint brown.



scrunch  
orange &  
yellow tissue  
paper.



stick  
tissue  
on to  
rolls.





WARMTH

NATURE WALK

WEEK TWO

When getting ready for walk talk about layers to keep warm.



Take your homemade campfire to the woods.



Notice any animals + talk about how they are keeping warm.

Do an exercise activity + talk about how you feel warm.

