

Billy Booksie's Reading Week Diary 16-23 June 2018



Some Reading Week Numbers

- 12 events in 9 townships over 14 days
- approx. 130 children and 35 parents or carers attended events
- Billy Booksie Rhymes Booklet given to every child attending an event
- 14 agencies helped organise events
- 17 services and 4 businesses participated in events



Billie Booksie helped her big brother at several of this year's events.



Billy Booksie would like
to say an
Extra Special
Thank You
to Grace and Su,
early childhood teaching
students
from Nirimba TAFE,
for all their help during
Reading Week.

Rescheduled Events

Bad weather, illness in services and problems with venues meant that events with the following groups had to be cancelled:

- Linden Village Park
- Kookaburra Playgroup
- Katoomba Koori Playgroup
- Cherry Blossom Child Care Centre







Billy Booksie is planning a mini Spring Festival to make up for these events.

Groups with Babies

Parenting Young & First time Parents Group



Because these groups have mostly babies, Billy Booksie didn't visit.

Instead, Billy sent some special resources:

- 'Love, Talk, Sing, Read, Play' Bookmark
- Billy Booksie Rhyme Book.



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Katoomba North Playgroup

The children at Katoomba
North playgroup welcomed
Billie. We read 'Possum
Magic' and the children
sang 'Baa baa black sheep'
for Billie. Then Billie shared
the rhyme 'This Little
Possum', using possum
finger puppets.





Then the children went on an adventure exploring the bush, led by Jenny and Gillian, environmental educators from Blue Mountains City Council. They talked about Aboriginal culture and way of life using natural materials.

The children enjoyed listening to the sounds of nature, hugging the trees and collecting leaves and nuts.

Blue Mountains Occasional

Billie Booksie started Reading Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Lawson and ended the Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Blackheath. In between she visited them at Blaxland as well.



Reading Week at BMOCCS

We are celebrating Reading Week this week, and have been lucky enough to be visited by our reading mascot Billie Booksie.

Billie is quiet, and shy, but loves to share books with her friends.

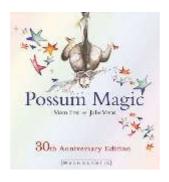
Today she read 'Possum Magic' by Mem Fox.

After the story Bible loves to help the children sing some of their favourite songs like 'Open, shut them'. She does the actions and claps along.

When it's time to go, many of the children like to give warm goodbye hugs, before she leaves to visit other children who also love to read as much as we do.

PIC+COLLAGE

Care Service (BMOCCS)



Billy Bookise's book for Reading
Week was a favourite 'Possum Magic' by Mem Fox.
And Billy had a possum rhyme
to share as well.

This Little Possum

This little possum climbed
a gum tree
This little possum stayed at home
This little possum had some nectar
And this little possum had none
And this little possum went
SQUEEK! SQUEEK!
SQUEEK!
All the way home.







Leura Mall





On Wednesday Billie Booksie
was in Leura on
the Big Red Bus
sharing stories and rhymes.
There were also stories at
Josophan's Chocolates and
the Fire Station.





Winmalee Shopping Village





Meanwhile, Billie Booksie was sharing stories and rhymes with the children and parents at the Winmalee Shopping Village.





Scout Hall Playgroup Hazelbrook

Billie Booksie always enjoys visiting her friends at the Scout Hall Playgroup in Hazelbrook. As well as storytime, they made possum masks to take home.







Thank You

Billy Booksie would like to thank everyone who helped make Reading Week a success:

- ♦ Aboriginal Culture & Resource Centre
- Blue Mountains Explorer Bus
- Blue Mountains City Council, Environmental Communication and Engagement Officers
- ♦ BM Occasional Child Care
- Cherry Blossom Child Care Centre
- First Time Parents Group
- Heather Brae (Connect)
- Josophan's Chocolates Leura
- ♦ Katoomba North Community Hub (Connect)
- Kookaburra Preschool
- ♦ Leura Fire and Rescue
- ♦ Leura Public School
- Linden Citizens Association
- Megalong Books Leura
- Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre
- Mountains Outreach Community Service
- Nirimba TAFE College
- Parenting Young Group
- Springwood Neighbourhood and Community Centre
- Winmalee Hub Playgroup (Gateway Family Services)
- Winmalee Shopping Village

READ WITH YOUR CHILD FROM THE DAY THEY ARE BORN.

SPEND AT LEAST TEN WILDLY HAPPY MINUTES EVERY

SINGLE DAY READING ALOUD, SUGGESTS MEM FOX,

AUTHOR OF READING MAGIC.

The first three years of life are the most important for your child's brain development.

From birth, every time you talk, hug, sing and read with your baby, new brain connections are formed and strengthened.

These daily activities lay the foundation for language development, reading and good self-esteem.

Anywhere, any time:

- Have fun with nursery thymes.

 Play games together: peek-a-boo, for example

 Talk to your baby and child about what you do and see

- Join your local library - you & bub.

Read to your baby, Don't ever stop, When he's too You can let it drop.



Paint the Blue head is a collaboration of Blue Mountains organisations and businesses whose aim is to encourage us all to read to children from birth. More info: www.mocs.org.au.