

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 rhymes.
- 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 REaD 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



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.

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

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.



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



Reading Week 2018

See Billy Booksie & his friends at the times and places below

More events coming, so watch this space!
For more information contact MOCs 4758 6811 or cdlw@mocs.org.au

DATE	VILLAGE	TIME	LOCATION
Wed 13 June	LAWSON	11.00	BMOCs at Mid Mountains Community Centre, 1 New Street
Sat 16 June	LINDEN	10.30	Linden Village Park
Mon 18 June	BLAXLAND	10.00	BMOCs at St Johns Road Complex
	LAWSON	10.30	Kookaburra Playgroup at Mid Mountains Community Centre, 1 New Street
	KATOOMBA	11.30	Koori Playgroup at KOORIBI, Station Street
Tue 19 June	KATOOMBA NORTH	10.00	Playgroup at Katoomba North Public School
Wed 20 June	LEURA	9.45	Big Red Bus in Grose Street
	WINDALEE	10.15	Windalee Shopping Village
Thur 21 June	HAZELBROOK	10.00	Scout Hall Playgroup, 70 Station Street



We acknowledge the Dorig and Boodjigany people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we sit and work. MOCs is committed to reconciliation. Photo by Tom HODGSON. Photo by Tom HODGSON. Photo by Tom HODGSON. Photo by Tom HODGSON. Photo by Tom HODGSON.



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.



Winmalee Shopping Village



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



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.



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

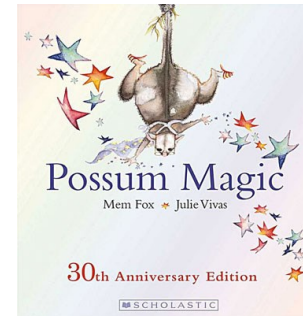
Billie Booksie started Reading Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Lawson and ended the Week with a visit to BMOCCS at Blackheath. In between she visited them at Blaxland as well.



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 Billie 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! SQUEEK!
All the way home.

