

# NATURE NOTES

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EXPERIENCE

GGGGGGGG

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Cover Drawing:

Mrs.Hensler.

Artists:

Mrs.Hensler

Mrs.Sharpin

H.J.Lawry

\*\*\*\*\*

Registered at the  
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Public Warned: Clean Up  
Air or Live Like Moles

RESHAPING OF ENVIRONMENT BLAMED  
Threat to Oxygen Supply

Dear Girls and Boys,

Unfortunately it  
is not possible to acknowledge all  
of the letters and articles sent in  
about Pollution because the response  
was quite good. To those involved,  
thank you for your interest - I only  
wish it was possible to publish all  
of your letters. To help a little,  
I have decided to make two winning  
entries.

One of these came from Viewbank  
Primary School and consisted of a  
joint poem by Susan Drakeford and  
Heather Haines, as well as individual  
articles. The poem and Heather's  
article have been printed on the  
following pages. The other winning  
entry is a letter by Dean Griffiths  
from Glen Waverley. I hope you enjoy  
reading these excellent contributions.  
as much as I did.

Yours sincerely,  
H.J. Lawry.

GGGGGGGG

# POLLUTION

Pollution is a health hazard.

We're killing humans out;

Pollution's reaching the highest point  
Of Everest, the Mount!

\*\*\*\*\*

The water's getting dirty,

It really is a shame.

But most people think

It's just a funny game.

\*\*\*\*\*

The fishes all are dying.

If we don't hurry up,

There won't be any fresh water-

Not even half a cup.

\*\*\*\*\*

I think we've reached the point,

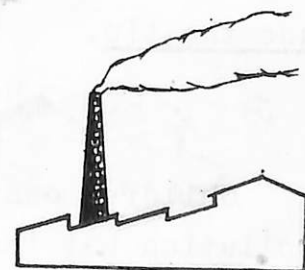
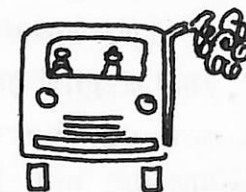
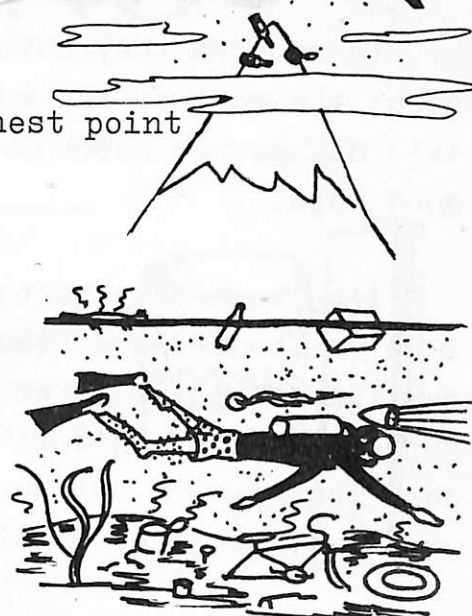
And I will end this poem.

But let's just hope that you will be

More careful from now on.

Heather Haines.

Susan Drakeford.



# \*\* \* WHAT WE \* SHOULD DO \*\*

In America they have "Earth Day", well what about the rest of the world? It wouldn't hurt. On this day people march around cleaning up. It's a good idea.

\*

I've seen many garbage bins with a motto on them like "Melbourne's a beautiful city - let's keep it that way!" I think it would be a lot better if the garbage bins weren't so yellow and stuck out like sore thumbs. I'm not suggesting colours like amethyst or lilac, but they shouldn't be so bright.

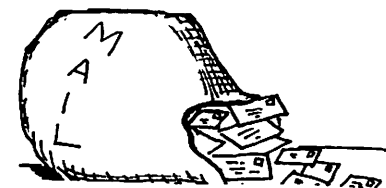
\*

Some people just dump stuff in a paddock instead of the tip. Take the paddock next door. What's in it? "Oh", you might say, "Mr. So-and-so just emptied his lawn mower there and Mrs. Whats-'er-name threw out her stale bread and Leanne threw out her tadpoles there too". Well the situation is worsening, so please - use the tip.

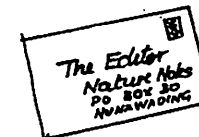
Heather Haines.

\*\*\*\*

Children can't do much about air or noise pollution but there are certain aspects of land pollution that children can help in. Heather has suggested a few. Can you think of others? ...Editor.



# MAIL BAG



In this letter, Dean Griffiths gives an example of a practical way children can help in lessening one aspect of environmental pollution - the litter problem.

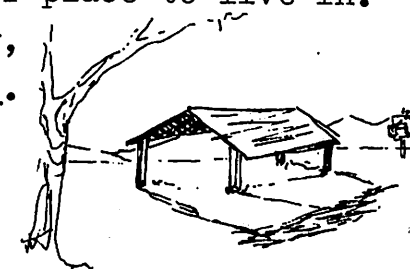
Dear Sir,

One day a friend and I were eating a packet of chips in a park on the corner of Orchard and Cherry Streets. When we finished our chips, to our disgust, there was not a litter bin to dispose of our rubbish and, as we did not want to pollute the area, we kept it till we arrived home. We decided to write a letter of complaint to the council. After several courteous letters from the council a bin was installed.



If more children took a pride in their community it would make the world a better place to live in.

Yours sincerely,  
Dean Griffiths.





# THIS 'n THAT

\* During spring the reptile world is awakening from its long winter sleep which we call "hibernation". It is at this time snakes are at their deadliest, for like us when woken from a sound sleep they are hungry and crotchety. It is also at this time that they are growing a new coat, and when their old one comes off it leaves them itchy, irritable and more likely to strike if molested. Normally snakes are not aggressive unless cornered or provoked.

GGGG

\* Australia has more than its share of venomous snakes, can you name four?

1. .... 2. .... 3. .... 4. ....

GGGG

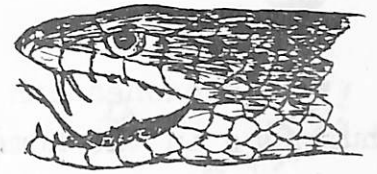


\* Old bushmen tell tales of a hoop snake which they swear used to put its tail in its mouth forming a hoop and thus bowl along to escape pursuers. This of course is just a bush tale and not a true story.

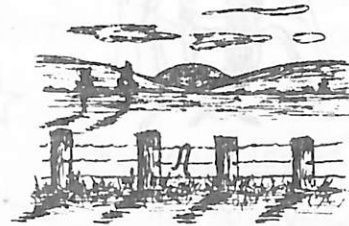
GGGG

\* The small tip on the Death Adder's tail is not venomous, but it wriggles it to attract its prey.

\* The fangs of a snake are in the top jaw. The forked tongue is completely harmless and is but a sensory organ.



GGGG



\* Many people believe that an injured snake will not die until sun-down. This is just another fallacy, for the time of dying depends entirely on the nature and severity of the injury.

GGGG

\* We have no venomous lizards in Australia and, contrary to some opinions, the bite of a blue-tongue or goanna does not periodically break out again, although I once knew a farmer up north who swore that his old sheep dog experienced regular eruptions of a goanna bite every few years.



GGGG



\* Henry Lawson's "Drover's Wife" thought she would entice the snake from under the house with a saucer of milk. Many people would agree, but actually water would have done just as well.





# Things to Look for at Home

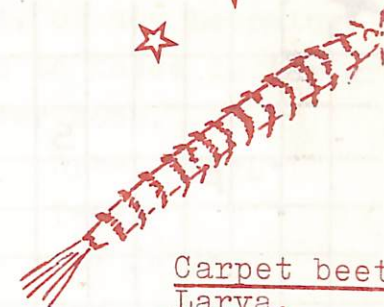
● Cockroaches can become a nuisance in the home. It is very difficult to keep them out. You may find cockroaches outside too, because they are beautifully adapted to fitting into cracks. If you collect one in a specimen jar, look at it from side on. Notice how carefully they clean themselves. Which one did you find had wings?



Cockroach



● If there is carpet in your home your parents are probably concerned that carpet beetles may attack it. They love dark corners and therefore you may not see them. The larva is a



Carpet beetle Larva.

small, slender, reddish brown creature with tufts of hair at the end of the abdomen. It is the larva which does the damage to the carpet. The adult beetle is a small, oval, dull black beetle with short clubbed antennae.



Carpet-beetle.



\*\*\*

● The cockroaches we find in homes are mainly, if not wholly, introduced species, the native ones preferring to live away from human beings. There are about four introduced



About 4 introduced species and 300 native ones!

species and about three hundred native species in Australia.

\*\*\*

● At certain times of the year the lights in a house attract many insects. Many of these will be moths or beetles. Watch out for interesting ones.



● Look at Mum's fruit bowl and see if you can place the fruit into one of the groups listed below. Fruits of plants may be similar to one another and these names are used to tell the various kinds.

Legumes  
(beans/peas)



Pomes  
(apples/pears)



Drupe  
(Cherries/plums)



Berries  
(Tomatoes)



Aggregate Fruits



Composite or Multiple Fruits



\*\*\*



★

★

★

★

WATER POLLUTION

					P			S
					O			
			S		L			
	P				L			
					U		I	
					T			
					I			S
					O			S
					N	S		

Do you remember in the August edition that Mr. Palmer suggested you might be able to make up a puzzle usin LAND or WATER pollutants?

Gr. 5 & 6 G. of Doncaster Park have supplied one on WATER POLLUTION. Thanks very much 5 & 6 G...(Ed.)

Choose the appropriate pollutant from this list.  
 CHEMICALS. PETROL. SPRAYS. SALT. OIL. RUBBISH. BOTTLES. TINS. DETERGENTS.

\*\*\*

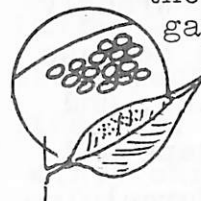
### COLLECTIVE TERMS

1. A.....of quails. 2. A .....of gulls. 3. A.....  
 .....of eagles. 4. A .....of swallows.

# PUZZLES

### INSECT LIFE CYCLE

1/ (Fill the gaps)



.....?

2/



3/.....?



4/.....?



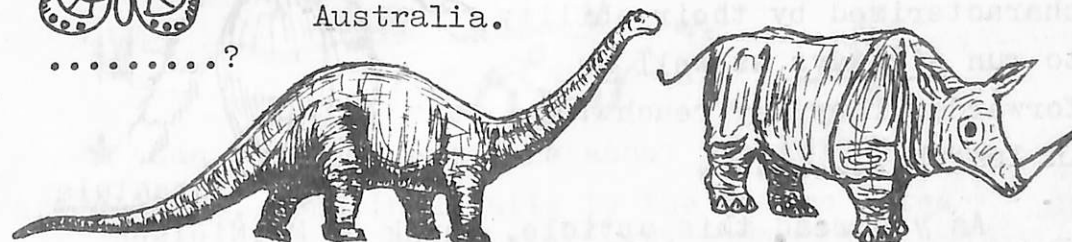
.....?

Many of the world's animals and birds have become extinct, or are becoming extinct. Add vowels to these letter groups and you will discover some.

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| DD (dodo)  | BL** - WH*L*    |
| D*N*S**R   | T*P*R           |
| K*W*       | S** -*TT*R      |
| P*ND*      | N*MB*T          |
| G*R*LL*    | T*SM*N**N T*G*R |
| CH**T*H    | B*S*N           |
| RH*N*C*R*S | W*LR*S.         |

### A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

1. Add to this list.
2. Suggest reasons why these creatures are becoming/have become extinct
3. On a world map mark in where these creatures are found or were once found.
4. Outline ways you would go about conserving the flora and fauna of Australia.

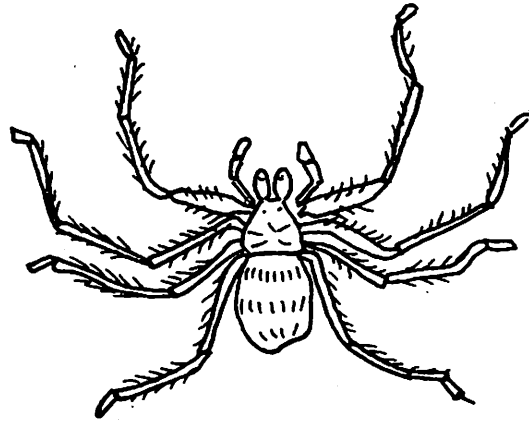


### ANSWERS TO COLLECTIVE TERMS

1. Bevy 2. Colony 3. Convocation 4. Flight

# \* THEY'RE ALIKE ..... \*\*

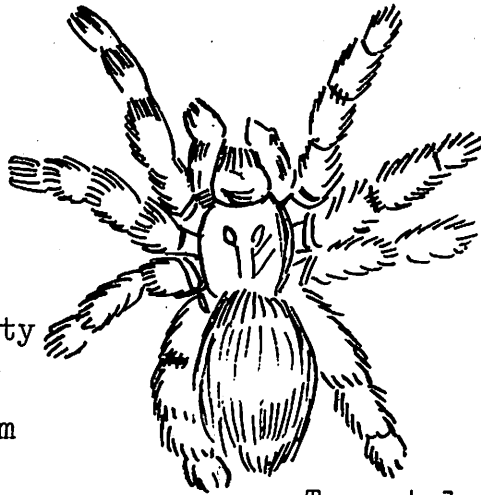
## \* .... OR ARE THEY?



Huntsman

18 cm. Their bite is very painful, but it is seldom fatal.

Huntsman spiders hunt for insects on the bark of trees and sometimes they enter houses. These well known creatures are characterised by their ability to run sideways as well as forwards. They may reach 10cm in length.\*\*\*\*\*



Tarantula

### Australian Huntsmen

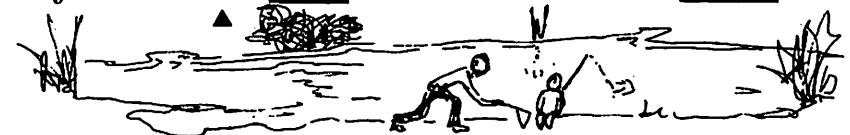
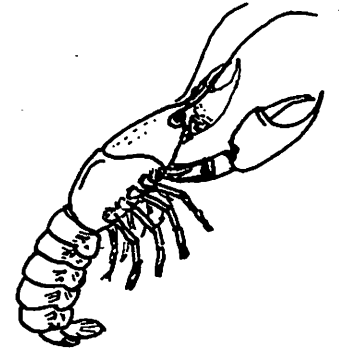
spiders are often wrongly called Tarantulas because of their large size, and similarities in shape and furriness. Some Tarantulas in South America live in trees, where they catch and eat small birds. These very large spiders may stretch their legs up to

As you read this article, think of Mr. Nielsen and his family holidaying somewhere over in the west! We all send our best wishes. (Ed.)

# YABBIES

Grade 2E at Blackburn Lake Primary School have issued a challenge to other readers to discover more about yabbies than they did. Here is a list of their findings.

- They carry their eggs under their tails.
- They find their food in mud.
- They burrow through mud.
- They live in places where there is water.
- You pick them up behind the nippers.
- They will nip you if you aren't careful.
- They swim in water.
- They move backwards using their tails.
- They have eight legs.
- They do not have claws on all their legs.
- They have two long feelers and two short ones.



★ Can you find out more about yabbies? If you are able to, send in details to the Nature Notes Office, P.O.Box 30 Nunawading.3131.  
IMPORTANT REMINDER: Take care when playing near water.

Good hunting!

# The Sense of Touch

PART  
1. OURSELVES.

● Unlike our other senses,  
Touch is not located in one  
part of the body only.

By touching objects we  
can discover a great deal  
about them:

Are they light?

Are they heavy?

Are they rough?

(You go on...)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽  
△△△△△△△△

● What a peculiar world it would  
be without music! Name some instruments  
we play by touch. Are there any that  
don't require use of the fingers?

▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽  
△△△△△△△△

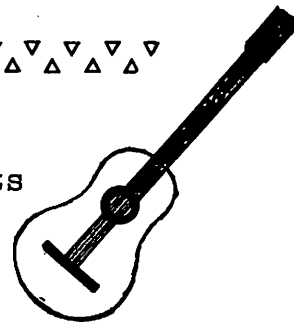
● A Touch Tester. Put some objects in a box,  
blind-fold a friend, and see how good your friend is  
at naming the objects.

Blind -Man's Bluff is another game that tests



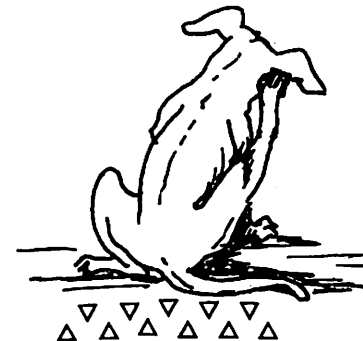
● Our sense of touch  
is also a safe-guard  
when  
approaching  
something hot or  
walking in the  
dark.

▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽  
△△△△△△△△



# The Sense of Touch

your sense of touch.



● We've all had an itch. What makes people itchy?  
What do they do about it?  
Do animals scratch themselves?



▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽  
△△△△△△△△

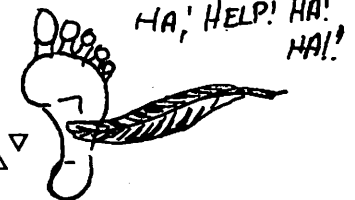
● Some Topics To Talk  
About.

Are you ticklish?

Where are your ticklish  
spots?

What makes you ticklish?

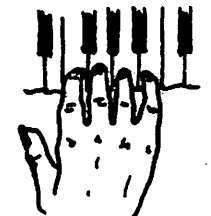
How do people act when  
they're tickled?



● Another interesting  
activity is to try some  
clay modelling with  
your hands out of sight  
inside a bag. Try it-  
the results are often  
quite surprising.

▽▽▽▽▽▽▽▽  
△△△△△△△△

● There are many occupations that  
require a fine sense of touch. Discuss  
these occupations:  
Surgeon. Pilot. Typist. Jeweller.







This thought-provoking drawing accompanied Susan and Heather's POLLUTION entry.  
(See Page 2)



\* Have YOU written to the Editor yet?  
Remember, you could win a PERIWINKLE BOOK PRIZE by doing so.

\* One of the PERIWINKLE series

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FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH UNLESS NOTIFIED OF CHANGE.



Next Issue November 1st.

