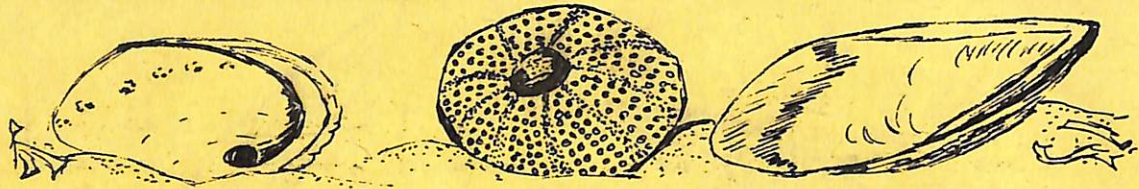


**probe**

Vol. 4. No. 5

July 1978.

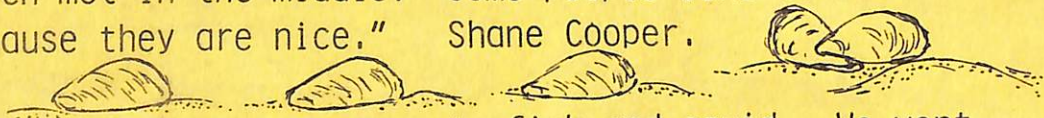
P.O. BOX 28, RINGWOOD EAST, 3135. 879-1263.



Grades 3 and 4 children from Manchester Primary School spent the first week of May at the Y.M.C.A. Camp Manyung Mount Eliza. The camp is about 1/4 km. from a quiet, secluded beach on Port Phillip Bay. The children did and found so many interesting things that they thought they would like to tell you about them.

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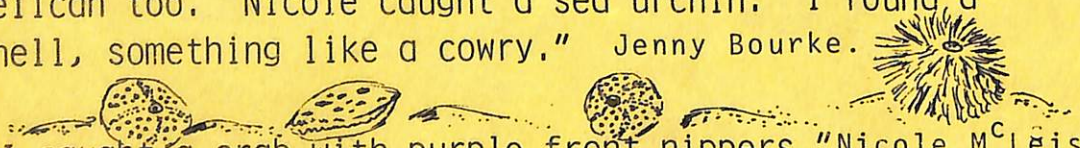
"One of the shells I saw was a mussel. It was two shells which met in the middle. Some people like to eat mussels because they are nice." Shane Cooper.



On the beach we saw some starfish and squid. We went bush walking and rock climbing. Kirk Jatczak.



"We saw some seagulls floating on the water and we saw a pelican too. Nicole caught a sea urchin. I found a shell, something like a cowry." Jenny Bourke.



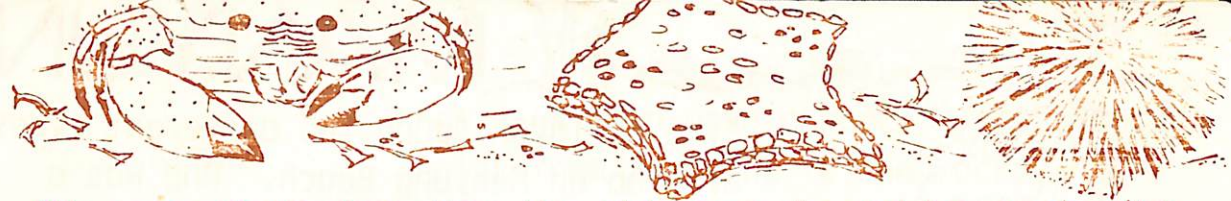
"I caught a crab with purple front nippers." Nicole McLeish.

"I saw lots of abalone shells. Inside them there were lots of pretty colors - pink, green, purple and orange."

Jenny Richardson.

Owing to lack of space, not everyone's letter could be printed, so Probe would like to thank H. Kameith, J. Dean,

N. Young, D. O'Rourke, E. Graham, K. Hodgson, G. Marshall, S. Dickson, K. de Marco, R. Bishop, M. Runowski, B. Dixon, P. Ivery, R. Squires, S. Beck, S. Tobias.



"We were shown what time the tide came in and how much time we had left before darkness." Matthew McKinnon.

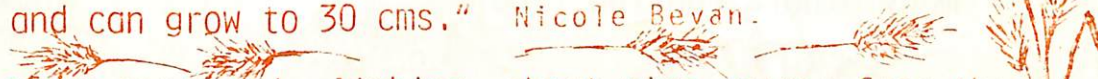
"If you are lost in the bush, and you don't know how long till dark, see how many fingers you can fit between the sun and the horizon. One finger stands for ten minutes. Then you can see how many fingers block the sun." Anthony Hughan.



"It was interesting when the tide was in and we had a small beach and when the tide was out it was wide." Bradley Underhill.

"We learned how to find direction in the bush. We had to go into the bush and walk back to where we started. On the way we saw little bits of moss. Moss grows on the south side. It looks like grass bunched up. When I put my hand on it, it felt furry. It was green and in many shapes." S. Marshall.

"We went for a walk in the bush and saw some pussy tails. 'Pussy tails' are stems with little furry tips. They are white and can grow to 30 cms." Nicole Bevan.



"Some of us went rock climbing, about nine metres from the ground; then we went down a big steep hill." Greg Friend.

"On the beach the rocks were big and tall, and small and shaped like a circle." Glenn Marshall.



Ed. - Thankyou for sharing your camp experiences with us.

It certainly appears that you enjoyed learning about Manyung Beach.

# MANYUNG BEACH



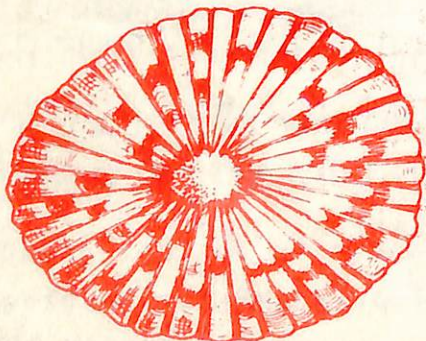
"The children found two different types of crab on Manyung Beach. One was a greenish color and the other was purple. They lived in different parts of the beach."



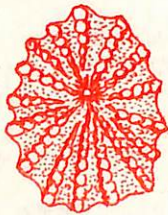
How many legs have crabs?  
What do crabs eat? How do they catch their food?  
How do they protect themselves from their enemies?

"One of the most interesting 'shell animals' was the limpet. It has a special foot like a suction cap that it uses to stick onto things. As hard as they tried, the children could not get the limpets off the rocks."

The limpet is a univalve because its shell is a single piece. The garden snail belongs to this group. How many others can you find?



Variegated limpet  
*Cellana transomerica* 50mm.



"We saw many starfish of different sizes among the rocks. We studied how they turned over and moved around."

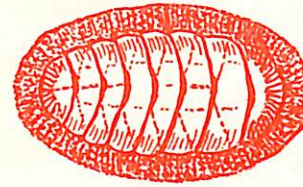
How many arms do starfish have?  
Where is its mouth?

Common Starfish.



Of the same family is the sea-urchin.  
What does this animal have for protection?

CHITON



8 SHELLS

FOOT



"Chitons also have a special foot which helps them to cling to the rocks. They are green and we found them at low tide."

The chiton belongs to another group of shell fish because it has a coat-of-mail made of eight shelly plates.

"We saw lots of empty abalone shells. They have a special feature - a row of holes which serve as outlets for water and also for their 'feelers' to protrude."

Why are they sometimes called ear-shells?

How do they get their food?

What are some of the uses of this shell?



abalone shell

Text by Rhonda Ritcher.

Drawings by S. Jowett, W. Prohasky.

Useful references: Australian Sea - Shells. John Child. Aust. Seashore Life

# clouds

The children of Manchester Primary School also learnt to tell the time and weather by natural means- the sun and the clouds.

## CLOUD CHART:

These high wispy clouds mean fine weather.

Cirrus clouds.

Stratus clouds.

Cumulus clouds.

Cumulo-nimbus clouds.

These clouds cover most of the sky and are dark. They mean bad weather.

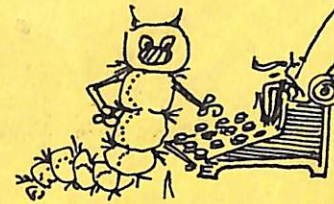
These white fluffy clouds mean fine weather for about 12 hours.

These are thunder clouds and mean rain or snow.

Be a weather forecaster and predict the weather each morning by looking at the clouds.

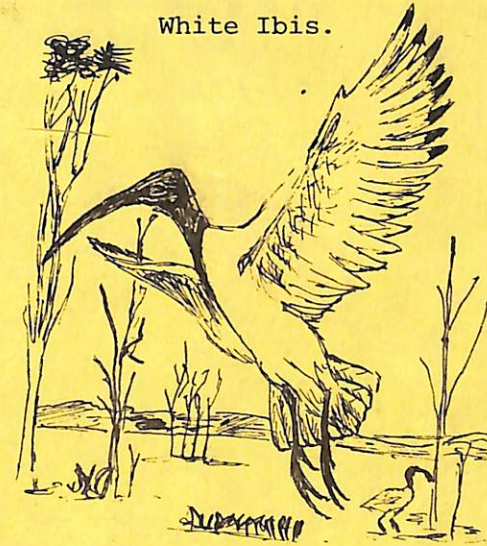
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY

## this Month's Letter ....



Dear Probe,

When I looked out of my class-room window I saw thirteen ibises on a gum tree just outside our oval fence. They were white with black necks and they had long black curved beaks. One was cleaning itself with its long bill and some of them were making noises a bit like crows. Tracey and Fraser, who are in my grade, said that they saw one on the oval and it had a pinkish red bit on its neck. Once I saw an ibis at Healesville Sanctuary poking its bill into a yabby's hole. I read in a bird book that



White Ibis.

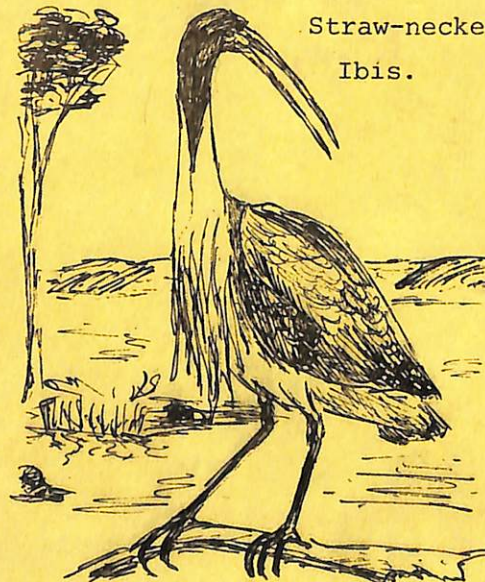
they eat grasshoppers and other insects.

Greg. Friend. gr3.  
Manchester P.S.

Greg, if the ibis were interested in your school's oval, then it must be very wet. Why do I say that

These birds are great friends of the farmer. Why?

The ancient Egyptians thought kindly of the white Ibis. Why?



Straw-necked Ibis.

# PUZZLES

DISCOVERY PUZZLE. Can you discover the living creatures in these pictures? The first one has been done for you.

*h. Sanderson, drawings by E. McCormack.*



Answer:  
flea.



h +  



+ d



+ ed



psst! Could you  
work out the  
tangled proverb  
in last month's  
Probe?

Try this one.

As slow as a -----.



Cover: The Blue Swimmer Crab: artist - W. Prohasky.