

WEARY WILL

By A.B. 'Banjo' Paterson



**The strongest creature for his size
But least equipped for combat
That dwells beneath Australian skies
Is Weary Will the Wombat.**

**He digs his homestead underground,
He's neither shrewd nor clever;
For kangaroos can leap and bound
But wombats dig forever.**

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**The boundary rider's netting fence
Excites his irritation;
It is to his untutored sense
His pet abomination.**

**And when to pass it he desires,
Upon his task he'll centre
And dig a hole beneath the wires
Through which the dingoes enter.**

**And when to block the hole they strain
With logs and stones and rubble,
Bill Wombat digs it out again
Without the slightest trouble.**

**The boundary rider bows to fate,
Admits he's made a blunder
And rigs a little swinging gate
To let Bill Wombat under.**

**So most contentedly he goes
Between his haunt and burrow:
He does the only thing he knows,
And does it very thorough.**

Read the poem on page 2.

- a) What is the poem about?
- b) What is the title?
- c) Who wrote the poem?
- d) Is the wombat equipped for combat?
- e) What does a wombat have that makes it good at digging?

Answer these questions about the poem

- a) Is it a rhyming poem?
- b) How many stanzas (verses) are there?
- c) Does each line begin with a capital?
- d) How many lines are there?

Do the following with a partner

- b) Read the poem to your partner
- b) Clap the beat of the poem.
- b) Explain how the poem makes you feel.



Listen for the words that rhyme as you read the poem

a) What part of the words tell you if they rhyme?

Circle your answer

Beginning

middle

end

b) Draw lines to match the words that rhyme in Weary Will.

combat

bound

clever

skies

underground

wombat

size

forever



c) Circle the rhyming parts of the words in part b).



A verb is a main part of speech that is often used to describe or indicate an action.

Write down five verbs from Weary Will.

1.

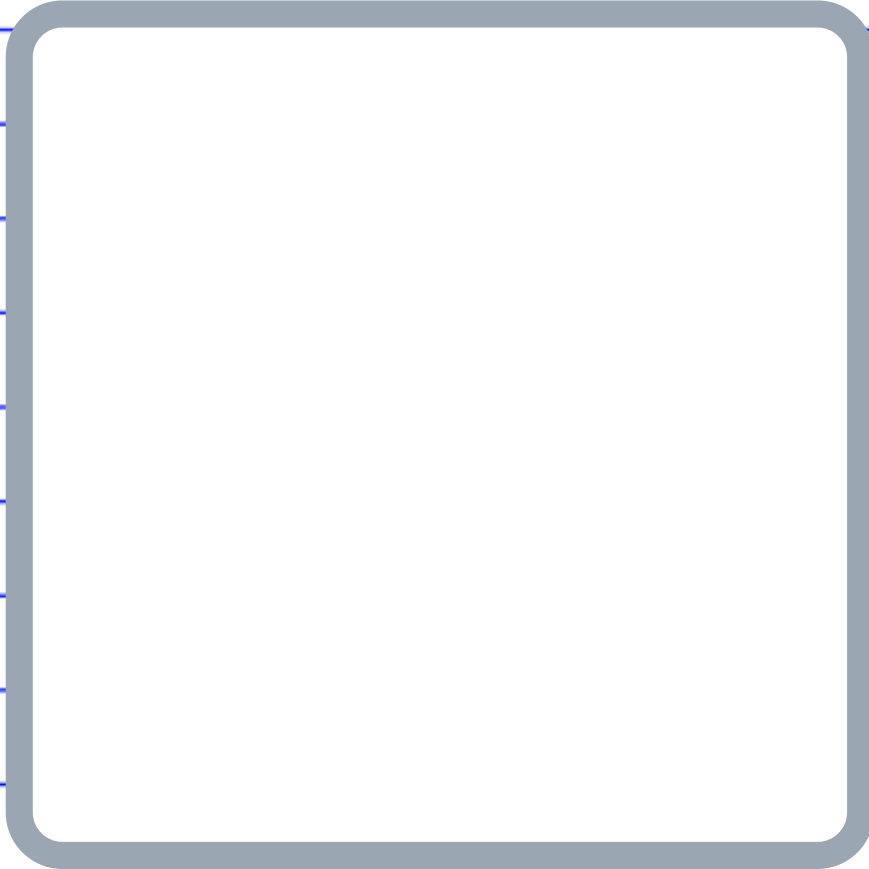
2.

3.

4.

5.

Draw a picture of a wombat. What can a wombat do? Write verbs around your picture.



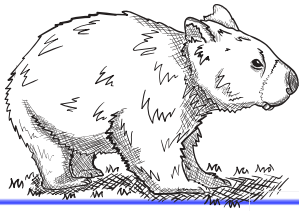
Tick the box with the correct meaning of the word.

a) dwell ☐ dig ☐ live ☐ sleep ☐ jump

b) combat ☐ playing ☐ flying ☐ digging ☐ fighting

c) weary ☐ sad ☐ happy ☐ tired ☐ noisy

d) shrewd ☐ fast ☐ lazy ☐ smart ☐ fat



Clap the rhythm for the following words to your partner and then write the rhythm pattern beside each one.

a) Weary Will

b) strongest creature

c) kangaroo

d) wombat

e) dig a hole

Which of the words above have the same rhythm pattern?

In the poem Weary Will some lines have similar rhythm patterns. Read and clap the words of the poem to see where they are similar. Which lines in each verse are similar?

Match the rhythm to the words. Draw a line to connect the words to the rhythm pattern.

a) neither shrewd nor clever



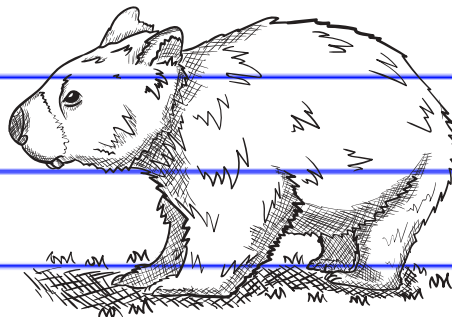
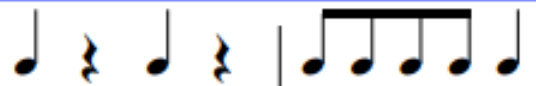
b) dig, dig, digga digga dig



c) that dwells beneath Australian skies



d) to let Bill Wombat under



An adjective is a describing word.

It describes the size, colour, number or feel of something.
For example: huge jaw, pink tongue, one tail, soft fur.

Draw a picture of Weary Will. Write some adjectives to describe him.



ears

eyes

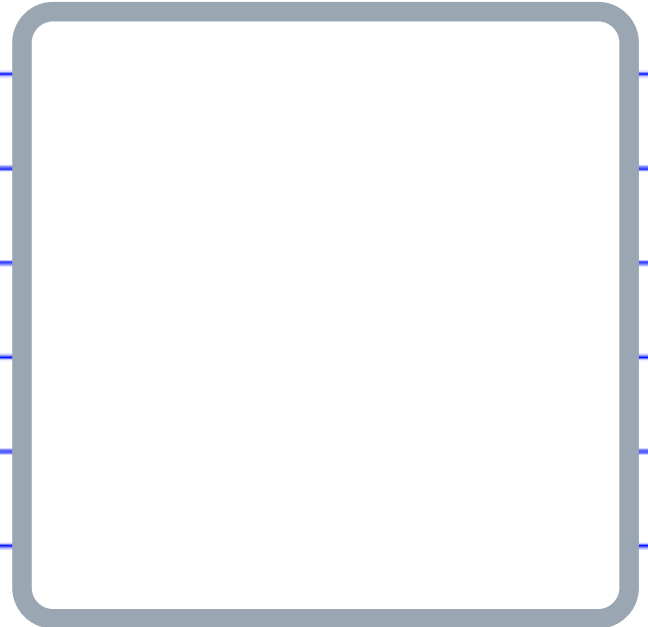
nose

legs

fur

body

claws



Draw a picture of yourself Write some adjectives to describe yourself.

mouth

eyes

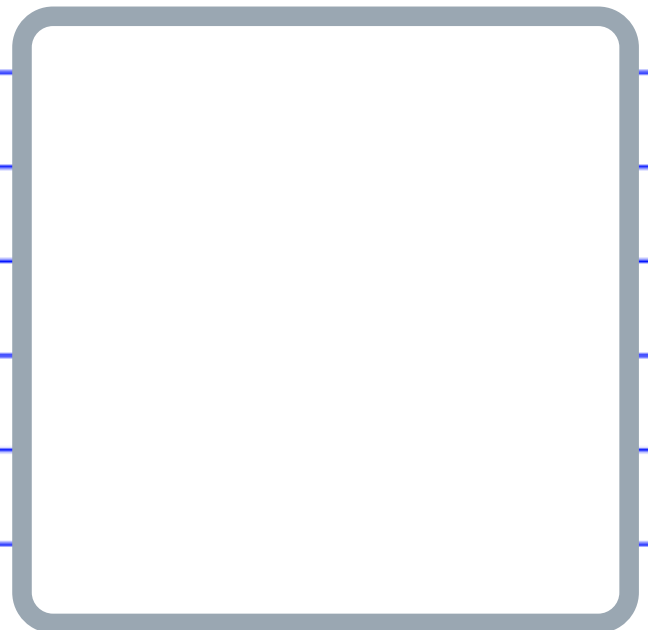
nose

ears

hair

body

legs



Weary Will

O	E	R	D	W	E	L	L	S	C
C	B	Q	I	I	C	E	F	H	K
H	C	O	U	D	G	A	O	S	A
S	C	X	U	I	E	P	R	H	N
S	Q	F	E	N	P	R	E	R	G
Q	G	E	C	G	D	P	V	E	A
B	A	N	J	O	S	P	E	W	R
U	T	C	L	E	V	E	R	D	O
G	E	E	U	S	V	C	K	B	O
E	W	E	A	R	Y	W	I	L	L

Word List

WEARYWILL	FOREVER	SHREWD	BOUND	LEAP
KANGAROO	DINGOES	DWELLS	RIDER	GATE
EQUIPPED	CLEVER	BANJO	FENCE	DIG



Colour Weary Will