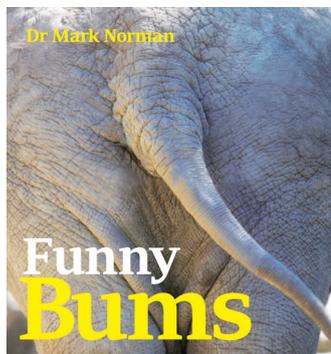


Walker Books Classroom Ideas



Funny Bums

Author: Dr. Mark Norman
 ISBN: 9781742032504
 ARRP: \$16.95
 NZRRP: \$18.99
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

Walker Books Australia Ph +61 2 9517 9577
 Locked Bag 22 Fax +61 2 9517 9997
 Newtown, N.S.W., 2042

These notes were created by Steve Spargo.
 For enquiries please contact:
 educationwba@walkerbooks.com.au

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Outline:

The rear ends of animals come in many shapes and sizes. None of them are boring. Find out why some animals have funny bums.

Author Information:

Dr Norman is Head of Sciences at Museum Victoria where he leads the large and active natural sciences research team. For his own research he studies octopuses, squids, cuttlefishes and nautilus (the cephalopods). He is also a trained teacher, an educational display designer and an experienced underwater cinematographer. His research and projects with documentary makers including BBC, National Geographic and Discovery Channel has covered giant squid, poisonous blue-ringed octopuses, huge aggregations of southern giant cuttlefish and diving surveys of remote Indo-Pacific coral reefs.

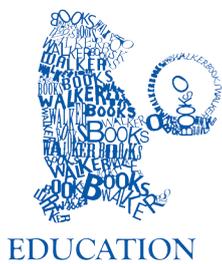


How to use these notes:

This story works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

<p>These notes are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary years F-2 • Ages 5-8 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • Science 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fiction picture book 	<p>Themes/ Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolution • Camouflage • Endangered species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survival • Life cycle • Environments
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National Curriculum Focus:*					
English content descriptions include:			Science content descriptions include:		
Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Foundation	*Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum. However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.	
ACELA1429	ACELA1446	ACELA1463	ACSSU002		
ACELA1430	ACELA1447	ACELA1466	ACSHE013		
ACLEA1433	ACELA1450	ACELT1593			
ACELA1786	ACELA1453	ACELY1667	Year 1		
ACELA1437	ACELY1661	ACELY1668	ACSSU017		
ACELT1575	ACELY1662	ACELY1671	ACSSU211		
ACELY1647	ACELY1664	ACELY1672	ACSSU024		
ACELY1648					
ACELY1650			Year 2		
			ACSSU030		



Walker Books Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions and Activities

English

View the cover and title. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author
- The publisher

From the front and back cover what information can you learn about the book? What do you think this book is about? What type of book is this and where would you expect to find it in your library?

Identify the following features of this book:

- Title page
- Page numbers
- Glossary
- Index

How do these features help to make this book easy to read?

What is the purpose of *Funny Bums*? Is it telling a story or giving information? How can you tell?

What animal do you find most interesting in *Funny Bums*? Write or tell the class what you like or find interesting about it.

How do you think this book would be different if there were no pictures? What about if there were no words?

A glossary is a collection of words from the book that lists their definitions. Turn to page 32 to view the glossary for *Funny Bums*. Are there any extra words in the book that aren't in the glossary that you don't know the meaning of? List these words then research their meaning or ask the class if anyone knows.

In what order is a glossary set out? How does this help when using it?

This book was written by Dr Mark Norman, a marine biologist. How do you think he found the information to write this book?

Compare this book to a storybook you have in your classroom. What is different about them? Imagine your teacher asked you to research an animal, how would a book like *Funny Bums* be useful?

List five ways you could find more information on any of the animals in *Funny Bums*.

Write and illustrate an imaginative story about one of the animals from the book using its ability that is described (for example, a story about a monkey using its prehensile tail or a sea cucumber being attacked). Re-read your own story to check for errors and then swap with another classmate and check each other's work. Type your finished story in a word processor and scan your illustrations.

Science

As a class, pick several animals from the book and discuss what their "funny bum" is used for (for example: a monkey's tail is used for movement, bombardier beetles use their tail to defend themselves, etc.). Make lists of each group.

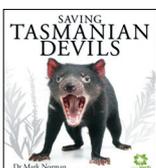
Certain animals have features that are designed especially for their habitat. Why do you think these animals have developed like this? Do you think these animals could survive if they are moved away from their natural habitat (for example: could a spider live in the sea? Could a seahorse live in a tree?). Why do you think that?

As a class, read out the list below and discuss what is the purpose of each animal's funny bum.

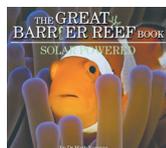
- A dog's tail
- A cat's tail
- A kangaroo's tail
- A ringtail possum's tail
- A goldfish's tail

Some of the animals in *Funny Bums* are very good at camouflaging themselves. Draw a design of how you would camouflage yourself in the bush or in your school playground. Be creative but only use items that you would normally find in the bush/around your school.

Other great books from Dr Mark Norman



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Teachers' notes available



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