

Bush Magic

Themes

Australian wildlife

Imagination

Family

Exploring the Story

As you read through the story, ask the children to pay close attention to the illustrations. Do they think that the rain clouds really appear in Jarrah's house? Does she really have a pet kangaroo? Is there a real leaf boat in her living room? Discuss with the children what the illustrator is trying to tell us with these illustrations. Is she showing actual events or is she showing what Jarrah and Grandpa are imagining is happening?



As a class, try to imagine a different ending to the story. What could have happened if Frilly didn't turn out to be so friendly? What if the animals being rescued wasn't the end of the story? What might happen next?

There is a note on the imprint page stating that 'Kylie created the texture in this book with her children during their backyard art sessions.' Look closely at the illustrations and try to identify the areas where different textures have been created. How do you think these textures might have been made? What items do you think might have been used? Can you see handprints? Paint brush strokes? Leaf outlines? Splotches and squiggled lines? Make a list of what everyone thinks has been used and how the textures might have been achieved.

There are lots of beautiful native Australian animals in the illustrations. Ask the children if they can identify them all. Have they seen these animals in real life? Was it in a wildlife park/zoo or out in the bush? Are there any animals they don't recognise? Use the library resources to help identify any of the animals they aren't familiar with.

Activities

Bush Magic Crown

Colour/paint and cut the leaves, feathers, reeds and flowers from the template provided. Use a strip of card to make a crown loop, measure it around your head before you fasten the ends together to make sure it fits your head comfortably. Arrange and glue the leaves feathers, reeds and flowers onto the crown loop and once the glue is dry you can proudly wear your very own bush magic crown.

Exploring Textured Painting

Gather the items from the list you made while discussing the textures of the illustrations. You will also need some paint and some paper. As a group explore the textures that each item makes and experiment with creating different effects, colours, and patterns on your pages. Once the pages are dry, you might like to cut out more leaf or flower shapes for your bush magic crowns or you can use the sheets you made in the below activity.

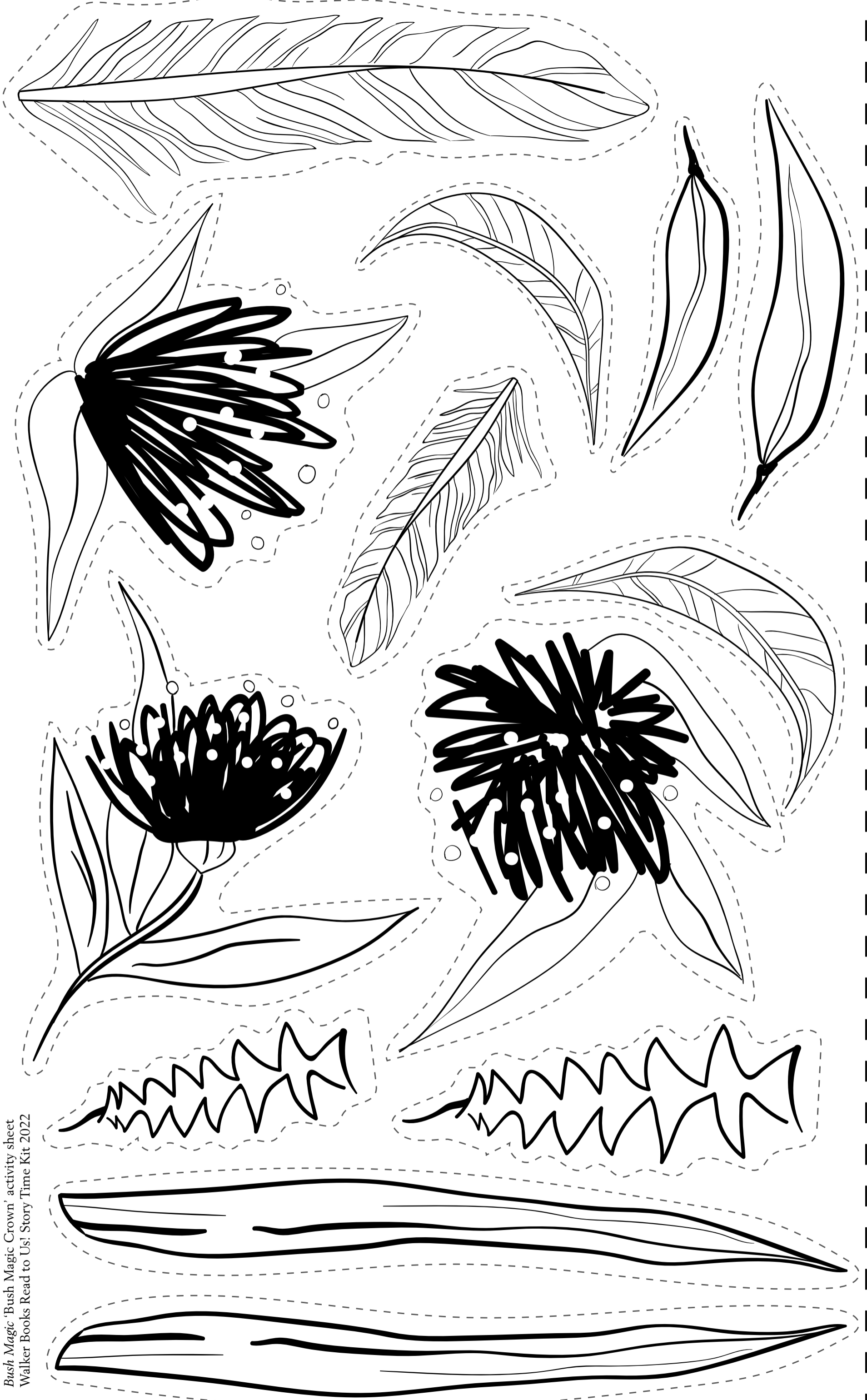
Imagine Away Your Rainy Day

Imagine you are stuck inside on a rainy day like Jarrah and her Grandpa. Now imagine you had the power to make anything happen, just by thinking about it. What adventure would you go on? Who would you go with and what would you do? Draw, paint and collage a picture to show your imaginative adventure. Look closely at Kylie Howarth's illustrations for inspiration on how to combine textures into your work. You can also use some of the textured painting results from the previous activity.

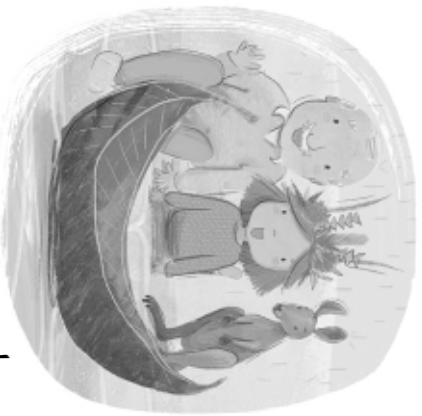
Bush Animal Maze

Help Queen Jarrah and Grandpa rescue the bush animals!





Bush Animal Maze



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