

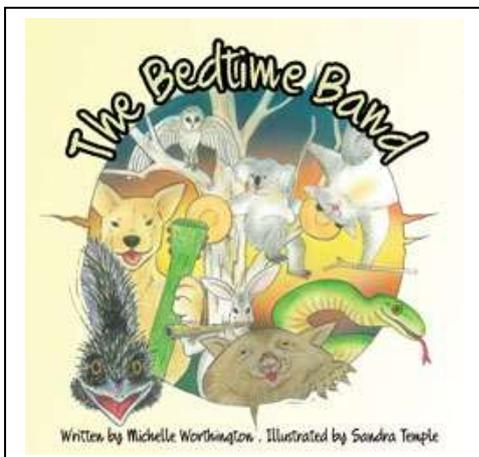


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## The Bedtime Band

By Michelle Worthington

Illustrated by Sandra Temple

ISBN: 978-1-921633-57-7

Recommended Retail: \$19.95

Recommended Age: preschool age children

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## **Introduction**

Australia is home to some of the most unique animals in the world.

Our isolation from other continents has helped create mammals that lay eggs, carry their young in the pouch and don't walk, but jump across the countryside. If you like Australian animals, The Bedtime Band won't disappoint you. Join bilbies, dingoes, kangaroos, koalas and many other Australian animals in playing instruments and having some fun while the kids are asleep in their beds.

## **Story Summary**

When the sun goes down, and you are lying in bed, who is making all that noise outside your window? Who's banging on the tin roof? What is making that sound? It's the animals from the Aussie bush. The gang's all here, so get ready to party with the Bedtime Band till the morning light.

## **Key Learning Areas**

English

Music

Australian animals

## **Values Addressed/Themes**

Unique Australian animals

Playing in a band

Endangered species

Nocturnal animals

### About the Author



Michelle Worthington is a book author, who is also available for school readings, book signings and workshops on writing for children.

Michelle was born in Brisbane, Queensland and currently works and lives in the Redlands. She enjoys travelling and has spent time studying in France where she lived for a year. Winner of the 1988 Little Swaggie Award and other Australian poetry competitions, she has been published in numerous Australian and international poetry anthologies. Since a very early age, Michelle has shown a love of words and rhyme, and has always excelled at English and Creative Writing. Graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from University of Queensland in 1996, Michelle is currently undergoing studies to further her career as a published author and book publisher.

Apart from The Bedtime Band, Michelle has another two children's books under consideration for publication, as well as a series of Young Adult novels. Michelle has two sons, Jordan and Cody, who she has read to every day since they were born, as she believes in the importance of fostering a love of books in children. Her books encourage children to use their imagination and dare to dream big. Michelle has two boys who love to read. She has read them a story to get them to sleep every night of their lives. They are her inspiration and motivation to become a successful author.

Michelle is available for workshops on writing for children from Prep to Grade 12, ranging from "how to write a children's book" to "the power of words". These workshops are conducted for a nominal fee, and can be catered to a school's particular curriculum. Michelle also works with local artists who are available to conduct illustration workshops in conjunction with or independently of the writing workshops.

More information can be found on Michelle's website [www.michelleworthington.com](http://www.michelleworthington.com) or follow her on Facebook at Michelle Worthington – Author.

### About the Illustrator



Sandra Temple has been a professional artist, illustrator and author for more than thirty years. She has travelled extensively with her art, gaining insights into her special interest, the world's endangered species, although she paints all subjects in all mediums.

The winner of many prestigious awards both in Australia and overseas, including UK Wildscape magazine Winner Wildlife Artist of the Year 2009 (professional), Runner-up Wildlife Artist of the Year 2008 (professional), a gold medal at the Wildlife Art Society UK exhibition in Bristol and People's Choice Awards in 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2000. Sandra has paintings in private, corporate and government

collections nationally and internationally. She holds classes in all mediums and is in demand as a workshop tutor in Australia and overseas.

More information can be found on Sandra's website [www.sandratemple.com](http://www.sandratemple.com). For more information on purchasing artworks, body painting, murals and commissions contact Sandra via email: [sandratemple@hotmail.com](mailto:sandratemple@hotmail.com)

# Activity Sheets

## **Activity 1**

The Bedtime Band uses pictures and words to tell the story. It can sometimes be very hard to write a children's book, because they have to be simple and easy to read, but at the same time, fun and interesting.

Can you write a story in under 100 words and use pictures to help tell the story?

### Activity 2

Words are powerful. They can be descriptive, musical and animated. Write a list of twenty words and make them look like they sound. For example, write the word 'haunted' in ghost writing or 'furious' in an angry face. Choose words that form a picture in your mind.

### Activity 3

Unscramble these words from the story

lokaa	— — — — —
trauig	— — — — —
ssopmu	— — — — —
tuefl	— — — — —
mue	— — —
dsurm	— — — — —
btaowm	— — — — —
aotkock	— — —
odliercco	— — — — —
bbiyl	— — — — —
oorkngaar	— — — — —
pmgaie	— — — — —

**Activity 4**

The Bilby is a unique Australian marsupial. It sleeps all day in a burrow and hunts for its food at night. Like other burrowing marsupials, it has a pouch that opens at the back, to stop the dirt from getting in while it is digging. They live in dry parts of Australia.

The Bilby is an endangered species and was once hunted for its long, soft, silky, blue-grey fur.

Draw a picture of a Bilby:

What can we do to keep the Bilby from becoming extinct?

Activity 5

Word Search

B	E	D	T	I	M	E	K	F	C
F	A	D	F	G	H	A	O	H	O
L	A	N	D	D	N	K	A	N	C
U	B	U	D	G	I	E	L	G	K
T	M	D	A	A	Q	J	A	D	A
E	Z	R	G	U	I	T	A	R	T
T	O	W	O	M	B	A	T	U	O
O	D	I	N	G	O	G	E	M	O
C	R	O	C	O	D	I	L	E	L

BEDTIME

BAND

KOALA

KANGAROO

GUITAR

DRUM

FLUTE

EMU

BUDGIE

WOMBAT

COCKATOO

CROCODILE

DINGO

## Activity 6

### The Bush Band – Make Your Own Instruments

#### Tambourine

- Two paper plates
- Stapler
- Hole punch
- String
- Jingle bells
- Crayons

Staple two paper plates together, facing each other. Use the hole punch to make holes around the plates and tie jingle bells to the holes with string. Decorate the tambourine with crayons. Shake to play.

**Note:** Heavy duty paper plates may be more durable for this craft.

**Safety note:** Adults should only use the stapler. When finished be sure to cover the staples with scotch tape.

#### DRUM

- Empty large cereal box
- Wool
- Construction paper
- Crayons

Decorate the box with construction paper and/or crayons for a colourful effect.

Make a hole at each end of the box. Pull a piece of wool through the holes long enough to hang around child's neck so the box is down to their waist. Beat to play.

#### CHIMES

- Ruler or stick
- Plumbing washers
- String
- Mixing spoon

Hang the washers from the ruler or stick with pieces of string by wrapping the string around the ruler or stick and securing. Strike the washers with the mixing spoon to play.

#### HORN

- Paper towel roll
- Baking paper
- Rubber
- Band
- Pen

Cover one end of the paper towel roll with baking paper and secure it with a rubber band. Punch a row of holes along one side of the roll with the tip of a pen.

To play, sing a tune into the open end of the horn.

### **CYMBALS**

- Two pot covers

To play, strike together.

### **XYLOPHONE**

- Tall glasses or jars
- Water
- Mixing spoon

Fill the glasses or jars with different amounts of water. The more water in the glass, the lower the pitch will be. Having less water in the glass or jar will raise the pitch.

To play, strike the glasses gently with a mixing spoon.

**Note:** This instrument should probably be played by older children in the band because of the use of glass.

### **COMB BUZZER**

- Pocket comb
- Tissue paper

Fold a piece of tissue paper over the tooth edge of a comb. To play, hum through the tissue paper.

### **GUITAR**

- Empty shoe box
- Rubber bands
- Ruler or stick

Stretch the rubber bands around the box. Attach the ruler or stick to the back of the box on one end to act as the arm of the guitar.

To play, strum or pluck the rubber bands.

## **Activity 7**

### **Make a poster about your favourite Australian Animal**

Where do they live?

What do they eat?

Who are their main predators?

Are they endangered and when did they become so?

What makes them unique?

Why are they your favourite?