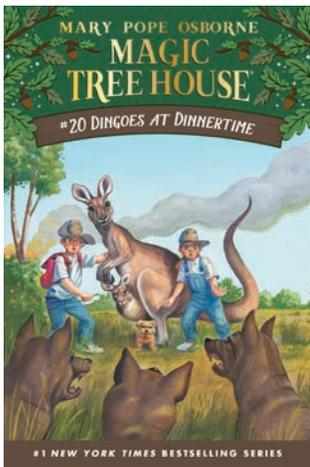


EDUCATORS' GUIDE

MAGIC TREE HOUSE®

Dingoes at Dinnertime



ABOUT *Dingoes at Dinnertime*

Wildfire! That's what Jack and Annie are up against when they are whisked away to the land of Australia. And they're not alone! Jack and Annie must help a baby kangaroo and a koala escape from a fire-filled forest. Will they be able to rescue the animals in time?

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Grades: 1-4
F&P: M • Lexile: 400L

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

ACTIVITIES FOR *Dingoes at Dinnertime*

Endangered Species

In their travels, Jack and Annie learn that many animals in our worlds are threatened by extinction. Drawing on information from these stories and other sources, have students identify animals categorized as endangered species. Discuss with them factors that have contributed to the declining numbers of these animals, such as poachers, hunters, and disturbance of ecosystems. List ways in which these animals may be protected. Assign different student groups to further research interesting facts about one particular endangered species. Using library and Internet resources, students may include photos and drawings in reports for class presentation and display.

Cultural Encounters

In addition to learning a great deal about different animals, Jack and Annie also become acquainted with diverse peoples who inhabit our world, such as the African Masai, the Australian Aborigines in *Dingoes at Dinnertime*, the native Arctic people, the Hindus of India. Add to these the Yanomamo people of the Amazon Rain Forest, and you are ready to divide the class into five cultural teams. Using the library and Internet resources, each group should describe, as much as possible, beliefs, foods, customs, art, and myths particular to each group in illustrated reports for class presentation and display. Students may then role play "cultural encounters" between members of these different groups, expressing curiosity and interest in each other.

CURRICULUM: *Social Studies • Drama*

Teaching ideas by Rosemary B. Stimola, Ph.D., former professor of children's literature at City University of New York.