

GIGGLEIT PROJECT



Culturalised Story

A culturalised story is one where the author takes a well known story and changes it to reflect their country/culture. In the example below, the story of Little Red Riding Hood has been adapted to suit Australian readers.

Country: Australia

Title: Little Blue Riding Bruce.

Once upon a time there was a little boy, called Bruce who loved eating **lamingtons**. He had inherited this love from his granddad. Bruce lived way out in the **bush**, past Burke somewhere, where it was hot, dry and dusty with lots of flies. One good thing about this (for Bruce anyway) was the fact that there was not much water around, so he didn't have to wash his face and hands much or change his socks or brush his teeth very often.

Now Bruce lived on a huge cattle station and didn't go to school. He plugged in his earphones everyday and listened on the radio to his teacher who lived far, far away. He wrote out all his lessons by hand, drew beautiful pictures of cows and of cattle dogs, (his favourite pet was called "**Blue**" even though she was red), and generally pretended to be interested in school work. However, he was really dreaming of his next weekend visit to Granddad so that they could **guzzle** lamingtons together and ride horses and chase cattle with Blue, the red cattle dog.

Finally Saturday came around and his mother gave him strict instructions as she packed his saddle bags with 5 dozen lamingtons and his backpack with 5 dozen more.

"Remember to wash your hands before you eat, change your socks at least once and brush your teeth before you go to bed. The same goes for you too, Blue. And do not, under any circumstances, stop for strangers. Kiss Granddad for me and tell him to do the same."

She firmly jammed his new and sparkling tooth brush and a tube of Colgate toothpaste in his pocket.

Off Bruce went, across the bricky-brackety bush, through slishety-sloshety creeks, and up and down the drubbidy-drabbody hills. But the most frightening part of the journey was riding through the Giant **Wombat** Tunnel, an ancient **labyrinth** of dark and stinky wombat holes that thousands of years ago housed giant wombats.

Little did Bruce realise that a giant wombat still lived in the tunnels, the last of his race. It was a fat and smelly wombat called Rodney, who had a bad dandruff problem and very, very bad breath. Rodney the fat and very smelly wombat had been watching Bruce for ages and knew that he could have Bruce and his lamingtons. Yes, Rodney loved lamingtons too. He kept low, hiding behind a **Brolga**, waiting...

Suddenly, Bruce caught a whiff of something foul and kicked Snow his horse, (yes, you guessed it, Snow was black) into a gallop. Alas, the crafty wombat had him trapped, caught in a giant spider web. Rodney was **salivating** and puffing, slobbering over his feast as he wrapped Bruce, Snow, and Blue up in **fluoro** Spider fibre.

They watched with horror as Rodney smacked on the lamingtons, moaning and schlumping his way through 10 dozen lamingtons. Suddenly Rodney squealed in pain. His two giant front choppers fell out and Bruce knew just what he could do to escape this terrible predicament.

End of part one, next instalment July edition...

Word count: 509 (including title)

Author: Patricia Carmichael, Teacher Librarian, Concordia Lutheran College, Toowoomba QLD AUSTRALIA

Explanatory Note

Australian slang often uses words which have opposite meanings to describe things. So someone with red hair is often called Blue. In this case Bruce's Red Heeler cattle dog is called Blue.

Glossary of terms	
Brolga	an Australian bird, known for its long legs and dancing
bush	slang: rural and/or remote areas in Australia
fluoro	slang: fluorescent
guzzle	to eat or drink greedily
labyrinth	a maze where it is easy to get lost
lamington	Australian cake, squares of vanilla sponge cake covered in chocolate and coconut.
salivating	dribbling, producing saliva when you are hungry
wombat	an Australian marsupial