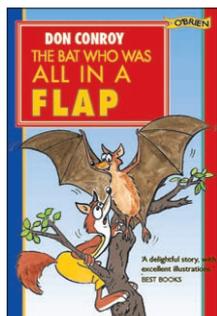


THE BAT WHO WAS ALL IN A FLAP

Written and illustrated by Don Conroy

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Having completed his morning exercises, Harry the Hedgehog sets off for the orchard in search of some food. There he meets some of his woodland friends, and together they gather apples and pears, nuts and blackberries. Later, Old Lepus the owl bakes delicious apple and pear tarts and, after supper, the friends head for home. But on the way they discover that the forest floor is littered with banana skins, and that night Harry thinks he sees his friend Renny the fox out

flying in the moonlight! Something strange is going on, but Old Lepus solves the mystery and explains that Harry has actually seen a flying fox or fruit bat. When the friends meet Lenny, the Australian fruit bat, he tells them wonderful stories about his native home and they discover that everyone has their own unique talent and ability.

LANGUAGE – ENGLISH

- ◆ Vocabulary extension: Hallucinating, observant, wafted, peculiar, recollection.
- ◆ Oral/creative: Magic and the wishing-well, discussion about most popular wishes.
- ◆ Discussion: The power of flight, if humans could fly without machines ...
- ◆ Language of animal/bird movement: Owls swoop, squirrels scamper, hares leap.

SESE – SCIENCE

- ◆ Plants and animals: Processes of life. Seasonal changes which occur in living things during the different seasons. Migration of swallows to Africa in autumn, squirrels collecting nuts and foods for hibernation, fruits which ripen in autumn. Seed dispersal, how Lenny and his friends help to spread forests.
- ◆ Variety and characteristics of living things: Identification of birds and bats in local habitats and environments. Awareness of plants and animals from wider environments: Australian wildlife. Recognition of the parts of some living things: Root, leaf, stem of plants, trunk and branches of trees, that trees are plants.

SPHE

- ◆ Myself: Taking care of my body. The need for regular sleep and rest, a balanced diet, regular exercise, quiet time, relaxation and correct posture. Discussing and exploring the effects of poor personal hygiene.
- ◆ Myself: Food and nutrition. The food pyramid, the need for a balanced diet, foods which are

derived from plant and animal sources.

- ◆ Myself and others: Qualities and skills associated with friendship, being sensitive to the feelings of one's friends, welcoming a newcomer, working together and helping each other.
- ◆ Developing citizenship: Awareness and appreciation of the diversity of cultures and of how differences can enrich our experiences; accepting differences in others, tolerance.

MATHEMATICS

- ◆ Time: Sequence events associated with different months of the year, characteristics of seasons.

- ◆ Data: Sorting and classifying animals by criteria (hibernation, migration).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- ◆ Warm-up: Time to get up, yawning, stretching wide, moving slowly, limbering up with Hedgehog Exercises (pp.5–7).
- ◆ Movement: Hopping, bouncing and skipping around the forest; taking off from one foot, landing on two feet. Working in groups: Mime collecting fruits and nuts, arranging in piles, collecting twigs and leaves to build a fire for cooking fruit pies.
- ◆ Cool-down: Eating the fruit pies, relaxing with friends, listening to stories.

VISUAL ARTS

- ◆ Leaf print: Cover bottom of leaf thinly with paint, place on white sheet, painted side down.
- ◆ Flying bat: Using template, cut two bat wings and attach to simple body, cover in black bin-liner and hang from ceiling.