

kid zone

STORY:
page 4

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May is SCHOLASTIC
NATIONAL FAMILY READING MONTH

SCHOLASTIC



MAKE
YOUR
OWN...

EATS



PUZZLES * QUIZZES * STORIES * RECIPES * PRIZES

k THIS Week...

May is Scholastic National Family Reading Month and in this week's feature we chat to teacher and author Mr Luke all about it.

Sam's got his own awesome reading challenge to share and Oliver shows you how to make a super-cute hedgehog out of a paperback book. Cheffy's making book-worm brownies and BitBoy's got some news about 'Animal Crossing: New Horizons'. All this plus an awesome story and so much more. Happy reading!



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Hey guys and grrrls,

Beanstack Tracker -

Free from the App Store and Google Play

Beanstack helps families bring the fun back to reading with reading challenges, easy tracking and interesting data.

You can create profiles for everyone in your family. Beanstack helps you grow your reading habits together, while also logging and tracking progress individually.

- Join motivating reading challenges created by librarians, educators and reading specialists.
- Track reading progress and create an all-time reading log.
- Use a barcode scanner to quickly and easily find titles.
- Record reading sessions with a reading timer or log an entire book with a click.
- Achieve streaks for reading multiple days in a row and badges for reaching reading goals.



Bookopolis - Free from the App

Store or log in at bookopolis.com

Bookopolis is the go-to place for kids under 13 to find books they're excited to read. Users can create virtual bookshelves of books they've read or want to read, share book reviews and recommendations with friends or find new books with the BookQuest discovery tool. Create a digital reading log and earn points and badges for reading achievements.






Barbecues on the Beach

By Faye Michelson

You can
read this story
in John chapter 21,
verses 1-14. See Sam's
10-minute Bible
reading challenge
on page 14.



“Ugh!” Traveller wiped the water out of her eyes. “Dad!”

“Sorry Trav!” Dad laughed. “But I can’t do much about the waves! Here comes another one!”

The sea was choppy and every now and then a wave splashed over the boat. Traveller’s mum loved fishing and Traveller’s dad loved driving his boat, so the family was spending the day together on the water. She loved sitting at the front of the boat, the salty wind blowing in her hair. After a while, Dad stopped the boat and Mum cast her line into the water. Traveller had packed a few things into her backpack to do while Mum fished. She took out her Bible. Sam had given the *Kidzone* gang a Bible reading challenge this week and she was keen to start.

Mum sat down next to Traveller. “What are you doing?”

“My friend Sam’s 10-minute Bible reading challenge,” Traveller replied.

“I’d love to do that with you,” Mum said. “But I’d like to do it when I’m not thinking about something else, like fishing. Could we read it together tonight before bedtime?”

Traveller nodded enthusiastically. She loved sitting on the couch reading with Mum and Dad.

“That would be cool!”

Dad handed everyone an apple.

“I’ve got an idea of what we could read now. There are some fishing and boat stories in the Bible – let’s read one of those.”

Traveller handed her Bible to Dad. He

flicked through it. “I like this one,” he said. “This happened after Easter Sunday, when Jesus had come back to life. Will I read it out loud?”

Mum and Traveller nodded.

“It comes from the book of John,” Dad said. “John is with some of the disciples at the Lake of Galilee and one of them, Peter, says he’s going fishing.”

Mum smiled. “They were fishermen, remember, before they became Jesus’ friends.”

Dad started reading. “The others said, ‘We’ll go with you.’ They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn’t realise it was Jesus.

“Jesus called to them, ‘Have you caught anything to eat?’

“They answered him, ‘No.’

“He said, ‘Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.’

“So, they did, and there were so many fish that they couldn’t haul in the net. Then John said to Peter, ‘It’s the Lord!’ When Peter heard it was the Lord, he jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they weren’t far from shore.

“When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you’ve just caught.’ Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore. It was full of large fish, 153 of them. Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast!’

Traveller smiled. “They had a barbecue breakfast together on the beach! Awesome!”

“Do you know what else is awesome?” Dad asked, starting the boat engine. “We’re going to find a beach and have a barbecue, too!”

“But we won’t be having fish!” laughed Mum, winding in her empty fishing line. “Just as well we brought some snags!”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY

SAT 03

Lilah Upson (14),
Tobias Tonkin (13),
Lillian Warren (7)

MON 05

Tyson Singleton (2)

TUE 06

Bodhi Howley (10)

WED 07

Isaac Ko (7),
Immy Hughes (10),
Isaiah Terracini (9),
Ren Wright (7)

THU 08

Isaac Hall (13)

FRI 09

Charlotte Mason,
Kodi Medaglia (10)

Please put my name on the
BIRTHDAY LIST

Full Name Birth Date
Age Now Parent's signature
☒ If you are aged between five and 14 and would like your birthday/letter printed in Kidzone, fill in the coupon and send it to: Cousin Koala™, 95-99 Railway Rd, Blackburn 3130 or head to <https://www.kidzonemag.com.au/cktreehouse>.
Include a letter in your own handwriting and permission (signature) from your parent to have it printed.



CK'S TREEHOUSE

Dear Kidzoners, Thanks for all your letters, photos and drawings – I love collecting them, so keep sending them to me so I can hang them up in my tree house. I can't wait to hear from you!

–Cousin Koala (CK)

Send your letters to:

Cousin Koala, 95-99 Railway Rd,
Blackburn Vic. 3130

Message: kidzonemag.com.au/cktreehouse

Hi CK!

I love your work and I admire your comics. I love the colour blue and my favourite show is Hello Kitty. I just turned 10! My birthday is 9 April. Can you put it on the birthday list? I love axolotls and puppies. Can you please make an axolotl mag? Ty for inspiring me to make comics! I hope you like the comic I please show Izzy!

From Lucinda

Lucinda!

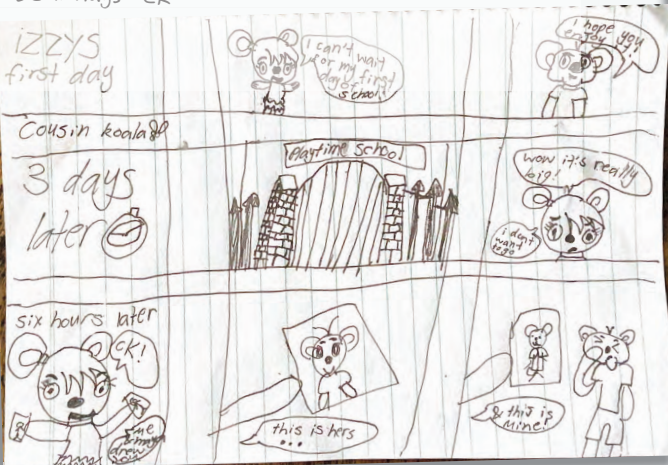
I LOVE YOUR COMIC!!!!!! It will look awesome hanging in my tree house. Izzy was super pumped, too! It looks like she eventually realised that school can be pretty fun. You are super talented. Do you draw a lot of comics? What about a comic about axolotls? Did you spot our 'Hello Kitty Island Adventure' edition in March? It was a fun one to work on. I am sorry to have missed your birthday but it is on the list now! I hope you had a fun birthday and are enjoying being double digits! Bear hugs - CK

IZZYS
first day

Cousin koala

3 days
later

six hours later



USE

I love to play hide-and-seek. Can you find me on one of this week's Kidzone pages?



Hi CK,
It's Eva (Ava) Again

I just came back from New Zealand! It was amazing! I did gold panning and found gold and pounamu (jade)! I climbed the Wanaka tree and drank the purest water ever, glacier water! I went to puzzling world in Wanaka and saw kiwis in Queenstown and went on a gondola and chair lift up Mt Bob and went down on go-karts and the gondola! But all that time I was worried about our dog Basil forgetting us but when we came home on the 21st (Friday) he hadn't! and last night I fell asleep with my cat Maurits on the bed listening to an audio book on the CD player!

Yours ever so happily,

Eva
 ED

Hi CK! I started reading your mags recently and I think they are amazing! 😊 Also, have you heard of Sanrio? My fave character is My Melody! What's your favourite? I love your mags and hope they go on 4evr! ❤️❤️❤️ your newest member, Natalie! P.S. here is a picture of My Melody!



Hi Natalie and a very big welcome to the Kidzone crew!

I'm so, so glad you found our magazine and that you enjoy reading it! That makes my heart super happy.

I do know Sanrio and My Melody! She likes eating cake just like me! Though I read she likes pound cake and I prefer chocolate mud cake. Pompompurin is a great friend - I like that about him - and I think it would be super fun to play a game or throw a boomerang with Keroppi. It looks like My Melody also likes bubble tea. Do you like bubble tea? Bear hugs - CK

Hello Eva!

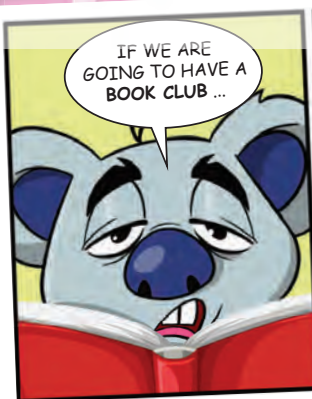
I'm so glad to hear from you again! And what a fabulous photo - you look so happy - thank you for sending it in!

I cannot believe you found gold AND jade! Your New Zealand trip sounds AMAZING! I would love to climb a Wanaka tree. They look comfy to sit in. Did you have to walk through water to reach the tree?

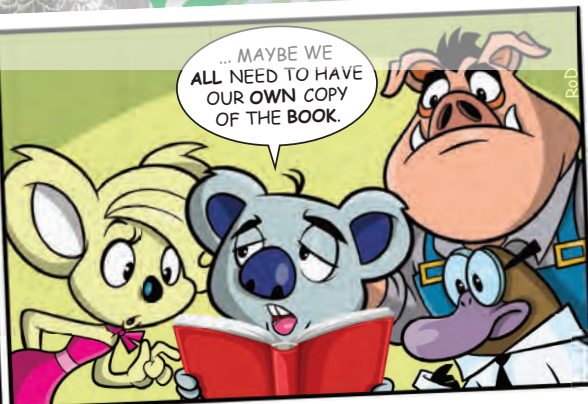
I'm sure Basil and Maurits were very happy to see you! I understand being a little worried about your pets while on holidays. I'm happy to hear that everything turned out alright.

Bear hugs - CK 🐻🐻🐻

COUSIN KOALA



IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A BOOK CLUB ...



... MAYBE WE ALL NEED TO HAVE OUR OWN COPY OF THE BOOK.



READ MORE IN MAY!

READ EVERY DAY! READ MORE IN MAY!

May is
SCHOLASTIC
NATIONAL
FAMILY
READING
MONTH
2025

Scholastic.com.au/nfrm

May is the month for readers. Bring your family together and join the National Family Reading Month challenge!

This year marks the 29th Scholastic's National Family Reading Month (NFRM). The event encourages families to read together on a regular basis to create strong reading habits. Reading together is a super-important part of helping kids succeed in school and in life but we all know it is not always that easy to find the time in our busy world.

That is why families are invited to sign up for the 31-Day Challenge — to inspire you to make reading together for at least 10 minutes every day a focus and to create positive, long-lasting reading habits and lifelong readers!

1. Sign up to join the 31-Day Challenge at <https://scholastic.e-newsletter.com.au/NFRM2025>

2. Use the log as a fun way to track your reading all month in May.

3. Ask a grown-up to follow along with Scholastic Australia on Facebook and Instagram for tips, inspiration, motivation and fun giveaways!

08

How to take the 31-Day Challenge



Mr Luke



MEET LUKE SPRINGER - BETTER KNOWN AS MR LUKE!

He's a primary school teacher from Adelaide with a huge social media following. Mr Luke has captivated his audience with funny and heart-warming videos about teaching "tiny humans".

Mr Luke is also an ambassador with National Family Reading Month and, along with illustrator Chris Kennett, kicked off the 31-Day Challenge by reading his book *Guess What We Are Doing Today?* at a recent Facebook and YouTube livestream event.

How did you come up with the story for *Guess What We're Doing Today?*

The story was inspired by the

pure, honest and imaginative conversations I have with my students. Their ability to think beyond the obvious and their magical view of the world made it natural to bring such creativity to life in a book.

What is your approach to books and reading in the classroom?

We adore books and reading! It's all about making reading engaging, fun and exciting. We aim for our tiny humans to be thrilled about learning. Watching them begin to read, recognising sounds, and gradually reading books independently is magical and incredibly rewarding. Encouraging a love for books and reading is fundamentally with it's all about!

For
Kidzoners
3 and
up!

Guess What We Are Doing Today?

Written by Luke Springer & illustrated by Chris Kennett

WHAT IT'S ABOUT: The children in Mr Luke's class are brimming with ideas about what they might be doing today. Will they battle a dragon? Fly into space? Sail the seas or ride unicorns? Could there be a way for them to do all the things they imagine?

WHAT WE LOVE: With a diverse cast of characters, this book celebrates books, imagination and the joy of reading. The delightful illustrations by Chris Kennett are super-colourful and show Mr Luke and his class playing their way through a fun day at school. This is a perfect book to read together for the reading challenge!



EATS

BOOKWORM BROWNIES

what you need:

1 packet brownie mix (plus any additional ingredients required, usually eggs and butter), fruit leather (I used Roll-Ups), sour worm lollies, icing pen, skewer

directions:

- 1 Make the brownie mix according to packet directions. Allow to cool completely.
- 2 Unwrap a Roll-Up and, if needed, use kitchen scissors or a knife to trim the edges to neaten up to a straight edge.
- 3 Cut a square of brownie about 3cm x 3cm.
- 4 Sit the brownie square on one corner of the fruit leather then trim it to the same height as the brownie.
- 5 Once trimmed, wrap the fruit leather gently around the brownie to create the book jacket. (Trim any excess as needed). The stickiness of the fruit leather should be enough for it to stay in place, but you could use a small amount of icing to help if needed.
- 6 Take a sour worm and trim pieces off the bottom half to make a taper. You may also need to shorten the worm.
- 7 Stand the 'book' upright and use a skewer to create a hole in the top of the brownie. Wiggle to skewer to make the hole big enough to fit the sour worm.
- 8 Use the icing pen to draw eyes on the worm and then gently ease it into the hole made in the previous step.



3

6

4

7

5

8

5

8

10

HEY CRAFTY CREW!

MAKE YOUR OWN HEDGEHOG BOOK

What you need:

An adult's help, an old paperback book, scissors, 3 black buttons, hot glue gun

1 Start with a book you don't want anymore. Around 100 pages works best otherwise the hedgehog will end up too 'round'.

2 Fold back the cover and fold the first page in half.

3 Next, fold back the corners as pictured.

4 Continue with all the pages in the book.

5 Fold, fold, fold until just the cover is left sticking out on either side.

6 Use scissors to cut the cover following the shape of the folded pages.

7 Use a hot glue gun to stick on the buttons to make some eyes and a nose.



**BIBLE
MESSAGE**

Dr Seuss once said: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Within the pages of a book you can travel the world (or to outer space!), go on safari, dive the deepest sea, go back in time, fly into the future.

I love this Dr Seuss quote. It really captures just how exciting the reading life can be. The Bible is one of the most exciting reads there is. It's action-packed and like a love letter from God all at the same time. It takes readers on the adventure of a lifetime – right to the heart of God. "Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path" (Psalm chapter 119, verse 105).



**DIVE INTO ANIMAL CROSSING
LIKE NEVER BEFORE!**

A NEW COLLABORATION BETWEEN SEA LIFE AQUARIUMS AND NINTENDO TAKES A DEEP DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF 'ANIMAL CROSSING: NEW HORIZONS'.

Until 18 May this year, visitors to SEA LIFE Sydney can immerse themselves in a unique universe with a new live, interactive experience to discover incredible marine life alongside some of the game's most beloved characters.

Following SEA LIFE Sydney, the tour will travel across Australia to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium and SEA LIFE Sunshine Coast Aquarium before heading to New Zealand.

JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

Enjoy a variety of exciting 'Animal Crossing: New Horizons' activities at the aquariums including:

STAMP RALLIES: Enjoy a stamp rally themed on the 'Animal Crossing: New Horizons' game.

CHARACTER 'MEET AND GREET': Meet Isabelle in person and capture memories to last a lifetime!

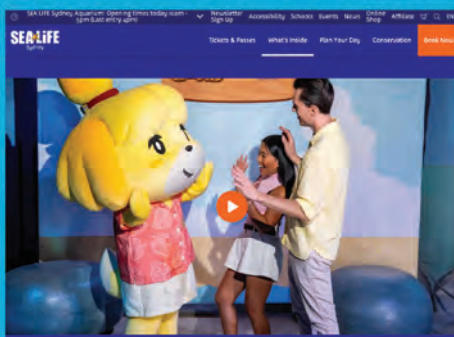
CREATURE PANELS: Look for themed descriptions presented by Blathers and

discover more about SEA LIFE's amazing creatures.

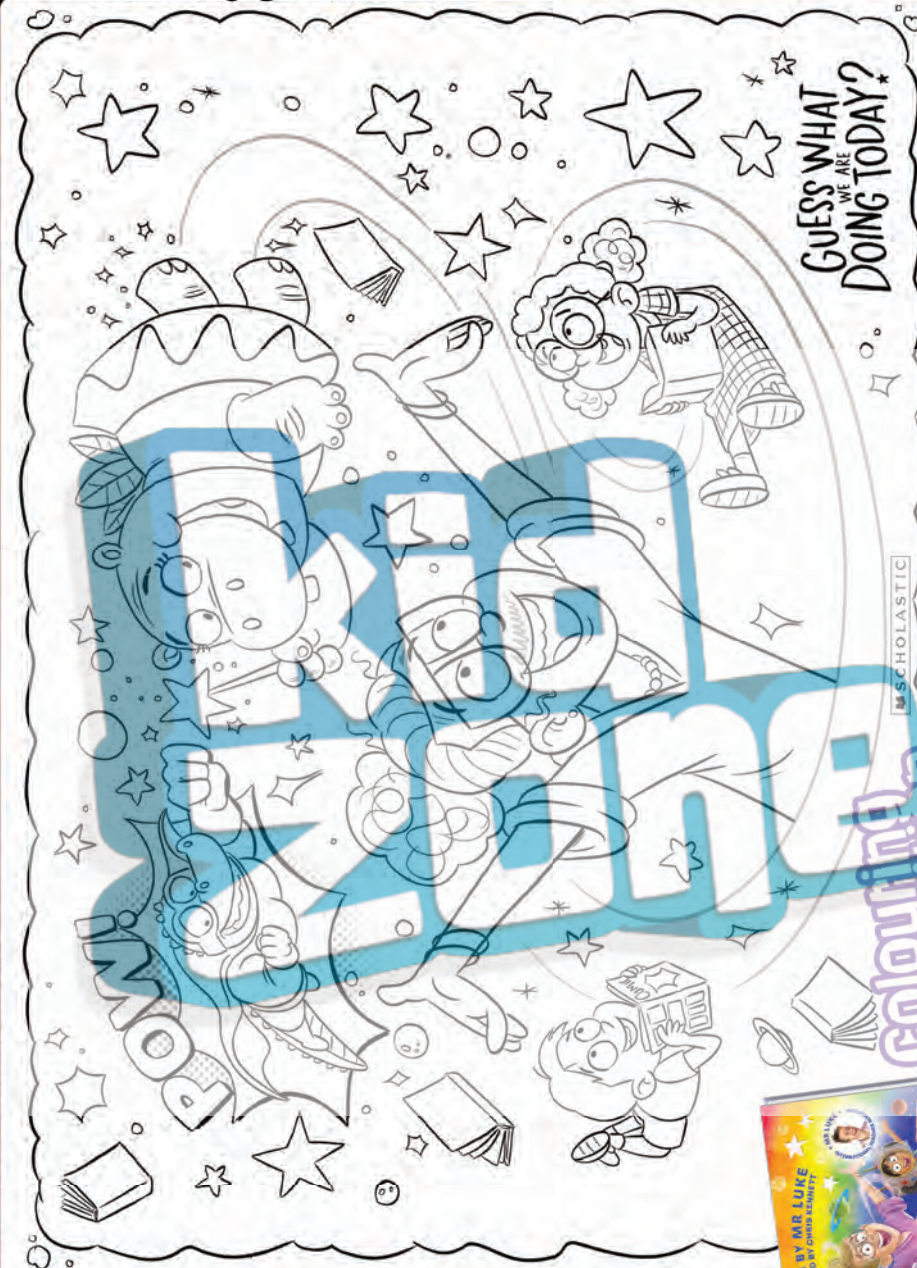
THEMED MERCH: Shop Animal Crossing merchandise available at the Aquarium gift shop.

CHARACTER SIGHTINGS: Spot character cutout displays of familiar game characters throughout the aquarium near different habitats.

FIND DRIFTING GULLIVER: Gulliver has fallen overboard from his ship and has swept up somewhere in SEA LIFE. Find him in the attraction!



*Entries will be judged on artistic merit.



GUESS WHAT
WE ARE
DOING TODAY?

SCHOLASTIC

colouring
competition

With thanks to Scholastic Kidzone has 10
copies of *Guess What We Are Doing Today?* to give away!



SEND YOUR ENTRY (BY FRIDAY 23 MAY 2025) TO:

Kidzone's Colouring Competition, 95-99 Railway Road, Blackburn VIC, 3130

OR HEAD TO kidzonemag.com.au/competition TO UPLOAD YOUR ENTRY.

Full Name

Age

Address

Postcode

Parent's signature



13

Grab your Bible and find a quiet place. Set your timer for 10 minutes and read through one parable each day for a week. Colour in each tile and give them a big tick when completed!

TRY SAM'S 10-MINUTE PARABLE CHALLENGE

MONDAY



The parable of the wise and foolish builders.
Luke chapter 6, verses 46-49.

TUESDAY



The parable of the sower.
Luke chapter 8, verses 4-8, 11-15.

WEDNESDAY



The parable of the good Samaritan.
Luke chapter 10, verses 29-37.

THURSDAY



The parable of the rich fool.
Luke chapter 12, verses 16-21.

FRIDAY



The parable of the feast.
Luke chapter 14, verses 16-24.

SATURDAY



The parable of the lost sheep.
Luke chapter 15, verse 3-7.

SUNDAY



The parable of the lost son.
Luke chapter 15, verses 11-32.

What was your fave parable?



SAMUEL'S MEGA PUZZLE!

I love a challenge! Do you? I've got an awesome one for you to have a go at this week - I'm calling it the 10-minute parable challenge!

A parable is a story Jesus told to explain how much God loves us and how he wants us to live. I've written down some chapters and verses from the Bible for you to look up each day. These are all from the book of Luke.

Ask a grown-up for a Bible that's easy for kids to understand or ask them to do the challenge with you. Find a quiet place and set your timer for 10 minutes (you can spend more time if you want to, of course!).

When you've read the parable, ask yourself these questions and write or draw the answers: "What happened in the story?" and "What was Jesus telling us?"

Have fun with the challenge! "The word of God is living and active." (Hebrews chapter four, verse 12).

JESUS LOVES YOU! & wants to be your friend!

If you would like to know more about prayer and how to read the Bible fill in the coupon below and send it to us. We'll send you some cool info!

Name: Age:

Address:

Postcode:

Parent's Permission:

95-99 Railway Rd, Blackburn 3130 or email: kidzone@salvationarmy.org.au

signature

Spot the diff: 3-7, 4-9, 5-10, 6-2.

Adventure Pages: 1-6, 2-12, e: c2, f: c3, Word square: Grid 1: a: c6, b: a4, c: d1, d: d3, e: c2, f: c3, Word square: 15.

ANSWERS



Competition winners

CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

G. SCHEMBRI
(VIC. - 14)

L. ATKINS
(TAS. - 8)

K. RETIRADO
(W.A. - 9)



YOU HAVE WON
... a copy of
Meet the Mubbles
by Liz Pichon!



NEXT WEEK
in kidzone

FINDING JESUS!

LEADERS kidzone

Run a Kidzone kids church. We've made it super easy!

Our leaders' guides break down each current Kidzone magazine into different zones with activities, teachings, prayers and small group questions.

Head to kidzonemag.com.au/kidzone-leaders-guide to download and begin!



PUZZLES * QUIZZES * STORIES * RECIPES



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Blackburn 3130. Commissioner
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Kidzone privacy statement: The personal information that we collect about your child(ren) is deemed reasonably necessary for the primary purpose of facilitating their request made through the completion of the 'Knowing Jesus' coupon, their request to join the 'Cousin Kola' birthday list and any other request made to participate in any other children's competition or to receive offers advertised in The Salvation Army's Kidzone magazine. By not collecting this personal information we may be unable to facilitate your child's request, send them age appropriate information, bookend information, delivery prizes, by providing this personal information you consent to our use or disclosure of your child's information for a secondary purpose related to the primary purpose. Bible translations used throughout the magazine: * EASY, * GNT, * CEV, * MSG, * NIV, * ESV, * ICB, * ERV, * TLB, * MEV, * NLT, * CEB

word square

How many words of three letters or more can you make from the letters in the square?

Each letter may be used only once per word and each word must contain the middle letter. There is one nine-letter word. **Clue:** Reading a good book is like going on an _____.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| R | T | U |
| A | E | E |
| N | D | V |

grid it

Can you work out the coordinates of the small squares which are taken from the big picture?



Note: some squares may be rotated.



Can you find where each of these pictures came from in this week's Kidzone?



spot the diff



Can you spot the eight differences between these two pics?



redraw

Have a go at redrawing this book using the grid provided.

