



### The Bee Squad: Boosting Biodiversity in Your Neighbourhood — written by Judy Friedlander

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What it's about: Children around Australia are taking charge. Come and join the revolution! From the coast of Western Australia to Sydney's suburbs, young people are discovering nature in their neighbourhoods and setting up nesting boxes for birds, cleaning up waterways, planting to attract bees and koalas, and building insect hotels. They're learning about amazing native species and finding ways to protect them. The Bee Squad inspires readers to take

part in exciting adventures and projects that support threatened species by doing things such as:

arts

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- learning how to put together a nature sleuth toolkit;
- planting to attract pollinators;

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- using the tally sheet to record flora and fauna sightings;
- following the tips to ace your wildlife photography;
- building your very own insect hotel.

What we love: As this book explains, you don't need to live near a national park or protected area to get involved in boosting biodiversity

in your neighbourhood. Anyone can make a difference from their balcony, backyard, local park or school. The Bee Squad is jam-packed with fun adventures and simple hands-on projects that kids will love.

#### For Kidzoners 8 and up.

you could venture out into nature? What can you could? Until we learn how to really look, or miss out on so much.

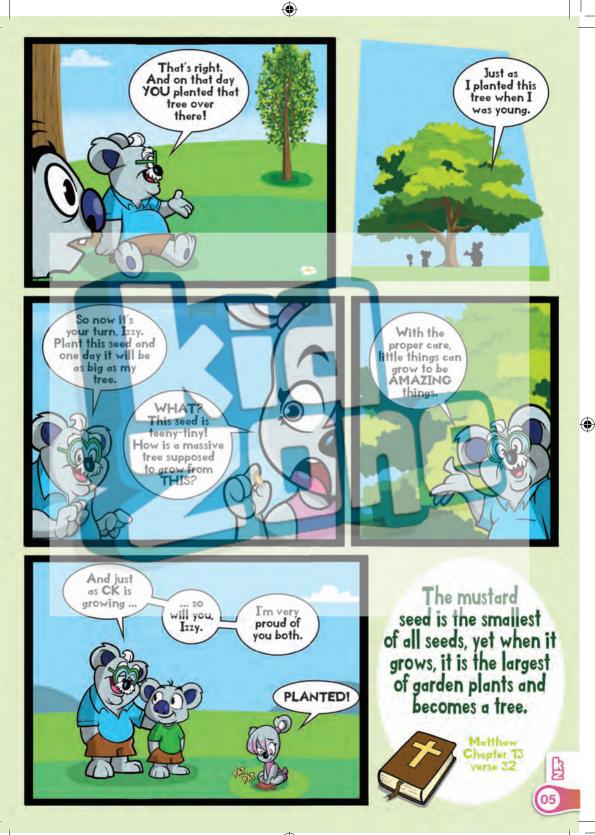
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Head to **page 13** to enter our competition to win your own copy of

The Bee Squad!





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# Dear Kidzoners, Thanks for all your

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

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

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#### Dear CK and Kidzone, Thank you so much for choosing me as a winner for Harold and the Purple Crayon tickets! I was so excited to see the movie and I love all of the awesome merchandise, too! | previously won a Bluey ball too which I love playing with it. Bluey is my favourite show! Your magazines are so awesome. Hove the fun colouring and challenging puzzles. Thanks for all the work you put into making them From Annabelle 000 🖾 (bear hugs) G'day Annabelle! You are so welcome! I hope you enjoyed the movie. And those Bluey Wahn balls were super cool. I wanted one for myself Golly gosh you are so kind! I am socoo happy you enjoy kidzone. We love making it for you! What is your favourite type of puzzle? I love reading so I enjoy doing word searches. Spot the differences are fun too but I always get stuck on the very last difference! Sometimes I check the answer but most of the time I ask wattle for help and she can find it. Hope you have enjoyed the start of school. 000 - Ck.

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Hi CK. I hope you like my drawing of Taylor Swift <sup>(2)</sup> I was so excited when I figured out that I won the *Transformers* competition. I was so happy I went to the movies and I had an amazing time. I love doing the colouring competitions and I also like the jokes. And my niece Hannah was so excited about winning ownative. I have a loke for you:

the Sloth Lane competition. I have a joke for you: How do you cut the sea? With a sea saw! From Rosy 😄 😅 🎢 🍽 🖤 🏹 🍽 🗸 🖘

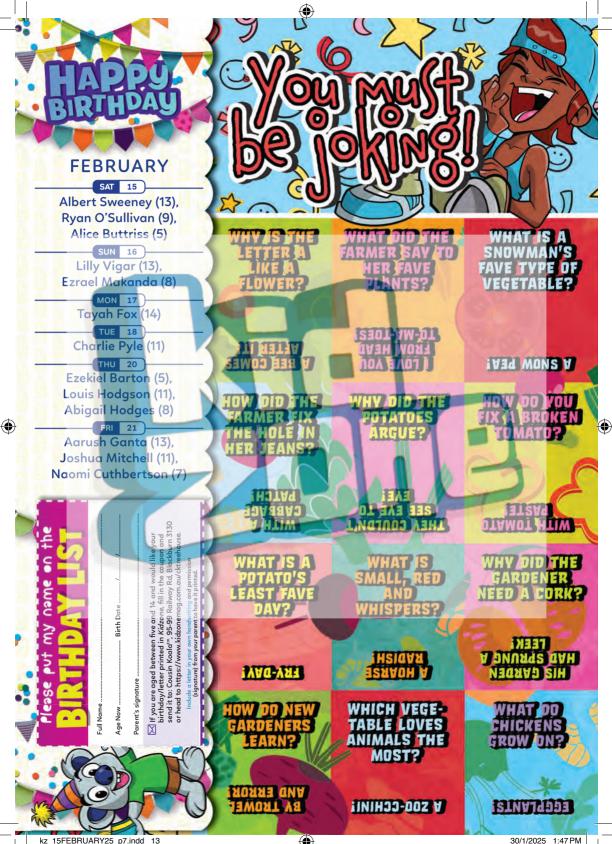
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Hey Rosy!

A sea saw! Ha! That is funny! ove your drawing What is your fave Taylor song?

Congratulations on your win! I am so glad you enjoyed the movie. From memory, your niece must have won the slime Taco playset! I hope that was fun too! You both must have worked so hard! Bear hugs - CK





## GARDENING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR

In Gardening Australia Junior season two, a new cast of kids are pulling on their gloves, grabbing their spades and getting set to explore all things gardening alongside gardening guru Costa Georgiadis (and a team of co-hosts).

Each episode centres on a family-friendly project or DIY tutorial to level up your green space, no matter how big or small. Projects in season two include mini succulent gardens, recycled garbage gardens, beachside terrariums, cubby houses and manure experiments!

Plus, there's fun mini segments

— an imaginative comedy story world about tiny creatures living in Costa's compost bin.

#### WOMBAT'S GARDEN

— a peek into the daily life of an Aussie family raising baby wombats on their sustainable farm.

#### **MINDFUL MOMENTS**

where kids share
 their own poems and
 stories about nature,
 set to beautiful
 super close-up,
 time-lapse vision.

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#### COSTA GEORGIADIS

is an Australian landscape architect and the much-loved host of Gardening Australia. He has a passion for plants and people and thrives in bringing the two together, especially introducing children to the wonderful world of gardening

#### SAY G'DAY TO SOME OF THE JUNIOR HOSTS ...

With a love for plants passed down from her grandmothers, MILLE helps her parents nurture a flourishing garden with guava and mango trees, along with a whole lot of succulents!

HUNTER is a nature enthusiast who loves spending time in his backyard in Far North Queensland among the tropical plants and animals that visit from the nearby rainforest.

> VINCENT is a passionate gardener who believes homegrown food is the tastiest. When he's not tending to his garden, you can find him on the basketball court or swimming.

GARDENING GARDENING AUSTRALIA JUNIOR NOW ON ABC IVIEW

Plants grow best with really good soil and just the right amount of water and sun. Just like plants, we start from small and grow from there. But people grow in more ways than just the size of our bodies. We grow our understanding of things by learning. We grow resilient by making mistakes and trying again. We grow more loving by being kind and thoughtful towards other people. There are so many ways we can grow! God grows a whole garden of goodness in our lives when we live and treat other people the way God says is best.

"The Lord will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring" (Isaiah chapter 58, verse 11<sup>z</sup>).

## MARSHMAL CUPERKES what you need:

12 un-iced cupcakes (homemade or bought), 1 to 2 cups soft icing mixture, food colouring (I used green), a rolling pin, mini marshmallows, small round ollies for centre of flowers

#### directions:

Mix up a batch of soft icinc by adding so icing mixture to a mixing bowl and adding c small amount of water and mixing well until smooth. Add extra drops of w the icina is a bit

Add a few drops of food colouring to the icing and mix well to combine. Add more drops a mix if you want a darker colour. Set asi 3 Use the rolling pin to flatten out 5 mini marshmallows on a chopping board.

C Ice the top of one cupcake and then arrange petals.

> **5** Fill the centre with the lolly decoration of your choice.

> > 6 Repeat steps 3 to cupcakes.

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WITH CHEFFY

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## MINI GREENHOUSE

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

an adult's help, spoon or small trowel, gardening gloves, two clear plastic crps, potting mix seeds (I used alfalfa sprouts), craft stick, felt-tipped pen, spray bottle of water

#### DIRECTIONS:

Put on your gardening gloves and using the spoon or small trowel, fill the cup almost to the top with potting mix and gently tap it down to so it's not loose.
Place seeds on the top of the soil.

• Carefully cover the seeds with more soil and gently pat it down.

• Using the spray bottle, water the seeds well.

• Write the plant's name on the craft stick and push it into the cup (making sure you don't disturb the seeds).

• With an adult's help, trim the top of the other cup so that it's smaller than the cup with the seeds. Place it over the seeds and

gently press it into the soil until it is secure. Put your mini greenhouse on a windowsill and watch your seeds grow. Awesome!

#### How it works!

Your mini greenhouse is selfwatering. The water sprayed on the seeds will evaporate and turn into water vapour as the greenhouse gets warmer. When the vapour rises to the top of the greenhouse it cools down and condenses back into water – that's the drops of water you see running down the sides of the cup. That waters the seeds to help them grow.

#### Just like a seed needs soil, sun and water to grow roots and thrive, we need some things to help us grow in our faith – like reading the Bible and praying (talking) to God. "Plant your roots in Jesus and let him be the foundation for your life," (Colossians chapter two, verse seven ).

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Win or Lose is Pixar Animation Studios' first-ever long-form original animated series. It follows the Pickles, a middle-school softball team and the intertwined stories of eight different characters as they prepare for the big

DISNEW PIXAR

championship game. Each episode offers a look inside the off-the-field life of one character — the insecure kids, their helicopter parents,

even a lovesick umpire.

In one episode, we meet 12-year-old Laurie. She may not be the most skilled player on the team, but she makes up for it in spirit ... well, most of the time. Laurie struggles with anxiety and as the championship draws closer, her worries grow and grow. All Laurie wants is to score a hit and make her dad — the coach — proud.

Another episode focuses on Frank, a middle-school teacher and softball umpire. When Frank's on the field, he always knows what to do — a strike is a strike, an out is an out. End of story. But when it comes to relationships, he's not always so confident. Will he make the right call when it comes to finding the love of his life?

Each storyline brings laughs and emotions from a unique animated perspective.

> Streaming on Disney+ from 19 February.

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Seeds are so tiny! Some of them are like grains of sand or dust - and yet they grow into big plants and huge trees! Jesus told a parable (another word for story) one day when his friends asked him to give them more faith. He told them, "If you had faith even as small as a mustard

seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible," (Matthew chapter 17, verse 20<sup>2</sup>). Jesus was explaining to his disciples that we don't have to have heaps of faith to live our lives for God. God can use the faith we have, even though we think it's tiny, to do great things. Our little seeds of faith can grow - just like a little mustard seed grows into a big treel

differences etween these two pics.

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 infol

Name: ..... Age: .....

Address: .....

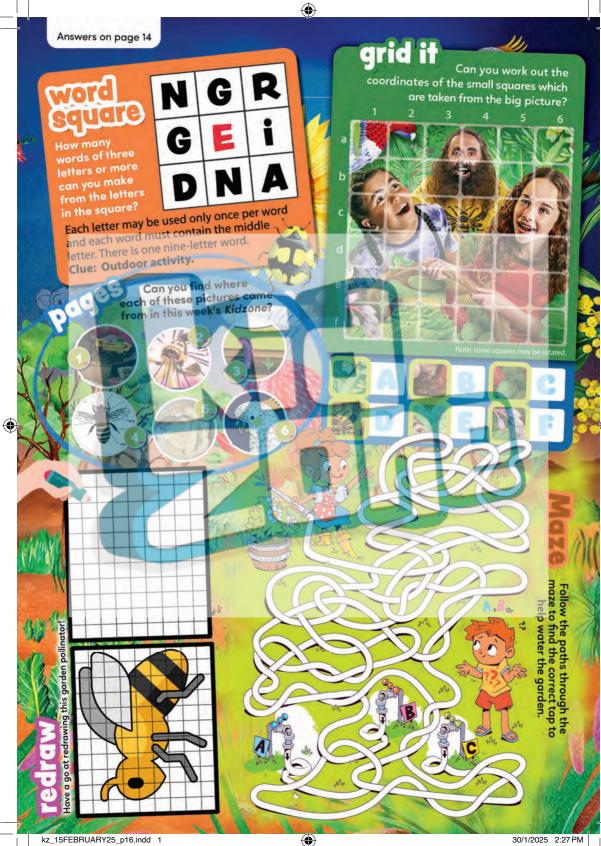
Parent's Permission: \_\_\_\_\_\_

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

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