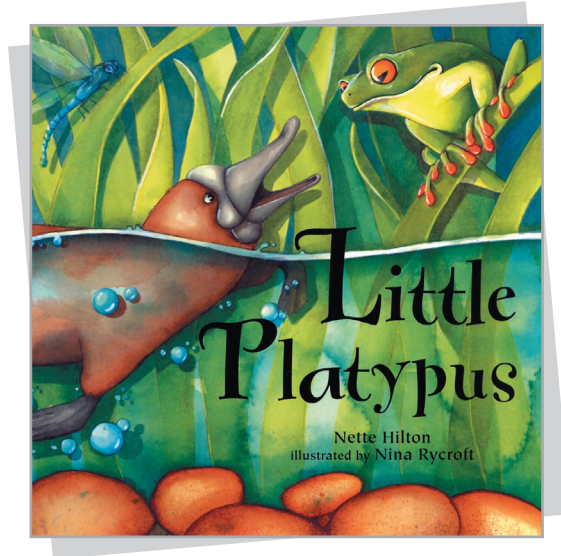


LITTLE PLATYPUS

Written by Nette Hilton
Illustrated by Nina Rycroft
Koala Books
ISBN 0 86461 272 9
for children 0-5



Listening to a book shouldn't be just a passive experience for young children. The following activities will help you and your child interact with the story and illustrations! You can apply similar questions and activities to all the books you read together.

Knowledge

1. Where does little platypus live?
2. How many Australian animals do you see in the story?

Comprehension

1. What animals does the little platypus think he can be?
2. What parts of the platypus are similar to the animals he meets?

Application

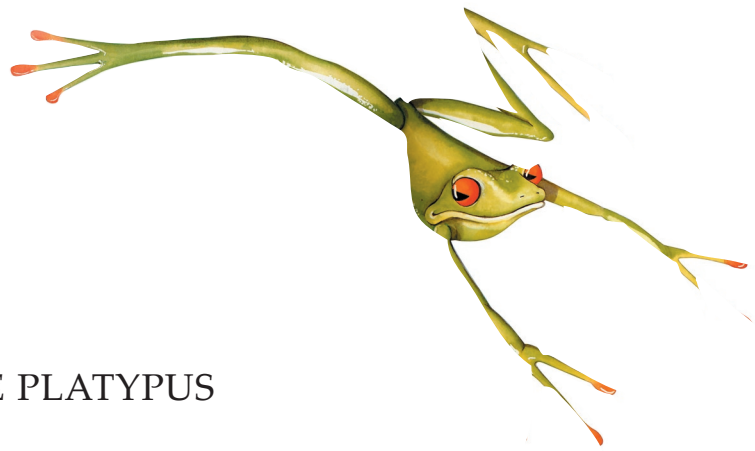
1. Do you look like your Mummy and Daddy?
2. Do you have the same hair colour or eye colour as your friend?

Analysis

1. Why is Little Platypus feeling sad?
2. When does Little Platypus feel happy again?

Evaluation

1. Which animal is your favorite?
2. What is your favorite part of the story? Is that picture also your favorite?



Projects for LITTLE PLATYPUS

Verbal/Linguistic

Platypus puzzle. Cut out the different parts that make up a platypus. A furry body, bright button eyes, a bill, webbed feet, and a paddle tail. (these parts could be placed on other animals cutouts. eg. fur from the koala, bill from a duck, paddle tail from an otter). Children take turns constructing the platypus puzzle.

Tactile

Textures. What thing feel similar to parts of the animals in the story? eg. fussy fur, soft nose, button eyes, fluffy feathers, slippery and splashy. Collect items that feel, fluffy, soft, sleek, slippery, rough etc.

Body/Kinesthetic

Divide the children into two groups. Taking turns, one group mimes and one group guesses. Whisper the name of an animal to the group that has to mime. Make sure the guessing group can not hear. Work through the animals from the story - a kookaburra, a Koala, an emu, a wombat, a frog, a platypus.

Musical/Rhythmic

Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree,
Merry, merry King of the bush is he,
Laugh Kookaburra, laugh kookaburra
Happy your life must be.

Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree,
eating all the gum drops he can see,
Stop Kookaburra, stop kookaburra
Leave some there for me.

