2014 Pre Camp Preparation Tasks

This year our theme is 'If I were a farmer' and is linked especially to the 'International Year of the Family Farm'. Importantly, the message we are working together on is telling the story of our farmers. Australian farmers experience lots of adversity and challenge, humour and delight which many of us are unfamiliar with. This camp is your opportunity to discover and communicate this part of our community through the creation of your own Children’s Picture Book.

Your task on camp will be to write, illustrate, edit and publish your story through either an imaginative recount or a narrative text.

You will create a map of your farm and immerse yourself into a real or imagined farming lifestyle. You will be telling your story, of your life, on your farm. The more you can discover about life on a farm, the better.

Prior to camp you are encouraged to prepare by undertaking the following tasks:

1. Research - Research Alison Lester and Elizabeth Honey through their websites http://www-alisonlester-com.myshopify.com/, http://www.elizabethhoney.com/, through their biography posts on the DEEC website www.daradgeec.eq.edu.au, and where ever else you would like to look. Start over the holidays.

You don't need to write anything - just become familiar with our guests and learn about their journey. It might be interesting to create a display in your classroom or library to inform other students about your upcoming writing and illustrating adventure.

2. Read - Discover and read some Australian picture books, novels, short stories, poetry or films so you can explore our theme, 'If I were a farmer'. The Reading List follows (p3,4), ONLY read what you are comfortable with, although don't be afraid to explore more.

You don't need to review anything but it would be a good idea to jot down some personal ideas or inspiration that you received from your reading. Please note: your book will incorporate a map as part of telling your story, make sure you have a look at a few illustrations in books such as Winnie the Pooh, Milly Molly Mandy, Are we there yet?, Fiddle-back, and The Ballad of Cauldron Bay. Start over the holidays.
3. **Connect** - Interview a farmer. This should not be completed until after Term 3 Week 2 using the profile format which will be available on the DEEC website. If you do not know a farmer to interview, read the profiles that DEEC will post.

   *Start Term 3 Week 2.*

4. **Create** - Build a portfolio with all of the information, old and new knowledge, ideas, etc. Gather all of your **Pre Camp Preparation Tasks**, along with as much as you can find that will help you prepare for camp - books, stories, interviews, photos, sketches, cartoons, ideas, jokes - anything to do with our theme which may be referred to on camp.

   This can be collected into a shopping/enviro bag or something similar and bring along to camp.

   *Start over the holidays and bring to camp.*

   **Please note:** Have fun, enjoy your preparation. The more you get into the topic ahead of time, the more value you will get from your camp program.

   We look forward to meeting you on camp!

Yours sincerely

Noel Cristaudo  
Steve Cutuli  
Amanda Matthews  
Tania Simmons

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26th June, 2014

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## Reading List

### Picture Books

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Two Summers</td>
<td>John Heffernan, illust. Freya Blackwood</td>
<td>Rick is coming to stay, but will he recognise the farm from last summer? Will he have as much fun? Same farm - totally different landscape. Beautiful illustrations.</td>
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<td>The Road to Goonong</td>
<td>David Cox</td>
<td>Artist David Cox remembers his country childhood on a farm called Goonong. His touching story is about the good and bad times, showing the enduring spirit of people who live on the land.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Year on Our Farm</td>
<td>Penny Matthews, illust. Andrew McLean</td>
<td>The passage of the seasons through the eyes of the children for whom the farm with all it’s animals is home. Fruit ripens, lambs are born, sheep shorn, hay harvested, brown paddocks become green again and farmers wait for rain.</td>
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<td>The Windy Farm</td>
<td>Doug MacLeod, illust. Craig Smith</td>
<td>Would anyone want to live on a farm where the winds are so fierce that even the pigs are blown away? Fortunately, Mum is a clever inventor and can think of one very good reason. Funny.</td>
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<td>My Farm</td>
<td>Alison Lester</td>
<td>The year Alison got a Palomino pony for Christmas. Trick-riding horses, mustering cattle, training the dog, competing at the local show, feeding calves, picking mushrooms, raising a baby wombat, building cubbies, cutting hay, swimming ponies in the dam, hypnotizing chooks... all the activities through the seasons are depicted with child-like mischief and humour.</td>
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<td>Betty and Boa and the Proper Big Pumpkin</td>
<td>L.J Collins, Lorraine Berolah, Noel Crisauto, illust. Noel Crisauto</td>
<td>A simple story local to the Far north. Of note is a basic cause, effect, resolution plot.</td>
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<td>Waltzing Matilda</td>
<td>A B Paterson poem, illust. Desmond Digby</td>
<td>Light lyrical verse, Paterson tells the story of a swagman who steals a sheep or ‘jumbuck’, and his ensuing police chase. Desmond Digby’s painterly style of illustration with rustic colours, and a rugged looking swagman encapsulate the poet’s Australian bush perfectly.</td>
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### Novels

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<tr>
<td>Sun on the Stubble</td>
<td>Colin Thiele</td>
<td>Young Bruno tells of farm life in South Australia between the world wars; farmers discussing crops and the weather, or the killing of a pig before sausage-making or the bustle of harvesting and all that goes on in the district, through Thiele’s keen insight and humour. A classic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Quicksand Pony</td>
<td>Alison Lester</td>
<td>Biddy’s pony is trapped in quicksand and they are forced to go on without her. Next day there are hoof prints in the sand...with small footprints and the paw marks of a dog. Who could be so small and alone on this remote beach? Biddy’s search takes her into wild secret country where she discovers the truth about a mysterious disappearance that happened many years ago.</td>
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| **The Snow Pony**  
Alison Lester | Only Dusty can ride the Snow Pony and no one but Dusty will trust her.  
A tough and tender novel about a family's struggle to hold together during harsh times, and fourteen-year-old Dusty's faith in a wild horse they said could never be tamed. |
| **Don't Pat the Wombat!**  
Elizabeth Honey | The good, the bad, and the wild in an antic account of the gang, 'The Coconuts' and their misadventures on school-camp. Jonah the weird kid from the country doesn’t fit in but attaches himself to the gang. Camp is everything the boys expect and more: mud fights, bad showers, great food, wombats, and leeches, then disaster! Mr. Cromwell (a.k.a. Crom the Bomb, or simply The Bomb) arrives as a substitute teacher...and Jonah sets off the Bomb. . . . |
| **Dingo Boy**  
Michael Dugan | A fourteen-year-old orphan is fostered by a farmer who uses him as unpaid labour until Carl realizes he has to make a stand. |
| **Walking the Boundaries**  
Jackie French | Martin lives in the city with his mum. He’s come to walk the boundaries of the farm that’s been in his family for generations. It sounds easy, especially as he’ll own the land when he gets back. Martin’s great-grandfather, Ted, doesn’t even want him to walk around the farm’s fences, just up the gorge and along the hills. But up in the gorge Martin meets Meg from almost a century ago and Wullamudulla from thousands of years in the past. Despite their differences they discover that they’re all on the same journey ... and that walking the boundaries means more than following lines on a map. |
| **The Sun is Up - Memories of Country School Days**  
Cliff Green | Stories originally published in The Teachers’ Journal, Melbourne.  
Chapter titles: Show Day, Ponies in the Playground, Bulls and Broken Fences, Death in the Paddock, Biology in a Bucket, Requiem for a Reptile.  
**Other titles:**  
- *A Visit to the Farm* - Michael Morpurgo and Steve Lamb  
- *Farmer Boy* - Laura Ingalls Wilder  
- *On the Farm* - Roland Harvey |
| **Poetry** | Explore the rich field of Bush poetry. |
| **The Pacific Book of Bush Ballads**  
Various authors, Selected by Douglas Stewart & Nancy Keesing, | Collection of classic poems/ballads dating around the 1890’s, including many all-time favourites such as: *The Wild Colonial Boy, The Old Keg of Rum, The Dying Stockman, The Murrumbidgee Shearer, Click Go the Shears, Flash Jack from Gundagai, Goorianawa, The Drovers Dream, Scotty’s Wild Stuff Stew, Ballad of the Drover, Andy’s Gone with Cattle, The Shearer’s Dream, Hay, Hell & Booligal.* And of course the poem most often recited in gruff tones of doom & gloom — *Said Hanrahan.* |
| **Films** | Danny wants to hatch out the emu egg he has found in the bush and raise the chick as a pet. Great short film.  
**Other films:**  