

Spark a love of writing with a...



Big Write Writing Prompt Bundle



The School Bush Camp

"The air smelled of eucalyptus and campfire smoke, and I knew this was going to be a night I'd never forget."



Story Starter

Our first night at bush camp had been exciting enough, but just before lights out, something strange happened. A loud rustling came from the dark trees near our tents. Everyone froze. The teachers shone their torches, but there was nothing there. Or was there?

Discussion Questions

Fiction

1. Who is at the bush camp?
2. What unexpected event happens during the night or day?
3. How do the characters feel—excited, scared, curious?
4. What challenge do they face, and how do they solve it?
5. Is there a twist or surprise ending?

Non-Fiction

1. Where was the bush camp located?
2. What activities did you do during the day?
3. What was the camp food like?
4. How did camping in tents feel compared to sleeping at home?
5. What was your favourite part of camp and why?





Sentence Starters

Fiction Writing:

1. The campfire crackled as we leaned closer, waiting for the next ghost story to begin.
2. Something rustled in the bush behind the tents, and we all turned to look.

Non-Fiction Writing:

1. A bush camp is a place where people spend time in nature, sleeping in tents and learning new skills.
2. Australian bush camps can teach teamwork, independence, and a love for the outdoors.

Text Structure Example

Fiction: Narrative, diary entry, or adventure story

Non-Fiction: Personal recount, report, or information text

Uplevel It!

Can you add more descriptive words, detail, and more complex structures to these sentences to bring the scene to life?

Fiction Sentences

1. We heard a noise.
2. It was dark.
3. I felt scared.

Non-Fiction Sentences

1. Bush camp is fun.
2. We stayed in tents.
3. We made food on the fire.



Vinny Vocabulary's Word Bank

campfire

torches

journey

tent

wildlife

vibrant

adventure

rustling

explore

teamwork

gumtrees

marshmallows



Connie Connective's Word Bank

however

after that

instead of

even though

when

in return

because

as a result

before

so

while

as a result





Text Analysis

The campfire popped and hissed as the marshmallows turned golden. We laughed, told stories, and watched the sky fill with stars. Suddenly, we heard a rustling near the tents. Our torches darted into the trees, and there, just beyond the glow, stood a curious kangaroo. It hopped closer, sniffed the air, and then bounded away. We couldn't stop talking about it for the rest of the night.

Discussion Questions

1. What makes this description feel real or exciting?
2. How does the setting make you imagine the sounds, smells, and sights of camp?
3. Which words help you picture the scene?
4. Could you add more feelings or thoughts from the characters?
5. How might you make the ending more dramatic or surprising?

Edit and Uplevel It

we set up our tents by the gum trees and made a fire it was fun to roast marshmallows before bed then we herd a noise in the bush we didnt no what it was but we all looked

Editing Challenge (GHaSP)

- Re-read to edit the text for punctuation and spelling.

Up-Level It Challenge (VCOP)

- **Vocabulary:** Replace “fun” with a more vivid word.
- **Connectives:** Add “although” or “because” to show cause and contrast.
- **Openers:** Try beginning one sentence with “Just as...” or “Later that night...”
- **Punctuation:** Add an exclamation mark for excitement. Can you use brackets to insert a clause?





Home Talk

For Big Write this week, I am writing a
_____ (text type)

It is about _____

I need to talk about my ideas and opinions with as many family members as possible. The more I discuss and listen to ideas, the easier it will be to write!

I would love to hear your opinions and ideas to help me with my ideas.

Please remember to use 'because' and remind me to do the same. That way, when I write tomorrow, I will have many ideas and can use a connective like 'because' to make my ideas valuable.

Can you give me some uplevelled V.C.O.P for my writing?

V= Vocabulary, wow words and phrases.

C= Connective, words that join ideas together.

O= Openers, Amazing ways to start a sentence. Words that end in 'ly' or 'ing' are power openers

P= Punctuation, I will demonstrate Kung Fu Punctuation (hand signals), so we can practice together.