

## Teaching Notes: *Can You Find 12 Busy Bees?*

Written by Gordon Winch

Illustrated by Patrick Shirvington

Published by New Frontier Publishing



### SYNOPSIS

Following from the award-winning *Can You Find Me?*, *Can You Find 12 Busy Bees?* brings children closer to nature and the environment. In this elegant picture book children will enjoy learning to count with the gorgeous flora and fauna on every page.

### AUTHOR BACKGROUND

Dr Gordon Winch is one of Australia's best-loved children's authors. He is known for such best-selling titles as *Samantha Seagull's Sandals* and *Koala Sees the World*.

Gordon's engaging narrative and humorous style make him a favourite with young readers. Gordon was a teacher for 54 years and has taught many of the teachers now teaching in primary schools across New South Wales.

Gordon is committed to children's literacy; he is on the Advisory Committee of the Dymocks Literacy Foundation and is a member of the selection panel of the New South Wales Premier's Reading Challenge.

### ILLUSTRATOR BACKGROUND

Patrick Shirvington was born in Sydney. His childhood was spent immersed in nature, drawing the bushland subjects that were bountiful near his home.

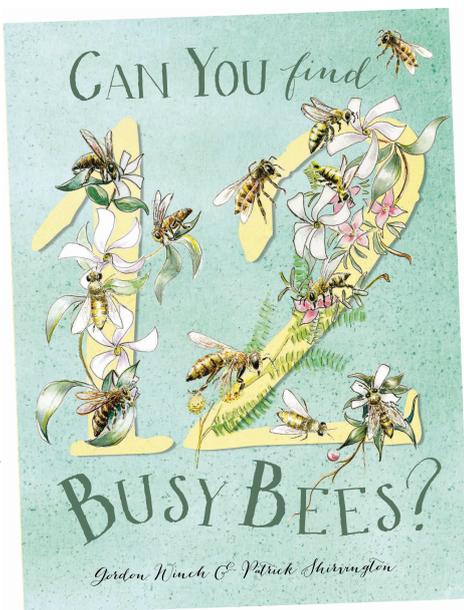
He studied accountancy, but found himself to be a square peg in a round hole, so decided to travel and follow his passion for art.

Patrick built a house and studio in the bushland of northern Sydney with his wife and children and continues to paint professionally. He has a number of awards behind him, including selection in the prestigious Archibald prize, as well as work displayed in public galleries throughout the world.

Apart from his main artistic profession, Patrick added his illustrations to tee shirts, council banners and environmental journals along the way. His love of drawing and the environment led to a collaboration with well-known children's author Dr Gordon Winch, culminating in two picture books, *Can You Find Me?* and *Can You Find 12 Busy Bees?*

### EDUCATIONAL APPLICABILITY

This book is a fun and innovative way to introduce children to the gorgeous flora and fauna that they can find in their own garden, all while teaching them basic numeracy skills.



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### DISCUSSION TOPICS

#### Before and during reading

1. Show the children the book cover. What can they see and what do they think the book might be about?
2. Can they identify any of the colours on the cover?  
Have they seen any of the animals in the book? How many did they see?

#### After reading

1. Did they manage to find all the animals in each spread? Was it difficult?
2. Have they seen any other animals in their garden? What kinds have they seen?



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# Can You Find 12 Busy Bees Word Search

B B S X C R D H O H J F L  
U E Q H Y L D O M N A W P  
T E J A M C T Z D I O I J  
T S F S L A W G R L C S Z  
E P L V K H X Y U Z G F S  
R Q O C J P W F S T O W D  
F N O V C R R E Z G S D R  
L C E E E E L I Z A R D I  
I V F N W V O V F E N C B  
E K O O K A B U R R A S Y  
S P P S T E E K I R O L D  
Z T R M P H C G O D W G A  
K A F J V C U G R K T B L

## Find these words:

BEE

BUTTERFLIES

COCKATOO

FAIRY-WREN

FROG

KOOKABURRAS

LADYBIRDS

LIZARD

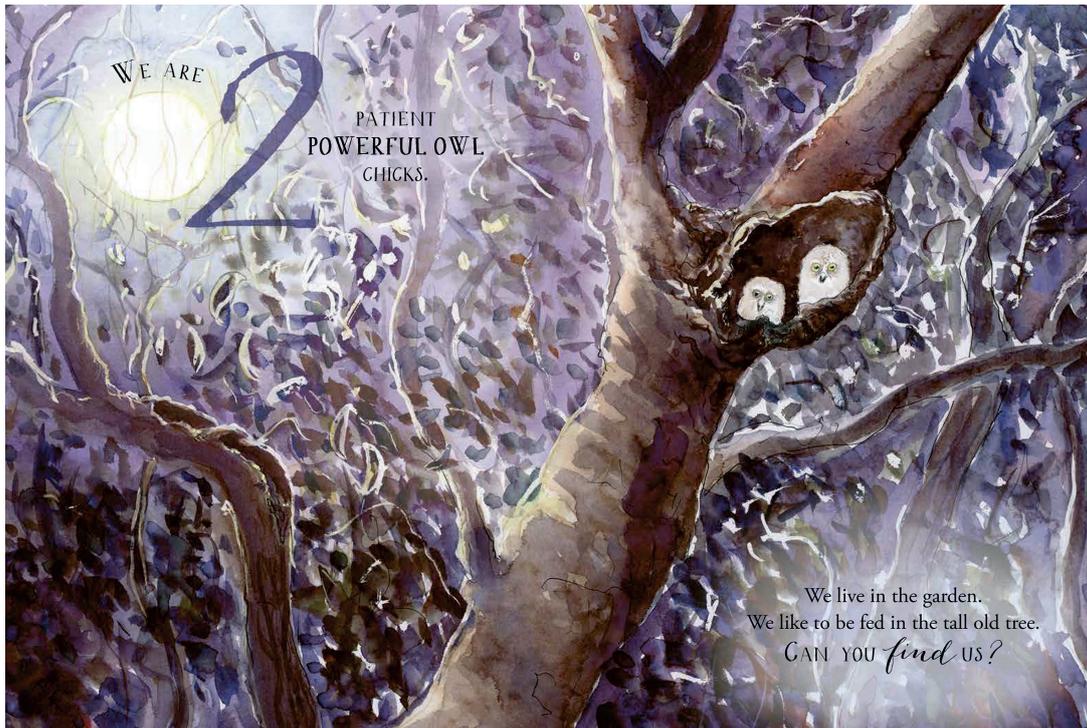
LORIKEETS

POWERFUL OWL



# Word Search Solution

B B S X C R D H O H J F L  
 U E Q H Y L D O M N A W P  
 T E J A M C T Z D I O I J  
 T S F S L A W G R L C S Z  
 E P L V K H X Y U Z G F S  
 R Q O C J P W F S T O W D  
 F N O V C R R E Z G S D R  
 L C E E E E L I Z A R D I  
 I V F N W V O V F E N C B  
 E K O O K A B U R R A S Y  
 S P P S T E E K I R O L D  
 Z T R M P H C G O D W G A  
 K A F J V C U G R K T B L



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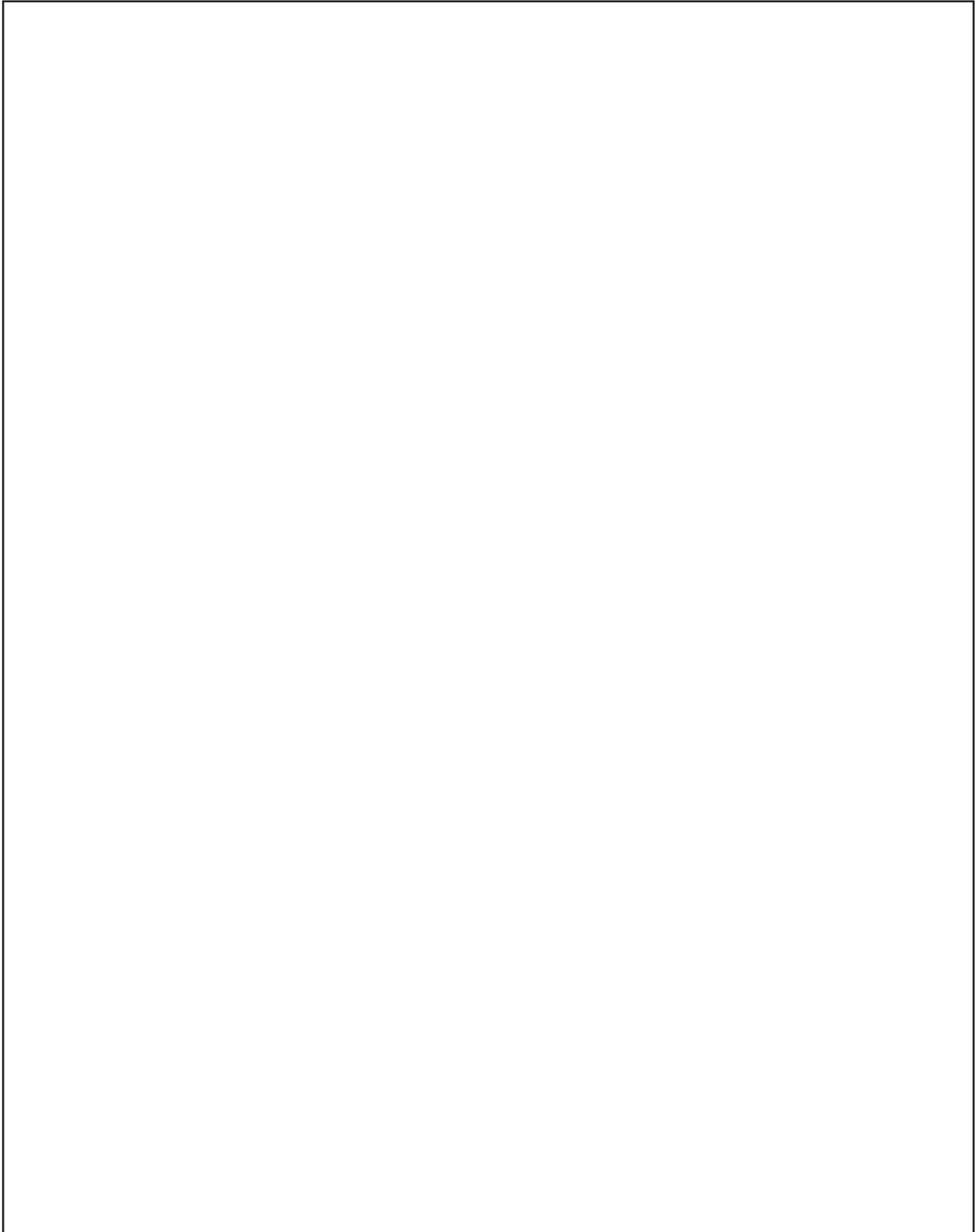
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## **Drawing Activity**

Draw your own animal camouflaged in its natural habitat.  
Have a look at this website to give you an idea of what animal  
you'd like to draw.

<https://nomadsworld.com/australian-animals/>



# CRAFT ACTIVITY

## Paper Plate Bee

What you will need:

Paper plate

Yellow and black paint

Googly eyes

White tissue paper

Yellow pipe cleaner

Instructions:

1. Paint your plate yellow and leave it to dry. Then paint black stripes across the body.
2. Cut out two tear drop shapes from the tissue paper for the wings and then glue them onto the body.
3. Stick on the googly eye at the front of the bee.
4. Stick the yellow pipe cleaner to the back of the bee as its sting.
5. And you're done! The end result should look like this:

From  
<https://www.activityvillage.co.uk/paper-plate-bee>

