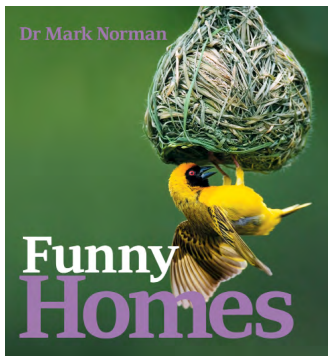




# Walker Books Classroom Ideas



## Funny Homes

Author: Dr Mark Norman  
 ISBN: 9781922179982  
 ARRP: \$16.95  
 NZRRP: \$18.99  
 October 2014

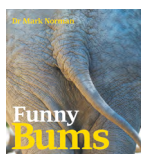
\*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

Walker Books Australia      Ph +61 2 9517 9577  
 Locked Bag 22                      Fax +61 2 9517 9997  
 Newtown, N.S.W., 2042

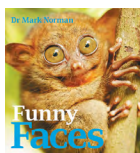
These notes were created by Steve Spargo.  
 For enquiries please contact:  
 educationwba@walkerbooks.com.au

Notes © 2014 Walker Books Australia Pty. Ltd.  
 All Rights Reserved

### Also available



**Funny Bums**  
 9781742032504  
 AU\$16.95/NZ\$18.99  
 Classroom ideas available



**Funny Faces**  
 9781922179968  
 AU\$16.95/NZ\$18.99  
 Classroom ideas available

## Outline:

Some animals live in funny places - prickly cactuses, dark caves, high treetops - strange places humans would not survive for five minutes. Find out why these animals have such funny homes.

## Author Information:

Dr Norman is Head of Sciences at Museum Victoria where he leads the large and active natural sciences research team. For his own research he studies octopuses, squids, cuttlefishes and nautilus (the cephalopods). He is also a trained teacher, an educational display designer and an experienced underwater cinematographer. His research and projects with documentary makers including BBC, National Geographic and Discovery Channel has covered giant squid, poisonous blue-ringed octopuses, huge aggregations of southern giant cuttlefish and diving surveys of remote Indo-Pacific coral reefs.



## How to use these notes:

The information in this book works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

<p><b>These notes are for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary years F-2</li> <li>• Ages 5-8</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key Learning Areas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<p><b>Example of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-fiction picture book</li> </ul>	<p><b>Themes/ Ideas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals/Biology/ Natural science</li> <li>• Adaptation</li> <li>• Survival</li> <li>• Environment</li> </ul>
--	--	--	--

National Curriculum Focus:*					
English content descriptions include:			Science content descriptions include:		
Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Foundation	*Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum. However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.	
ACELA1429	ACELA1446	ACELA1463	ACSSU002		
ACELA1430	ACELA1447	ACELA1466	ACSHE013		
ACLEA1433	ACELA1450	ACELT1593			
ACELA1786	ACELA1453	ACELY1667	Year 1		
ACELA1437	ACELY1661	ACELY1668	ACSSU017		
ACELT1575	ACELY1662	ACELY1671	ACSSU211		
ACELY1647	ACELY1664	ACELY1672	AC SIS024		
ACELY1648			Year 2		
ACELY1650			ACSSU030		



# Walker Books Classroom Ideas

## Discussion Questions and Activities

### English

View the cover and title. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The author
- The publisher

From the front and back cover what information can you learn about the book? What do you think this book is about? What type of book is this and where would you expect to find it in your library?

Identify the following features of this book:

- Title page
- Page numbers
- Glossary
- Index

How do these features help to make this book easy to read?

What is the purpose of *Funny Homes*? Is it telling a story or giving information? How can you tell?

What animal do you find most interesting in *Funny Homes*? Write or tell the class what you like or find interesting about it.

How do you think this book would be different if there were no pictures? What if there were no words?

A glossary is a collection of words from the book that lists their definitions. Turn to page 32 to view the glossary for *Funny Homes*. Are there any extra words in the book that aren't in the glossary that you don't know the meaning of? List these words then research their meaning or ask the class if anyone knows.

In what order is a glossary set out? How does this help when using it?

This book was written by Dr Mark Norman, a marine biologist. How do you think he found the information to write this book?

Compare this book to a storybook you have in your classroom. What is different about them? Imagine your teacher asked you to research an animal. How would a book like *Funny Homes* be useful?

List five ways you could find more information on any of the animals in *Funny Homes*.

Write and illustrate an imaginative story about one of the animals from the book and its funny home (for example, a story about a water bear freezing solid or a mountain goat climbing a cliff). Re-read your own story to check for errors and then swap with another classmate and check each other's work. Type your finished story in a word processor and scan your illustrations.

If you could live in any of the funny homes mentioned in the books, which one would you choose? How would you need to change to survive in this environment? Write a creative story about what would happen if you lived in this environment.

### Science

Choose one animal from the book and discuss what would happen if their habitat was changed, damaged or destroyed. Would the animal be able to survive in another habitat? Discuss the importance of protecting the natural habitats of animals.

Take a walk around your school yard and local parks, beaches or bush and observe the local wildlife. How do these animals and insects use the local environment to their advantage? What do they eat? How do they use the environment to protect themselves from predators?

Investigate your local environment and discuss how local parks and gardens could be changed to better meet the needs of native animals. For example, you could suggest planting certain types of trees, cleaning waterways, reducing pollution, etc.

Divide the class into groups and assign each group a domestic animal, such as dog, cat, fish, hermit crab, ferret, etc. Ask each group to imagine they are getting this animal as a pet and they need to come up with a plan for how they will prepare for this animal's arrival. This plan should include information on where they animal will sleep, what it will eat, where it will go to the toilet, how it will be kept safe from predators or other dangers, and how it will be entertained.

## Other great books from Dr Mark Norman



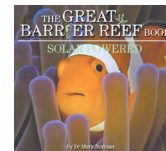
**Wild Planet:  
The Shark Book**  
9781742030128  
AU\$16.99/NZ\$18.99



**Poles Apart**  
9781742031354  
AU\$16.99/NZ\$18.99



**Saving Tasmanian  
Devils**  
9781742031804  
AU\$16.95/NZ\$18.99  
**Classroom ideas  
available**



**The Great Barrier  
Reef Book**  
9781742030319  
AU\$16.99/NZ\$18.99