

NAPLAN Proficiency Level Descriptions

Reading Year 3 - Exceeding

Example texts

Wanted

Classroom robot designer

Once there were only the three Rs—reading, 'riting' and 'rithmetic'—in the classroom. Now a fourth R—robots—is set to change all that forever!

Robots already help to make things in factories, they explore the deep oceans and outer space and help doctors operate on sick people. So why can't robots help students to learn at school?

Imagine how much fun learning could be with your very own robot. Would you like to help design a classroom robot? What things would you like your classroom robot to do?



Robots in Classrooms (RIC) needs your help!

We want to design the ultimate classroom robot for the 21st century. Enter now to win a place on our robot design team.

Tell us in 150 words or less why you should be on our team. What sets you apart from everyone else? What can you contribute?

Our panel of judges will reward original ideas, unique skills and the ability to work with others.

Win a place on our team!

If you are aged between 7 and 14, live in Australia and would like to enter, visit www.ric.edu.au and follow the links.

OR download the entry form and email it to RIC@robotos.edu.au

Entries close 31 May 2017.

The names of the 10 lucky winners will be posted on our website on 30 June 2017.

RIC

The procession

‘Okay you two, time to explore before dinner, but be back in half an hour, okay?’ said Dad. ‘And stay together!’

‘Look, I bet this goes to the beach’, I said, running down the path with Zoe.

The path was lined with scraggy trees but quickly opened onto a broad expanse of white sand, complete with climbable rocks, rock pools and great surf. It was going to be a fantastic holiday!

As we headed back, a sudden shuffling noise in the shadows made us both jump. The sound stopped when we did, but we couldn’t see anyone and anyhow it was too close to the ground to be a person.

‘Look’, said Zoe, pointing to a line of marks in the sand. ‘They weren’t there before, were they?’

‘I don’t think so’, I said, ‘but ...’ Suddenly the sound started up again—it was moving closer! We quickly found a low bush and we ducked out of sight behind it. Zoe’s eyes were wide. ‘Just watch’, I told her.

We didn’t have to wait long. The shuffling had almost gone past us before we spotted it: a shadowy, upright little figure waddling along, completely oblivious to our presence. It was soon followed by several others.

‘Wow! Penguins?’ whispered Zoe, breathless. I nodded as if I had known all along, but was just as amazed as she was.

‘They nest on land, probably up in that long grass we passed’, I whispered to her. ‘They come back at night from the sea to feed their chicks’. Zoe’s grin was luminous in the fading light.

Looking down towards the water, little penguins made their clumsy way up the path, and disappeared into the darkness beyond.



Bats

Types of bats

Bats can be subdivided into two main groups: microbats and megabats. This is determined by their diet and the way they navigate when flying.

Microbats are very small. They are mostly insectivorous, which means their diet consists of flying insects such as beetles, moths and mosquitoes. They usually live beside rivers and creeks, so they have access to fresh water. They also live in parks, reserves and even residential areas. During the day they roost in trees and hollows. They feed at night and although they have good eyesight they use sound waves and echoes to find their prey in the dark. This 'bat sonar' is called echolocation.



Kitti's hog-nosed bat

Megabats tend to be larger than microbats (but not always!). They are frugivorous, which means their diet consists of fruit and nectar from flowering plants. Like microbats, megabats are nocturnal but they rely on their good eyesight and excellent sense of smell to find food.

Some megabats are called flying foxes because of their fox-like faces and the red-coloured fur on their bodies. Although megabats hunt at night, large groups can often be seen during the day hanging from tall trees.



Flying fox mother and baby

Did you know?

- Bats are the only mammals that can fly.
- Bats have been known to live more than 30 years.
- A group of bats is called a colony.
- There are about 1240 different species of bats in the world.
- Australia is home to over 90 different species of bats.
- The Kitti's hog-nosed bat is the smallest bat in the world. It weighs up to two grams: about the same as a tea bag!
- The giant golden-crowned flying fox is the biggest bat; it weighs up to 1.6 kilograms with a wingspan of 170 centimetres!

Acknowledgements

Bats

Image of bat on hand MERLIN D. TUTTLE/SCIENCE SOURCE

Image of flying fox and baby © DanieleC / Alamy