

DR SARAH PYE AND HER PUPPETS PRESENT

# Wildlife Wong Workshops

Grades

9 workshops for Prep to  
Year 12

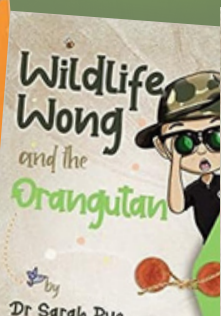
Curriculum

English, HASS and  
Science

BOOK  
NOW



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# Workshops

## WHO'S WHO IN THE RAINFOREST

Prep  
to  
Yr 5



In this engaging session, Sarah Pye and her puppet sidekicks, Pongo, Patrick and Luna, introduce some of the amazing inhabitants of the rainforest, with a multimodal presentation, and read stories from her acclaimed Wildlife Wong book series.

Yr 4  
to  
Yr 12

## MEET A REAL WILDLIFE HERO

Meet the real-life hero of the Wildlife Wong series on the big screen, all the way from Borneo! This exciting event is designed to extend learning after students have participated in other workshops and if classes have brainstormed questions about sun bears beforehand.



## WHAT SORT OF ANIMAL AM I ?

Prep  
to  
Yr 4



Students learn about rainforest animals through storytelling, puppetry and a multimedia presentation. They then embrace their 'inner animal' and paint or colour an animal mask to take home.

Yr 3  
to  
Yr 7

## HOW DO RAINFORESTS WORK ?

Sarah reads story from Wildlife Wong and the Fig Wasp which explores rainforest ecology and biodiversity and introduces some of the coolest rainforest animals. They learn about the mighty fig wasp before making their own mini rainforest terrarium to take home.



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## LIFE THROWS CURVEBALLS

Yr 11  
to  
Adults

The results of one exam can plague young people with self-doubt and anxiety and the leap from school to life can be a daunting one. In this honest keynote address, Dr Sarah Pye shares the highs and lows of her adventurous life: from a 'boat-schooled teenager' sailing the world, to a restaurant manager in Hawaii, a boat captain in the Whitsundays and a single mum on the Sunshine Coast. Through anecdotes of life-threatening storms, momentous rejection letters and podium finishes, participants learn there is more than one path to your goals. By leaning into the challenges, Sarah has gone from a girl who didn't go to high school, to a university lecturer with seven published books to her name!

Yr 4  
to  
Yr 7

## AM I AS CLEVER AS AN ORANGUTAN?

Students listen to a story from Wildlife Wong and the Orangutan about the naughty orangutan who stole Wong's keys. They discuss opposable thumbs (an orangutan and human superpower), then go outside and raid the gardener's green waste pile to try and build orangutan nests! Pongo the orangutan puppet tries them out for comfort...



## WHO'S IN MY GARDEN/PLAYGROUND?

Wildlife Wong and the Fig Wasp introduces some of the smallest creatures in the rainforest. This workshop begins with a multimedia presentation and story about some of them. In teams, children then make a quadrat (a grid which scientists use to count flora and fauna). With their quadrat in hand, they go outside and see what they can find. The workshop ends with a comparison of their findings.

Yr 4  
to  
Yr 9

Yr 3  
to  
Yr 6

## THE COOLEST ANIMALS YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED

This workshop starts with a multimedia presentation introducing some of the coolest rainforest animals. Then students become part of the action: using puppets to act out a story from Wildlife Wong and the Fig Wasp.



## PARLIAMENT OF ANIMALS

Yr 6  
to  
Yr 9



Students are introduced to the hypothetical Hutan village deep within the rainforest. Authorities have proposed a bridge across the river and the mayor has called a town meeting to determine whether there is support for this development. She has invited not only the human residents, but the animals too.

Through five 'acts', students are allocated a human or non-human character, research their character's needs and explore their character through drama workshops. They then present their perspective at the town gathering before voting takes place. The day ends with a discussion of civics, parliament and voting through an Australian and global lens.

Yr 4  
to  
Yr 6

## AM I LIKE A SUNBEAR OR AN ORANGUTAN?

First, students learn cool facts about sun bears and orangutans. Then, they use a measurement chart from either an orangutan or a sun bear, measuring tape, scales and thermometers to compare themselves to their chosen species. This workshop ends with a discussion about the results.



## WRITING THE ENVIRONMENT

Yr 7  
to  
Yr 12



Science needs writers! Students learn to harness their observation skills and use literary techniques to improve narrative and informational writing about the environment. With their tools sharpened, they put them to the test. This workshop can be conducted in the classroom, or in the great outdoors.

Yr 4  
to  
Yr 7

## NARRATIVE NON-FICTION VS INFORMATION TEXT

Aligning directly with the Year 6 curriculum, this workshop uses Wildlife Wong and the Sun Bear to explore literary text and informational text. Students learn the importance of research, planning and editing, and explore literary techniques.

They even get to help Sarah research her next book! In the extended 2 hour workshop, they practise writing in both styles, and learn there's more to books than just writing by exploring the publishing industry.

