Gippsland Lakes
The inspiration for children’s stories

Peter and Kelly Coleman
Environmental Education Consultants
Let me tell you a story…
We capture imagination and weave those ideas and images together into a published story that others can share in.

Our goal is to help connect students with their local environment and support the writing of a narrative that will engage and/or educate other students.

Enviro-Stories is *Inspiring Local Literacy*

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Our Enviro-Stories Recipe

Step 1: Mixing the ingredients
Take 1 or 2 key sponsors, add a story-writing theme, provide some education inspiration, and then mix effectively.

Step 2: Baking the mixture
Once the mix has been made, separate the goodness out to the teachers and students and allow that to bake until ready. Keep an eye on them to make sure they get the desired result.

Step 3: Sorting the results
Once ready, they can be sorted and the best ones are kept for that extra special surprise.

Step 4: Decorating the final product
After additional fine-tuning and decorating the stories are ready for presenting to the masses.

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Inspiring Local Literacy

A child tells multiple stories a day, but when asked to tell or write a story they suddenly have nothing to say. So why don’t we capture these thoughts, feelings, interactions and imagination on paper or film? Usually it is because we don’t have enough time, but mostly it’s because we don’t think it is important... just another storyline.

Enviro Stories is different. We want to capture these thoughts, images and weave them together into a published story that others can share in.

Through inspiring local literacy, our goal is to help connect students with their local environment (be it a farm, bushland, school, beach, community, the list is endless) and then support the writing of a narrative that will engage and/or educate other students.

Read our books today and witness the power of a child’s story.
Bringing it to the Lakes

We moved to Bruthen from NSW

Working with Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee

In partnership with Eagle Point Primary School and the Victorian Association of Environmental Education

Kids writing stories that are about the Gippsland Lakes and the catchment
Eagle Point Primary School

Eagle Point Grade 5/6 class were the “Guinea Pigs”

Conducted a 1-day workshop where we explored the lake shore, wrote the story and the kids illustrated the pages they wrote

We had a “first reading” with Member for East Gippsland, Tim Bull

Kids got to be in the Bairnsdale Advertiser and on WIN local news – *Very Exciting*!

Book is now online for everyone to read

**Why we Love our Lakes**
Eagle Point School tells their story

Eagle Point Primary School Loves Our Lakes
Next year...

Working with 10 schools to create 10 books about the Gippsland Lakes and its catchment.

Schools will participate in an Enviro-Stories writing workshop.

Schools have Term 1 to write and illustrate their stories.

Their books will be published, distributed across the region, made into online storybooks and interactive books for iPads.
A Focussed Approach

Schools will be encouraged to focus on topics or themes, such as:

- Dolphins
- Platypus / Rakali (Water-rat)
- Migratory birds
- Rivers in the upper catchment
- Wetlands and salt marshes
- Fishing
- Boating and recreation
- Food production
- The lake entrance
- Community groups/individuals
Resources available

2014 Enviro-Stories Program

Love Our Lakes Education Kit

Hint 1: Filling the pages
Pages don’t have to be full of text to tell the best story. Writing a storybook with 15 pages of...

Hint 2: Education for inspiration
Education kits are designed to inspire creativity and imagination in the natural world. The aim of Enviro-Stories is to...

Hint 3: Writing your story
Happy endings are not essential, but they make the reader feel that everything is going to be okay. Mind map...

Hint 4: Illustrating your story
Never be afraid to have a picture that shows a different side of your character. To ensure that your story...

Hint 5: Stick to the theme
Stories can get wildly off track as a child’s imagination soars. These stories can be fun to read, but published...

Hint 6: Taking photographs
A picture can say a thousand words… but it can take a thousand attempts to get the right picture. Whether you...

facebook.com/peekdesigns

twitter.com/EnviroStories
Getting Involved

Schools can get involved by registering on the website or, they can contact us...

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Short Stories

Coming Soon...
Kids can upload their short stories onto the Enviro-Stories website if they are not able to participate in one of the larger programs