

Teachers' Notes
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Mission Fox: Panda Chase by Justin D'Ath

The Mission Fox series take the reader on a journey into the lives and interests of Jordan and Harry Fox. Nine year old twin boys, Jordan and Harry are obsessed with animals - all animals from dangerous wild Pandas to newborn possums. Harry and Jordan's creative and energetic personalities, along with their faith in popular fictional characters such as 'Captain Amazing' lead them to create a secret business called 'Mission Fox' and go on risky animal rescue missions.

Mission Fox has three agents – Agent J (Jordan), Agent H (Harry) and Agent M (the boys' pet dog Myrtle, an enormous Great-Dane-Newfoundland cross). Their motto is '*Mission Fox Animal Rescue Service. We rescue animals in danger and find lost pets*' and they take their missions very seriously.

After canvassing their local community with leaflets that advertise their services Jordan and Harry receive calls day and night from locals requiring pet rescue. Their secret business is a success, except they don't take payment for their services - they 'do it for the animals'.

Between this and various unplanned encounters with lost or escapee animals; Jordan and Harry's adventures are exciting, fun and clever and model great problem solving strategies, cooperation and inventiveness that should appeal greatly to young boys and girls.

This second instalment of the Mission Fox series of books follows Jordan and Harry's adventures as they break into the Old Quarry which is fenced off and off limits. During their adventures the twins happen upon an escaped Panda. Always ready for a challenge Jordan and Harry jump at the chance to help corner and capture the rogue panda and use imagination, necessity and their backpacks full of resources to complete their mission.

The attached work sheets are in line with the Australian National Curriculum Grade 3. The worksheets focus on specific skills from the English, Mathematics, Integrated Studies and ICT Learning Areas. The AC number that appears in brackets under the title of each worksheet corresponds to a specific Learning Area General Capability.

English General Capabilities

Text structure and organisation

- ACELA1478

Language variation and change

- ACELA1475

Creating literature

- ACELT1601

Text in context

- ACELY1675

Responding to literature

- ACELT1596

Interpreting, analysing and evaluating (*Information and Communication Technology link*)

- ACELY1680

Creating text (*Information and Communication Technology link*)

- ACELY1682

Mathematics General Capabilities

Location and transformation

- ACMMG065

Money and financial mathematics

- ACMNA059

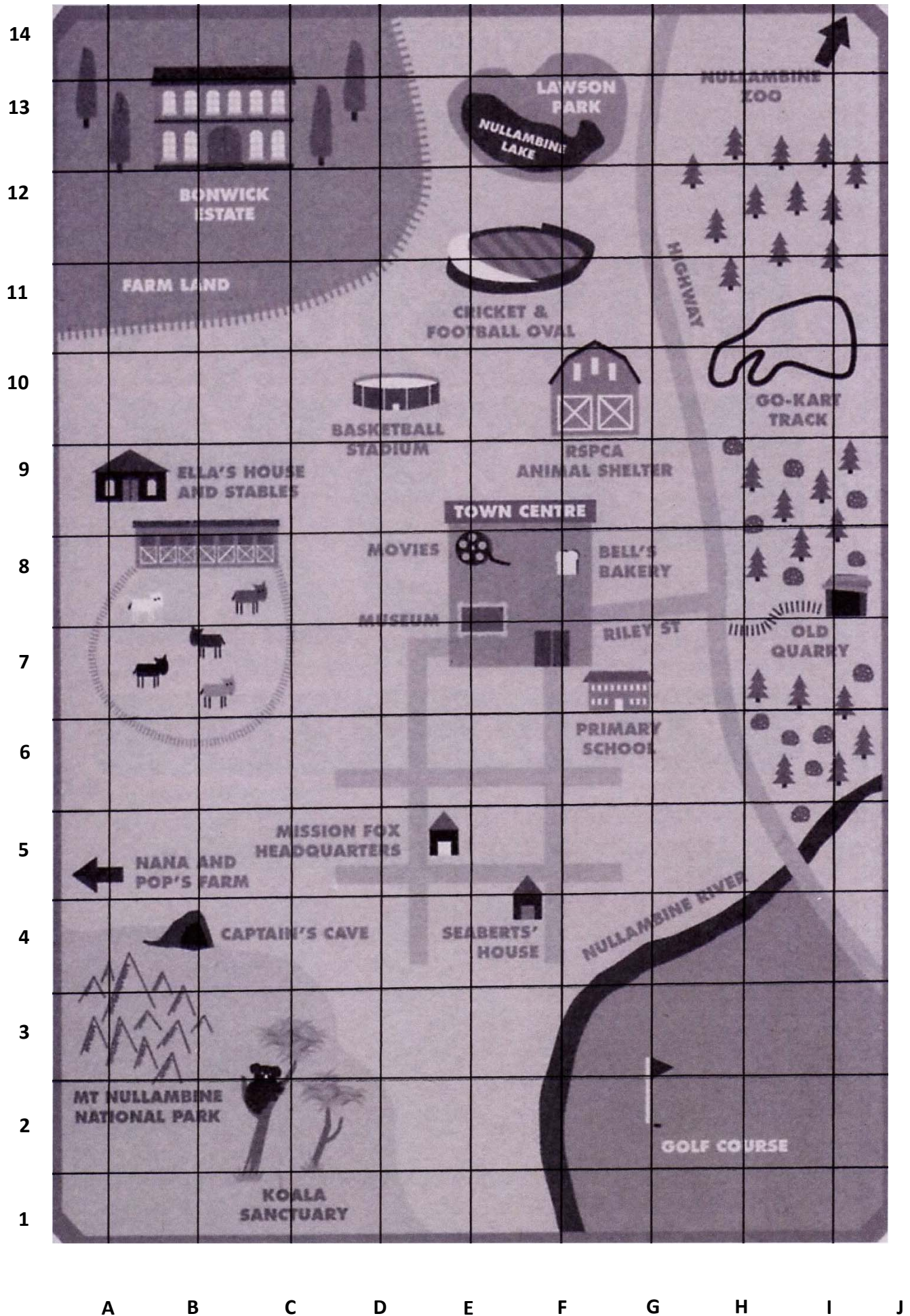
Activities:

(ACELT1596, ACELT1601, ACELY1682)

1. Read chapters 3 and 4. The twins do two things in these chapters that are dangerous and that their parents would be angry about.
 - a. What are the two things the boys did that were dangerous?
 - b. Why would their parents say 'no' if the boys asked if they could do these things?
 - c. Did the boys make the right choices when they did these dangerous things? Why/Why not?
 - d. Write about a time when you made a choice to do something you knew was dangerous or you knew your parents wouldn't let you do.
 - e. Use the above information as a stimulus to write an imaginative text about taking a risk.
2. Read chapters 7 and 8. These are the chapters that introduce the panda.
 - a. Write down as many adjectives as you can find that are used to describe the panda in these chapters.
 - b. List any other adjectives you can think of that would help describe the panda.
 - c. Write a description of a panda using the adjectives you have gathered. Imagine the person reading your description has never seen a panda before.

Gridding ACMMG065

Answer the questions below using the grid references provided.



Write the coordinates for the following places. For example, the Captain's Cave is D2.

1) The old Quarry:

2) Mission Fox Headquarters:

3) The white horse:

4) The RSPCA Animal Shelter:

5) The Museum:

Write the names down for the following coordinates.

1) What is at D6?

2) What is at I4?

3) What is at H6?

4) What is at F7?

5) What is at M6?

ANC - ACMMG065
Gridding Challenge

Imagine you live in the same town as Jordan and Harry and your pet is trapped somewhere in the town. Draw a path through the town on your copy of the Mission Fox map. Then write down instructions for a friend to follow to see if they can follow your path. Use coordinates to show direction as well as left and right and North, South, East and West. Remember to go around buildings and follow roads as much as you can.

ACN - ACELA1475, ACELY1679
Prediction



In sentences, write a prediction about this book using the illustration and title of the book pictured above. Include the evidence you have based your prediction on.

I predict that...
is...

The evidence I based my prediction on

Mission Fox

Panda Chase

Information Search

(ANC – ACELY1680)

Jordan and Harry use an App on their mobile phone called 'Brain' to quickly find information about different species of animals and insects. Use Google to find the following information about the animals featured in this book.

Animal	Looks like	Habitat	Dangers

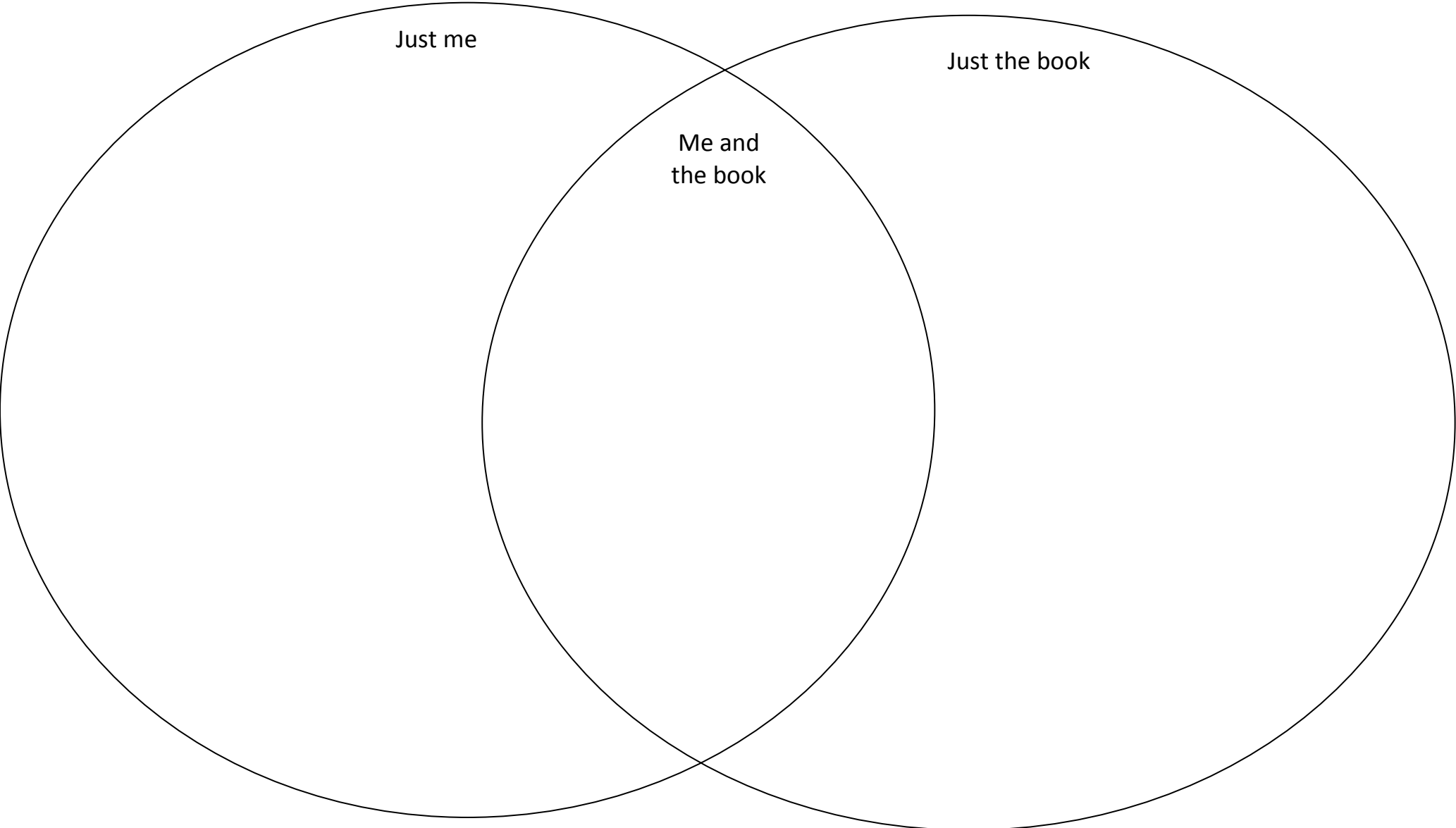
Text to Self Connections

Me and Mission Fox
(ACELT1596)

Just me

Just the book

Me and
the book

A Venn diagram consisting of two overlapping circles. The left circle is labeled 'Just me' and the right circle is labeled 'Just the book'. The overlapping area in the center is labeled 'Me and the book'. The circles are empty, intended for students to write their own connections.