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Bilba Sees the Sun

A note for grown-ups

Bilba's adventure is rooted in real bilby science. Here are some wonderful facts to share with your child — and a few questions to spark a conversation after the story.

Night owls of the outback

Bilbies are nocturnal — they sleep in their burrows during the day and come out at night. Bilba's first sunrise is a truly brave moment for a creature who has never seen the sun!

Ears like satellite dishes

A bilby's enormous ears aren't just for looks. They can hear insects moving underground and help detect predators from far away. Hearing is Bilba's real superpower.

Master builders

Bilbies dig spiral burrows up to 2 metres deep — often with multiple exits for a quick escape. When a bilby moves on, up to 25 other species move into the empty burrow!

No water needed

Bilbies never drink water. They get every drop of moisture they need from the food they eat — insects, seeds, and bulbs. Amazing desert survivors!

Australia's Easter Bilby

Since the 1990s, Australians have been replacing the Easter Bunny with the Easter Bilby — to raise awareness of this endangered marsupial and the threat that introduced rabbits pose to their habitat.

Endangered and protected

Fewer than 10,000 bilbies remain in the wild, occupying less than 20% of their former range. Conservation programs across Queensland, the NT, and WA are working hard to bring them back.

Talking points for after the story

- Why do you think Bilba was nervous about seeing the sun for the first time?
- What would YOU do if you woke up and the world looked completely different?

- How could we help protect bilbies and their homes in the wild?
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