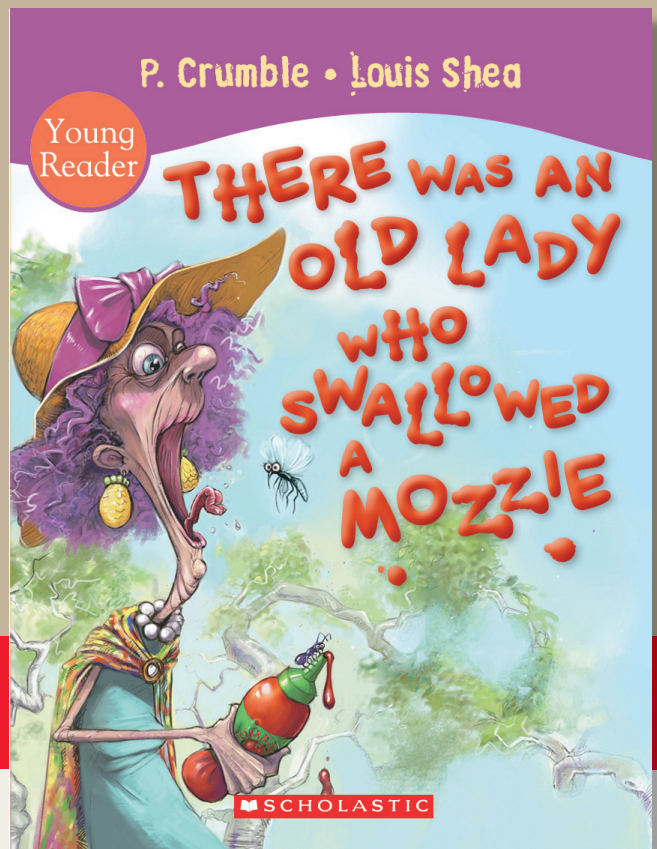


# There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Mozzie

By P. Crumble

Illustrated by Louis Shea

- Fun and nonsense • Rhythm and rhyme
- Australian wildlife • Australian colloquialisms



## Synopsis

*There was an old lady who swallowed a mozzie.  
I don't know why she swallowed that mozzie...  
She's gotta be Aussie!*

Aussie animals beware! An old lady is on the loose in the Australian bush and she has an unquenchable appetite! No-one and nothing is safe!

A fun and quirky, tangled take on the original nonsense rhyme, 'There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly'.

Have fun in the classroom reading and re-reading this hilarious rhyme.

## About the Author

The mysterious P. Crumble is author of the popular There Was an Old Lady... and There Was an Old Bloke... series. He enjoys putting a modern spin on classic children's tales and has a keen sense of the ridiculous. He can often be found talking to cats in the street (sometimes they do talk back).

## About the Illustrator

Louis Shea was born in Newcastle, NSW. His parents, an artist and an art teacher, encouraged him to pursue his creative talents. Louis lived in the New England region of NSW during school, and studied graphic design at Newcastle University. This led him to begin his freelance illustration career.

Louis first worked with Scholastic Australia in 2006. He says, 'I thought I would never hear from them,' but Scholastic loved his characters and ability to convey his hilarious sense of humour through his drawings. 'They keep coming back asking for more joke books, picture books and look-and-find books, as fast as I can draw them!' Louis jokes.

Louis lives in Melbourne with his family and currently works as a graphic designer and illustrator.

# Shared Learning and Discussion Points

## 1. SNAKE STEW AND CROC PIES

### Ask your students:

- Who would want to eat the animals that the old lady gobbles up?
- Can you think of some stomach-churning dishes this old lady might enjoy? As a class, list some disgustingly hilarious recipes.
- What would her home look like and who would her friends be?
- If they all had a party what would it look like?
- Can you imagine what she would get up to at the weekend (aside from gobbling echindas and snacking on mozzies)?

A fabulous opportunity to encourage students to use their imaginations and develop empathy skills.

## 2. SPEAKER'S CORNER

This is a perfect opportunity to get children on their feet and reciting this hilarious version of the old-fashioned nonsense rhyme. Invite them to partner up with a friend and to take turns to read each page, dramatising as they go.

### Ask your students:

- How do their voices change as they recite the rhyme? Do any lines sound the same?
- Is it a different experience from reading the book to hearing the rhyme read aloud?
- How is it different?

# Activities and Blackline Masters

## ACTIVITY 1: RHYMING CHALLENGE

A great phonics-based activity extending children's use and application of new vocabulary. The BLMs show Australian animals, and children are to write as many words rhyming with the animals' names as they can think of in a set time.

**For example:** Snake, bake, cake, wake, make, break.

They can then take turns with a partner to rework their new rhyming words into the lines of a book, recording them at the bottom of the worksheet.

### For example:

There was an old lady who swallowed a snake.

Give us a break! She swallowed a snake?

### a. BLM—'Rhyming Challenge' Worksheet

[www.scholastic.com.au/toolkit](http://www.scholastic.com.au/toolkit)

## ACTIVITY 2: ANIMAL FACT FILE

Take this opportunity to have students research into Australia's wonderful variety of wildlife.

They could use nonfiction books and the internet to compile fact files on the animals in this book.

Students should include appearance, behaviour, habitat, diet and interesting facts.

### b. BLM—Living Things Fact File

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