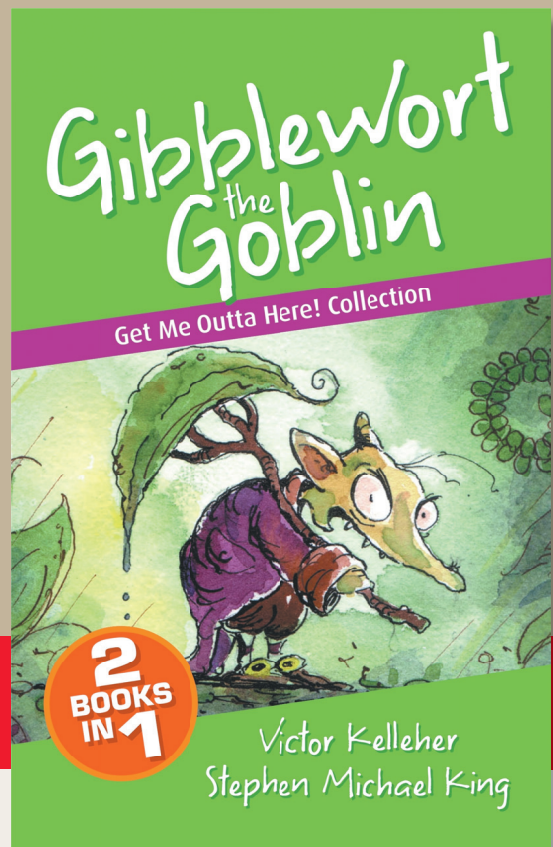


Gibblewort the Goblin Get Me Outta Here! Collection

By Victor Kelleher

Illustrated by Stephen Michael King

- Adventure • Humour • Cultural differences
- Tourism • Australian landscape and wildlife



Synopsis

Goblin in the City

Gibblewort the goblin thinks he is on the way home to Ireland ... until he gets thrown out of a mail van into the middle of a busy, bustling city. Blither and blather! Where are the grey clouds? Where is the squelchy rain? And where is the icy breeze a goblin loves so well? Yikes!

Gibblewort is lost in the big city ... and he soon finds himself in all sorts of trouble.

Goblin in the Rainforest

Gibblewort the goblin is filled with joy when he crawls out of his postbag to find damp earth, falling rain and the sound of the wind through the trees. He's made it home to Ireland at last! Except it's not Ireland, it's the Australian rainforest, and Gibblewort soon finds himself being stung, squeezed, sucked, nipped and pecked by all sorts of strange and unusual creatures. Another hilarious adventure from everyone's favourite grouchy goblin.

About the Author

Victor Kelleher came to Australia in 1976, from London, via Africa and New Zealand. After an academic career he now writes both children's and adult novels full-time. Victor has been shortlisted for many awards including the Australian Children's Book of the Year Award and the Australian Science Fiction Achievement Award. Previous children's books include *Johnny Wombat*, *Beyond the Dusk*, *To the Dark Tower* and *Del-Del*.

He is one of Australia's most celebrated authors.

About the Illustrator

Stephen Michael King's first picture book, *The Man Who Loved Boxes*, skyrocketed to popularity, winning the Family Award for Children's Books in 1996. It was also short-listed in the Crichton Award for Children's Book Illustration and has been sold around the world.

The Christmas 1996 bestseller, *Beetle Soup*, a collection of Australian poems and stories for children, illustrated by Stephen, was short-listed for the 1997 Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year Award.

Stephen describes drawing as something that he simply can't live without! 'As far back as I remember I loved to draw. All I needed was a stick and a nice patch of dirt and I was happy for hours. When I was ten years old I became partially deaf and experienced difficulty communicating with people. Drawing and dreaming became my escape.'

An inspiration for young artists everywhere!

Shared Learning and Discussion Points

1. LOST BAGGAGE

Ask your students to imagine that they have been separated from their family at an airport and accidentally bundled up in a postbag bound for _____ on the other side of the world.

They manage to break free of the box and crawl from the aircraft hold to find _____?

- What can they see?
- What can they hear?
- What can they smell and touch?
- How is it different to where they have come from?
- They are alone. How does it feel?

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

2. AUSTRALIA: A LAND OF WONDER AND SURPRISE

Have students list all the great attractions and wonders that Australia has to offer (from the Great Barrier Reef to backyard BBQs) versus the things that visitors may find difficult to get used to (the heat, bird-eating spiders, the weird and wonderful bird calls). Ask them to write them in the style of 'Tourism Taglines'.

For example:

WONDERS

Learn about Indigenous culture on a magical trip to Uluru.

Swim in the crystal waters of the Great Barrier Reef.

DIFFICULTIES

Can students turn difficulties into something exciting to draw visitors into Australia? They should be as humorous as they like!

For example:

Feeling miserable? Visit Australia and let the kookaburra's laugh cheer you up!

Need to get fit? Come to Australia and burn the calories running from spiders.

Australia's official tourism website invites you to 'discover why there is nothing like Australia.'

The Rough Guide to Australia describes 'endless beaches, sophisticated cities, outback adventures.'

As a class, brainstorm ideas for a tourism campaign.

Check out:

<http://www.australia.com>

<http://www.roughguides.com/destinations/australasia/australia>




Activities and Blackline Masters

ACTIVITY 1: GOBLIN GAME

Children could work in pairs or groups to make a board game based around Gobblewort in the rainforest. Discuss how a board game has rules, instructions and an end. Gobblewort might land on a space and get chased three spaces back by a cassowary, or swing on a vine three spaces forward.

Where is the FINISH? At the other side of the jungle? At the airport?

You may have some question cards asking about interesting rainforest facts to gain points in the game.

- BLM—Board Game Template** 
- BLM—Question Card Templates** 
- BLM—Rules and Instructions Template** 

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ACTIVITY 2: A GUIDE FOR GIBBLEWORT

How could Gobblewort's experience in an Australian city be more enjoyable?

Ask students to think about their closest town or city to make a map for Gobblewort, including handy tips in case he gets lost. They might highlight areas he would prefer (the park, lolly shops) and areas to steer clear of (the book shop, the busy streets).

Extension: Children might go on to create a guide for Gobblewort, suggesting accommodation, places to eat and ways to travel.

- BLM—Map Template** 
- BLM—EXTENSION Guide to the City Template** 

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