



Diary of a Wombat

By Jackie French

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Wombats are cuddly-looking, slow-moving Australian animals. Their favorite activities are eating, sleeping, and digging holes. Here, in the words of one unusually articulate wombat, is the tongue-in-cheek account of a busy week; eating, sleeping, digging holes . . . and training its new neighbors, a family of humans, to produce treats on demand. This entertaining book, with its brief, humorous text and hilarious illustrations, will endear the wombat to young children, who may recognize in the determined furry creature some qualities that they share.

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Diary of a Wombat By Jackie French Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #24133 in Books
- Brand: Clarion Books
- Published on: 2009-03-23
- Released on: 2009-03-23
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .13" w x 11.25" l, .35 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 32 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

What, exactly, do wombats do all day? One enterprising wombat answers that question and a few others in diary form in French's (No Such Thing) tongue-in-cheek picture book. After explaining his unique Australian heritage, the star of this volume paints a funny, if rather dull, picture of his daily routine. "Monday Morning: Slept./Afternoon: Slept./ Evening: Ate grass./ Scratched./ Night: Ate grass." Things begin to perk up, however, when the wombat discovers its new human neighbors. Before long, the always-hungry creature is at their door begging for food (preferably carrots or oats), digging in their garden ("Began new hole in soft dirt") and turning his neighbors' belongings into scratching posts. Happily, the human family appears to take the antics of their adopted wild "pet" in stride (though the wombat sees things a bit differently "Have decided that humans are easily trained and make quite good pets"). Whatley (the Detective Donut books) appears to relish this character study; he paints the chocolate-brown wombat in numerous poses and expressions--rolling, scratching, sleeping, chewing--on an ample white background. The artist gives the star expressive eyes without anthropomorphizing her. The often cuddly looking wombat may leave some readers envious of its languid lifestyle. And those curious about other animals' activities can explore *Diary of a Worm*, Ages 4-7. (Aug.) Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information.

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 2-Through simple sentences and hilarious yet realistic acrylic illustrations, readers are treated to a week of observations made by a young female wombat who becomes chummy with a human family. The diarist's obsessions with sleep and carrots allow a rest from heavier chuckles over a confrontation with a welcome mat: "Discovered flat, hairy creature invading my territory. Fought major battle with flat, hairy creature. Won battle. Neighbors should be pleased. Demanded a reward." French's text, in Kid's Stuff Plain font, also indirectly informs on habitat and wombats' nocturnal lifestyle. Whatley gives a sublime balance of the adorable charm of the creature, along with its drawbacks as an acquaintance. This title will team nicely with Margaret Spurling's *Bilby Moon* (Kane/Miller, 2001) for studies of Australian wildlife. *Gay Lynn Van Vleck, Henrico County Library, Glen Allen, VA*
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Review

"hilarious yet realistic...a sumblime balance of the adorable charm of the creature, along with its drawbacks as an acquaintance." SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL School Library Journal

"Whatley's acrylic vignettes...provide the perfect counterpoint to French's deadpan narration...readers...will laugh out loud at the wombat's antics." KIRKUS REVIEWS Kirkus Reviews

"tongue-in-cheek picture book...the often cuddly looking wombat may leave some readers envious of its languid lifestyle." PUBLISHERS WEEKLY Publishers Weekly

"The sweet yet deadpan humor...will tickle youngsters...amusing...look at clever (and awfully cute) garden infiltrators." THE BULLETIN OF THE CENTER OF CHILDREN'S BOOKS, Starred Review The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, Starred

"An affectionate, believable wombat self-portrait...very accessible and funny...." THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW The New York Times Book Review

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Senters:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Yes, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or maybe read a book titled Diary of a Wombat? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with their opinion or you have different opinion?

Eleanor Yoo:

The e-book untitled Diary of a Wombat is the e-book that recommended to you to learn. You can see the quality of the e-book content that will be shown to anyone. The language that author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of investigation when write the book, and so the information that they share for your requirements is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of Diary of a Wombat from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

Stephanie Matias:

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