

More than just another busy day at school...

Jenny Medd, part-time librarian, Kinross Wolaroi School, Orange

Kinross Wolaroi School, a K-12 co-educational school with a student population of 850, along with a daily group of thirty 'pre-prep' children (4 year olds) — all who use the one great library — decided to take part in the National Simultaneous Storytime as part of Library and Information Week 2001.

It was yet another particularly busy day at school. I managed to round up about 160 students (pre-preps through Kinder to Year 4) — to listen to *Edward the emu* at the set time. The day here had started off fine, though cool — it is autumn in Orange after all — and so we made the decision to hold the gathering in the playground for ease of collecting the various classes together quickly, without disrupting all other normal activities (especially in the library). Unfortunately the temperature kept dropping, and by 2:00pm it was bitterly cold. We decided to brave the

cold and the kids thoroughly enjoyed the story, although no-one delayed getting back to classrooms!

We did try to imagine all the other children who might be sharing the story at the same time — some just like us, others probably very different. It will be interesting to see other reports on the event and to be able to show them to the children who participated here at Kinross Wolaroi.



Jenny Medd entertains a large group of children during the National Simultaneous Storytime.

Unfortunately, the local newspaper crew arrived too late for the real storytime, but we did a bit of a re-run with the pre-preps. Photos of the event were included in the local paper on the Monday after the event. ■

ALIA 2001 TAFE Libraries Conference, Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane, Qld 21-23 October 2001



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