

# National Simultaneous Storytime 2005

11:00am AEST, 2 September 2005

The response to National Simultaneous Storytime this year has been overwhelming, with more than 300 registered storytime locations at the time of going

to print and an estimated storytime audience of more than 40 000.



Federal Minister for Education, Science and Training, Dr Brendan Nelson, prepares to read *Wombat stew* to schoolchildren at Taronga Zoo during the launch of National Simultaneous Storytime



Jennefer Nicholson, ALIA executive director, and NSS committee members Judy Drayton (left) and Carolyn Bourke (right) enjoy the 2005 NSS launch held at Taronga Zoo

National Simultaneous Storytime took place during National Literacy and Numeracy Week, an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training. National Literacy and Numeracy Week was officially launched by the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP, Minister for Education, Science and Training, at Taronga Zoo in Sydney on 28 July.

Using *Wombat stew*, this year's National Simultaneous Storytime book, as a theme, the launch saw children interacting with wombats, dingoes, koalas and kangaroos, while Dr Nelson performed a special reading of *Wombat stew*.

Look out for the October issue of *inCite* for a full round-up of NSS 2005 activities around the country. ■



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