

Adventures of Ernie Emu

Ernie learns safe swimming the hard way



Partner:





This book has been written and illustrated
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The Royal Life Saving Society WA.

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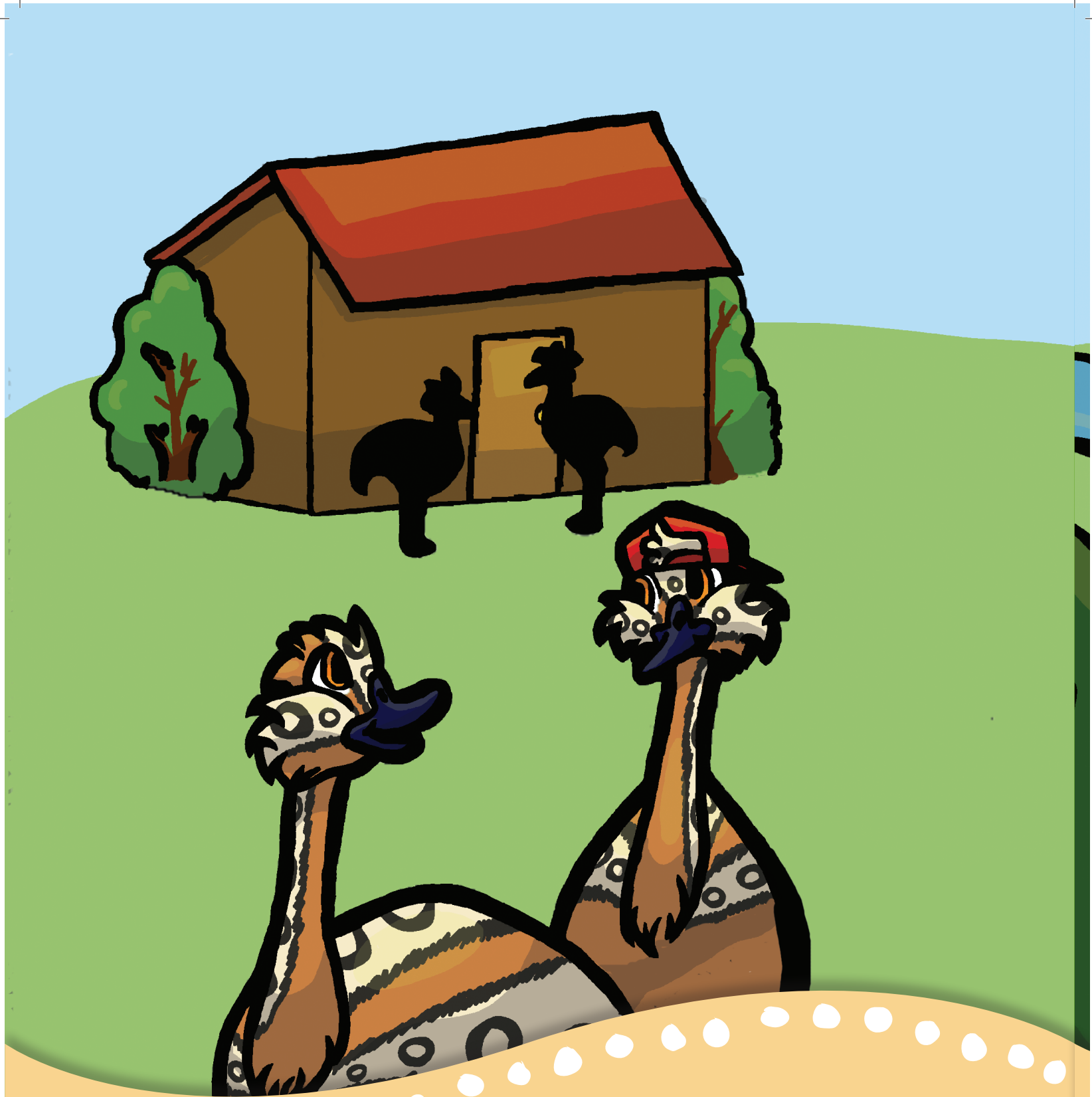
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Ernie learns safe
swimming the
hard way





Ernie Emu lived out in the bush. He lived with his Mum, Dad, and his older brother Eddie Emu.



On a scorching summer day, Mum and Dad Emu took Ernie and Eddie down to the creek. The brothers jumped straight into the water. Ernie wanted to teach himself to swim.

Hey grown-ups!
An adult should always be in
the water with kids!



Mum and Dad Emu knew they needed to swim with Ernie. It doesn't take very long for something bad to happen in the water.



The Emus all cooled down in the water together. SPLISH! SPLASH! Ernie was having so much fun!

An illustration of an emu in a pool. The emu is on the left, looking towards the right. It has a blue beak and a patterned body with brown, white, and black spots and stripes. In the background, two people are silhouetted against a light blue background, standing on a brown bank. A speech bubble with a blue border is positioned above the emu, containing text. The bottom of the page is a yellow area with a white dotted line.

Hey
grown-ups!

Make sure you know
who's watching kids
around water at
all times!

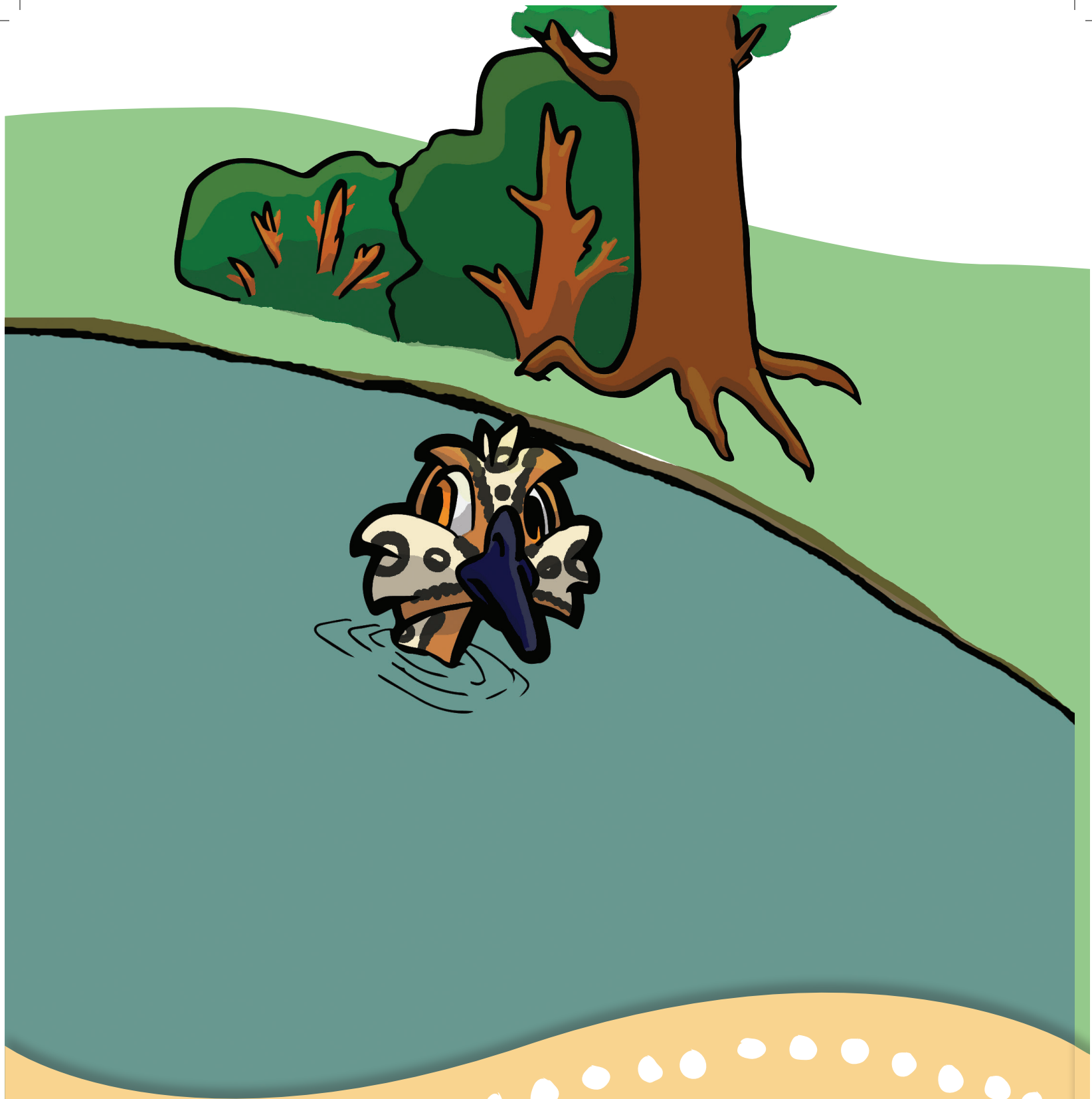
"I'm going to go have some lunch."
said Mum Emu. **"Make sure you watch
Ernie"** she said to Dad Emu.

"He's not a strong swimmer."



**“Don’t go too far into the water, Ernie!
The creek has a very strong current and
you might get hurt by a branch.”**

Dad Emu called before heading off to play
with Eddie.



Ernie didn't listen. He was having such a great time splashing around. He started swimming in deeper water.

Hey grown-ups!

Kids can get into trouble in the water in seconds. Never take your eyes off them.



Soon, Ernie couldn't touch the bottom.

He was having problems keeping his head above water.

The current was getting stronger, and he was being swept away into some rocks.



Hey
grown-ups!

If kids are missing,
always check around
water first - every
second counts!



“**Help!**” cried Ernie. He tried to swim to the edge,
but it was too far away.

Max the Water Monitor, who was playing nearby,
noticed Ernie struggling. He swam after him and
grabbed Ernie before he hit the rocks.



Ernie sat on the bank. He felt cold and scared.
“**Thanks Max**” Ernie gurgled. Dad Emu ran
over to Ernie. “**I was gone for 2 seconds and
you swam away!**” Dad Emu yelled.



“Ernie! Always make sure an adult is watching when swimming!” Max wasn’t happy.

“Dad Emu, you should always make sure you are watching your child when he’s in the water. If I wasn’t there, Ernie could’ve gotten seriously hurt.”



Both Dad Emu and Ernie said sorry to Max.
They both felt terrible.

Ernie and Dad Emu learnt an important lesson that day
and now when Ernie goes swimming, Dad Emu makes
sure he is within arms reach at all times, and Ernie
knows never to go in the water without an adult.

Good on ya, Ernie and Dad Emu!



Good on ya Ernie, be water safe
Grown-ups keep watch, your family's great
Keep them together, keep them safe
Every day ends great when everyone's safe

Supervise – always keep watch around water

Prevent your child's access to water

Learn – teach your child to be water confident

Respond – learn CPR and call 000 in an emergency

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