

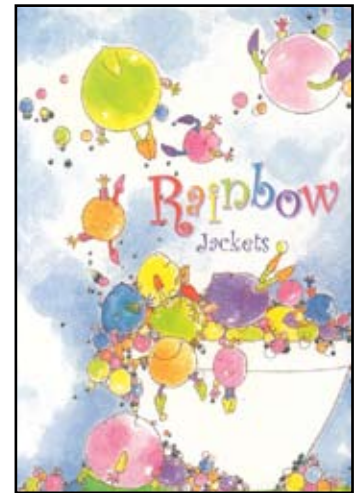
## Rainbow Jackets

Elaine Forrestal

with illustrations by Sharon Thompson

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### About the book

Chatty bubbles, pet flies, cranky umbrellas, crazy kitchens and more in these wonderfully witty stories from award-winning writer Elaine Forrestal.

Like its companion volume, *A Glassful of Giggles*, this book is full of fun with quirky characters and magical moments in everyday settings. The stories lend themselves to telling, reading aloud and dramatisation, but their rhythms, rhymes and illustrations will also give support and confidence to young, independent readers.



### About the author

Elaine Forrestal is an award-winning author of fiction titles for young readers. She has been writing stories and poems since she was in primary school. Born in Perth, Western Australia, Elaine grew up in small wheatbelt towns. After travelling the world and teaching for many years she now lives in Scarborough with her husband, Peter, and their beagle, Fling. She has two daughters.

[www.elaineforrestal.com.au](http://www.elaineforrestal.com.au)

### Bubbles

#### Maths, science and art/craft

1. Give each child a bubble-blower (made from a twisted garden-tie or pipe cleaner) and access to some bubble-mixture.
2. Encourage the children to observe the bubbles they are blowing.
3. Compare sizes: bigger, smaller, tiny, middle-sized. And shapes: sphere, circle, oval, elongated.



4. Discuss what is inside a bubble. How does it get in there? What is a bubble's skin made of?
5. Ask the students to describe the colour of a bubble. Is it always the same colour? Can you catch a bubble:
  - in your hand?
  - in the bubble-blower?
  - on paper?
6. Add colouring to the bubble mixture. Use a straw to blow into the container. Once it has filled with bubbles, carefully place a piece of art paper over the top.
7. How many bubble shapes can you count on the paper?

Charlie Forever

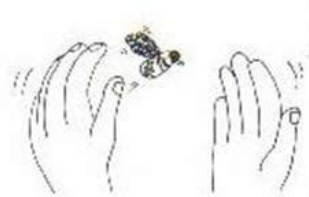
## Science

1. Borrow a microscope from the science lab and allow the students to examine a fly.
2. Chart the life cycle, breeding grounds, number of legs.
3. Discuss the compound eye of the insect.
4. Compare flies with other insects.



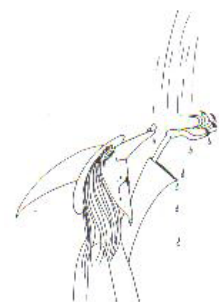
## Drama

5. Use mime to act out the story.
6. Role-play the loss of a pet.



## Health

7. Compare the dangers posed to health by germs carried by flies, with the harm that pesticides can do to the environment.



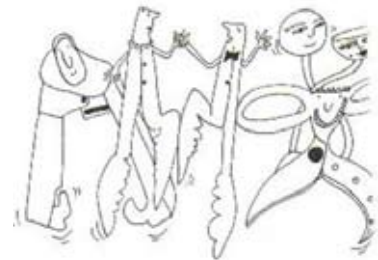
The Humptee Umbrella

1. Read or tell the story, pausing each time the Humptee Umbrella runs off.

2. Ask the students to suggest a solution to Quarkum's problem.
3. The open ending of this story can be used to stimulate the students' own writing of a sequel or an alternative ending.
4. Add an art element by asking the students to turn their stories into individual picture books or a joint book for the class library.
5. Dramatise the story. Add more characters, new adventures, different solutions to the problems.

## The Wirra Wirra Bird

1. First read the story without showing the pictures.



### Art

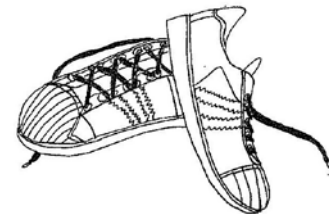
2. Ask the students to describe the Wirra Wirra bird.
3. Draw it on the white/blackboard using their suggestions. Give each student a sheet of art paper and ask them to draw their own version of the creature.

### Technology and Enterprise

4. Ask the students to construct their own working model of a Wirra Wirra Bird.

## I Can't Find Any Socks

**This story lends itself to the exploration of mathematical language and concepts.**



1. Using the socks of class members, act out the story. When all the socks have ended up in the lost property box, do lots of sorting, matching, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing.
2. Set Mum's 'complaining song' (page 47) to music. Make your own instruments to accompany the tune. Turn the whole story into a musical performance by developing tunes for the 'Hurry up Newton' chorus and the 'Days of the Week' refrain.