

Hueber Lektüren

Cousins and Crocodiles

Jane Bowring

Illustrated by Cheryl Orsini

Hueber Verlag

Contents

Chapter 1	Crossing the river	4
Chapter 2	What a brat!	7
Chapter 3	Jamie runs away	10
Chapter 4	Lizards and other helpers	14
Chapter 5	Looking for crocodiles	19
Activities		23
Glossary		31

VORSCHAU

Crossing the river

‘Susie,’ says Alice. ‘Crocodiles come from eggs.’

‘Yes, they do,’ I say.

Alice is reading a book – *Australian Animals*. She is my cousin. Her mother is my Aunty Beth. Aunty Beth is my mother’s sister.

‘They come from eggs?’ asks her little brother, Jamie. ‘Like chickens?’

‘Yes,’ says Alice. ‘Like chickens.’ She closes her book. ‘But chickens have little eggs and crocodiles have BIG eggs – BIG eggs, BIG mouths and BIG teeth. Crocodiles have BIG teeth to eat you with!’

Alice laughs. Jamie hits her head.

‘Ouch! Don’t hit me!’ says Alice. ‘That hurts.’ She isn’t laughing now.

‘Stop it, you two,’ says Uncle Rob, their father. ‘I’m driving and you aren’t helping!’

‘Jamie, don’t be naughty,’ says Aunty Beth. ‘Don’t hit your sister.’

Jamie is always naughty. He is five and Alice is ten. Aunty Beth, Uncle Rob, Alice and Jamie are on holiday in Australia. They live in England. Mum and I live in Sydney, but now we are on holiday with them – in Far North Queensland. We are driving in a big car. We are going to a hotel near the Daintree River.

Uncle Rob stops the car. We are at a small river. The road goes across the river.

‘Can we go?’ says Jamie. ‘I’m hot.’



What a brat!

‘Look!’ says Mum. ‘There’s the hotel.’

A sign says ‘Daintree River Hotel’. Uncle Rob drives the car into the hotel car park. He stops the car and says, ‘Okay. Everybody out!’

We walk through the car park, through a garden and then through a big door into the hotel.

‘Hello,’ says the man behind the desk in the hotel. ‘My name is David Mills. Can I help you?’

‘Yes,’ says Mum. ‘Thank you.’

Mum and Aunty Beth talk to Mr Mills. Uncle Rob, Alice, Jamie and I look at the pictures on the walls. There is a picture of a river. There is a boat on the river. The people on the boat are looking at a crocodile in the water.

‘I want to go on that boat,’ says Alice.

Uncle Rob asks Jamie, ‘Do you want to go on the boat?’

‘No!’ Jamie shouts. ‘I hate boats!’

‘Jamie, sshh,’ says Uncle Rob. ‘Don’t shout. And don’t be silly. You don’t hate boats. We go on boats at home.’

‘Yes,’ says Aunty Beth. ‘You love going on boats at home in England.’

‘I’m not silly,’ says Jamie. ‘I hate boats.’

Mr Mills looks at Jamie. ‘But people like going on this boat. You can see birds and you can see...’

‘CROCODILES!’ says Alice, jumping up and down. ‘You can see crocodiles!’

‘Yes,’ says Mr Mills, and he smiles at her. ‘You can see crocodiles.’

Looking for crocodiles

We are on the boat. We are *all* on the boat on the river – Mum, Aunty Beth, Uncle Rob, Alice and I – and Jamie. We are looking for crocodiles! We see birds near the water – white birds with long legs, and brown birds with long legs. We see birds in the trees – blue and yellow birds, blue and green birds, and two little birds that are green and blue and red and yellow!

It is very hot. Mum gives us water.

And then Jamie shouts, 'Look! Look! Susie, look – it's a lizard. A BIG lizard!'

'Where?' I ask.

'There – on the branch over the water.'

We all look. A big lizard is lying on the branch of a tree near the water. A man on the boat says, 'That's an Eastern Water Dragon.'

'A dragon?' says Jamie. His eyes are wide open. 'A dragon...ohh!'

There is a splash, and the dragon jumps into the water.

'That dragon is the crocodile's cousin,' says Jamie.

'The crocodile's cousin?' says Alice. 'That's silly.'

'It's *not* silly,' says Jamie. 'The dragon is a lizard, and lizards and crocodiles are cousins. Aren't they, Susie?'

'Yes, they are,' I say.

'Well, I don't want to see crocodile cousins!' says Alice. 'I want to see crocodiles! Where are the crocodiles, Aunty Meg? I want to see crocodiles.'

'I know,' says Mum. 'I want to see them too.'

Chapter 3

Before you read

A. Look at the picture on page 11 and circle the correct answers.

1. What is Susie jumping into?
a. a swimming pool b. a river c. a bath
2. Which word describes best how Alice looks?
a. happy b. excited c. unhappy

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

lie naughty gate idea

1. Close the _____ or the cows will get out of the field.
2. It is a good _____ to stay inside when it is raining.
3. My cat likes to _____ by the fire.
4. That little dog chews people's shoes. What a _____ dog!

C. Listen to Track 4 on the CD and answer these questions.

1. After Jamie jumps into the pool, what is on Alice's book?
a. water b. food
2. What does Alice want to do?
a. read b. sleep
3. Where do crocodiles hide?
a. in trees b. under the water

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. What time of day is it?
a. morning b. afternoon c. evening
2. Who jumps into the pool first?
a. Jamie b. Uncle Rob c. Susie
3. What place near the hotel is dangerous?
a. the garden b. the car park c. the river
4. Who gives Susie a phone?
a. Beth b. Mr Mills c. her mum

B. Circle T for true or F for false for these sentences.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. They are all on the boat. | T / F |
| 2. It is very hot. | T / F |
| 3. The crocodile goes into the water. | T / F |
| 4. Jamie is unhappy at the end of the story. | T / F |

C. Complete these sentences.

1. The two little birds are green and blue and _____.
2. The dragon is lying on the branch of _____.
3. When the crocodile swims away, it moves _____.
4. They all look for more crocodiles and more _____.

D. Write short answers to these questions.

1. Who sees the Eastern Water Dragon first?

2. Who says that Jamie's idea about the crocodile's cousin is silly?

3. Who says, 'Ooh. I'm hot'?

4. What animal does Jamie say he is when his mouth is open wide?

LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

A. Write the correct prepositions in the spaces.

at into beside in

1. We see birds _____ the trees.
2. The dragon jumps _____ the water.
3. Uncle Rob sees the crocodile. It is _____ the river.
4. Jamie looks _____ Susie.

B. Write the missing vowels to make words from Chapter 5.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. sh _ _ ts | 3. m _ v _ s |
| 2. t _ k _ s | 4. _ p _ ns |

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Listen to Chapter 5 on the CD. Do you think that Jamie is a good boy? Why or why not?

jug /dʒʌg/ <i>n.</i>	Krug
like /laɪk/	wie
lizard /'lɪzəd/ <i>n.</i>	Eidechse
lots of /lɒts əv/	viele, Massen von
naughty /'nɔːti/ <i>adj.</i>	frech, ungezogen
path /pɑːθ/ <i>n.</i>	Pfad
point at /pɔɪnt/ <i>v.</i>	zeigen auf
poor /pʊː/ <i>adj.</i>	arm
pretty /'prɪti/ <i>adj.</i>	hübsch
safe /seɪf/ <i>adj.</i>	sicher
seat /siːt/ <i>n.</i>	Sitz
sign /saɪn/ <i>n.</i>	(Hinweis-, Verkehrs-) Schild
silly /'sɪli/ <i>adj.</i>	dumm, doof
smile /smaɪl/ <i>v.</i>	lächeln
sometimes /'sʌmtaɪmz/ <i>adv.</i>	manchmal
splash /splæʃ/ <i>v.</i>	spritzen, bespritzen
stay /steɪ/ <i>v.</i>	bleiben
still /stɪl/ <i>adv.</i>	immer noch
swimmer /'swɪmər/ <i>n.</i>	Schwimmer(in)
tail /teɪl/ <i>n.</i>	Schwanz
tear /tɪə/ <i>n.</i>	Träne
teeth /tiːθ/ <i>n.</i>	Zähne (Plural von <i>tooth</i>)
through /θruː/ <i>adv.</i>	durch
understand /ˌʌndə'stænd/ <i>v.</i>	verstehen
want /wɒnt/ <i>v.</i>	wollen
way /weɪ/ <i>n.</i>	Weg
wide /waɪd/ <i>adj.</i>	weit