

Principal's Desk

Welcome to 2025 at Clovelly Public School

Welcome back to another exciting school year at Clovelly Public School! I hope this message finds you well-rested, recharged, and ready for the journey ahead. As Acting Principal for Term 1, it is my absolute privilege to work alongside our incredible students, families and staff to continue the legacy of excellence and community spirit that defines our school.

For those of you who may not know me well, I have had the pleasure of being part of the Clovelly Public School community for 17 years. My journey here began in 2008 as a Music teacher, and over the years I have been fortunate to take on various roles including classroom teacher, Assistant Principal, Instructional Leader and most recently Deputy Principal. These experiences have given me a deep understanding of our school community, its unique strengths and its potential for continued growth. I am thrilled for this opportunity to work closely with you all and build upon the amazing work already happening at our school.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the outstanding leadership and dedication of Matthew Jackman, our previous Principal. His passion for creating a warm, welcoming school with his motto, happy teachers = happy children, was matched by his remarkable ability to harness the support of our community to drive improvements across our school. A standout achievement during his tenure was ensuring the successful refurb of our school hall—a space that now serves as a hub for learning, creativity and celebration. This, along with many other improvements, and an increased awareness of the healthy rivalry between the Sydney Swans and Collingwood, has left a lasting legacy and we are deeply grateful for all he has done. On behalf of the entire school community, we wish him every success in his new role as Principal of Toomelah Public School and extend our congratulations for his recent marriage to Hazel which was held overlooking the beautiful Clovelly coastline.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited to continue building on the strong foundations that have been laid and to pursue new opportunities in line with our School Excellence Plan. Our future directions include:

- **Evidence based programs and data driven practices** through the implementation of explicit programs such as *InitialLit*, *Spell-Ex*, *MiniLit*, and *MacqLit and Essential Assessment* as we continue the successful rollout of the Department of Education's new syllabus.
- **Positive wellbeing and intellectual engagement** including through the *Anxiety Project* and *Grow Your Mind* programs, along with providing rich co-curricula learning opportunities to ensure the social, emotional and academic needs of all students are met.
- **Expertise and innovation** through harnessing professional learning networks to support the development of all staff.
- **Strengthening community partnerships** with students, parents and families and the broader community. Here, a focus continues to be on **providing excellent facilities** through partnerships with the P&C to drive continued improvements to our school grounds- watch this space!

First Day of Kindergarten

We extend a warm welcome to our new Kindergarten students and their families through what has been a very smooth transition to school. This exciting milestone can bring with it a kaleidoscope of emotions, so please know that you are now part of a vibrant and caring school community and we will work in partnership to support your child. Rest assured your children will be waltzing off, making new friends and well on their learning journey before you can say, "Where did that time go?"



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P&C

I would also like to extend a special invitation to all families—especially those who are new—to get involved with our wonderful P&C. This is a fantastic way to connect with other families, get involved in school activities and make a meaningful impact on our school community. The first meeting of the year will be held at **7pm on Wednesday 19th February in the staffroom**. For more information visit <https://clovellypublicpandc.com/>



Staffing Updates

This term, Department of Education proceedings are underway for the recruitment of the Principal position. For the duration of Term 1 I will be in the Acting Principal role, Ms Clare Hanoumis will take on the Deputy Principal role and we welcome Ms Aly Campbell back from leave to take on the role of Assistant Principal Curriculum Instruction (APCI).

The wonderful Mr Gary Scale will be taking some leave for Term 1 and we welcome Ms Aoibhin Cassidy to run the Drama program in his absence for the term. As a lover of literature herself and a highly experienced team member, Mrs Gabrielle Levi is tasked with the role of Librarian this year.

In other staffing news, Mrs Sue O'Brien will continue her leave this year and we wish her well in her tree-change endeavors. Ms Raffaella Di Cesare will also be taking some leave for Terms 1 and 2 and we wish her well for her adventures. We are thrilled to welcome Ms Leonie McRae (Year 2) and Mr Zane Weston (Year 4) along with Ms Nicole Williams (RFF) and Ms Claire Dunleavy (RFF) to the Clovelly teaching team. After a period of leave welcoming a new member to the family, we welcome back Ms Casey Dunn to the Kindergarten teaching team. We congratulate Mr Raven Bendersky as he takes on an opportunity not to be missed with his new position at Lord Howe Island Public School. Congratulations are also in order for Ms Lynsey Martin and her family who welcomed a new baby girl Cora into the world during the school holidays.

2025 Staff List

Kindergarten

KL - Breanna Langer
(Assistant Principal ES1)
KG - Miranda Gilbert
KS - Aly Spiteri
KDW - Casey Dunn (M,T) Lauren Ward (W,T,F)
KDS - Carly Daniel (M,T,W) Jaimie Smith (T,F)

Year 1

1B - Nicola Beese
1J - Claudia Jambrak
1T - Tim Bates
1M - Rachel Mannion

Year 2

2S - Jess Shepherd
(Assistant Principal Stage 1)
2M - Leonie McRae
2W - Jessica Westren
2C - Steffi Chapman

Year 3

3M - Jaclyn Miller
(Assistant Principal Stage 2)
3C - Helen Campbell
3S - Sasha Sydney

Year 4

4A - Amy Woodhouse
4M - Conor McDermott
4W - Zane Weston

Years 5/6

5/6C - Lynn Caines
(Assistant Principal Stage 3)
5/6B - Stephanie Boatswain
5/6M - Sarah Madden

Library - Gabrielle Levi

Music & ICT - Eleanor Carghill

Learning Support - Mia Campbell & Vanessa Fitzgibbon

STEM - Oran Mullally

RFF - Jenny Miley, Nicole Williams & Claire Dunleavy

Administration

Belinda Starkey, School Administration Manager
Susan Knight, School Administration Officer
Stephanie van Dam, School Administration Officer
Judy Whittaker, School Learning Support Officer
Katy Morgan, School Learning Support Officer
Gary King, General Assistant

Swimming Carnival

We have certainly hit the ground running (swimming) with the completion of a tremendous Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. Thanks to Ms Amy Woodhouse for her expert co-ordination of the event, to the broader staff for their dedication, to the parents for their support and finally to the students for their exemplary behaviour and boundless energy that made for a hugely successful carnival. Catch all of the action in the photos included in this newsletter.

I look forward to catching up with you all over the next few weeks as we get started on an exciting term ahead.

Warm regards
Rhianna Grentell
Acting Principal



School resource

Selective high school and opportunity class applications opening – sample text for applications notice

About this resource:

This resource is a sample notice to inform parents/carers that selective high school and opportunity class applications are open and how to apply.

How to use this resource:

- 1 Copy and paste this sample text into your school newsletter or online parent/carer notification platform (for example, Skoolbag, Enews or Sentral) to inform parents/carers that selective high school and opportunity class applications are open.
- 2 You may like to add the contact details of a staff member from your school who can answer any parent/carer questions about selective high schools and opportunity classes or assist parents/carers to apply.

Selective high school and opportunity class applications are open from 7 November 2024 to 21 February 2025

Selective high school Year 7 entry in 2026: Apply when your child is at the end of Year 5 or the beginning of Year 6.

Opportunity class Year 5 entry in 2026: Apply when your child is at the end of Year 3 or the beginning of Year 4.

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are 2 of the ways the NSW Department of Education supports high potential and gifted students.

What are their benefits?

- Students learn alongside, and form friendships with, other high potential and gifted classmates.
- Special teaching methods allow students to learn at a quicker pace and in more detail.
- Research shows that students benefit both academically and socially when learning with classmates who have similar abilities.

Selective high schools and opportunity classes are not zoned so you can apply to ones outside your local enrolment area.

Do you speak another language? Translated resources are available in 13 languages on our website: edu.nsw.link/shsoc_languages

Is a selective high school or opportunity class the right fit for my child?

A selective high school or opportunity class might be a great fit if your child:

- learns quickly
- asks complex questions
- is highly motivated
- has a good memory
- is intensely focused in their area of interest

Where are **selective high schools (Year 7-12)** located?

There are 4 types of selective high schools:

- fully selective high schools, where all students attending the school have high potential or are gifted
- partially selective high schools, where there is a mix of students who have high potential or are gifted and local area students
- 4 agricultural selective high schools, including 3 boarding schools
- Aurora College, which provides online selective classes for rural and remote students in their local host schools.

Search for a selective high school near you at [Find a selective high school](#).

Where are **opportunity classes (Year 5-6)** located?

There are 2 types of opportunity classes:

- full-time opportunity classes in selected primary schools
- Aurora College, which provides online opportunity classes for rural and remote students in their local [authorised host schools](#).

Search for an opportunity class near you at [Find an opportunity class](#).

Students successfully placed attend the opportunity class full-time in Years 5 and 6. In most cases, students who have accepted a place in an opportunity class will leave their current school to attend the school with the opportunity class.

Discuss the opportunity with your child and look through the information together on the [Selective high schools and opportunity classes](#) website and in the student resource hub:

- [Applying for a selective high school: Student resource hub](#)
- [Applying for an opportunity class: Student resource hub](#)

Fair and equitable access

The [Equity Placement Model](#) helps make access fairer for more high potential students in our community.

We know that some students may be missing out because they experience educational disadvantage.

Under the model, up to 20% of places in each selective high school and opportunity class are held for:

- students from low socio-educational advantage backgrounds
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students
- students from rural and remote locations

Selective high school and opportunity class applications opening – sample text for applications notice

- students with disability.

These students still receive offers based on their performance in the placement test.

Learn more at [Fair access](#).

The application process

Complete the [online application](#).

Applications **close** on **21 February 2025**.

Once your application has been submitted and processed, your child will need to sit a computer-based placement test. Learn more at [Application process](#).

Ready to apply?

Apply online at shsoc.education.nsw.gov.au

Further information

Visit [Selective high schools and opportunity classes](#).

Deputy's Desktop

What a wonderful return we've had to Clovelly Public School after a mammoth summer break! It is always lovely to welcome back students and hear all about their adventures, visits from Santa, long beach days, lost teeth, and everything in between! I would also like to welcome all our new families joining us this year, and I'm looking forward to getting to know your children over the next few weeks.

For those who don't know me, I'm Miss Hanoumis, though many of the kindergarten kids call me Miss Snoomis. I've been at Clovelly PS for 12 years, starting as a kindergarten teacher in 2013. I have worked with various year groups across the school and have been in the Instructional Leader role for the last two years, assisting the teachers in implementing the new English and Maths programs within their classrooms.

One of my favourite things about working at Clovelly is getting to know all the families coming through our school and being part of these amazing kids' lives for the best part of their schooling. My first ever class is currently in Year 12, and with some of their siblings still at Clovelly PS, I adore having the occasional visit to say hello and hear about their successes and future plans.

Thank you all for being part of the Clovelly community. I'm excited for the year ahead and can't wait to see what we'll achieve together!

Below is information regarding NAPLAN 2025 for all students in years 3 and 5.

Warm regards
Miss Hanoumis

NAPLAN 2025 parent and carer information

Each year the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is sat by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Students will participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

NAPLAN 2025 will take place from **Wednesday 12 March** to **Monday 24 March**.

NAPLAN is just one part of our school's learning assessment program. The tests assess literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school, so the best preparation is their everyday classroom learning. Our school will also undertake activities to help students become familiar with the types of questions and tools available in the online tests.

The public demonstration site

(<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) is available for you to see the format of the online tests.

Further information about NAPLAN is available on the NESA website

(<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/naplan>) and the NAP website

(<https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>).

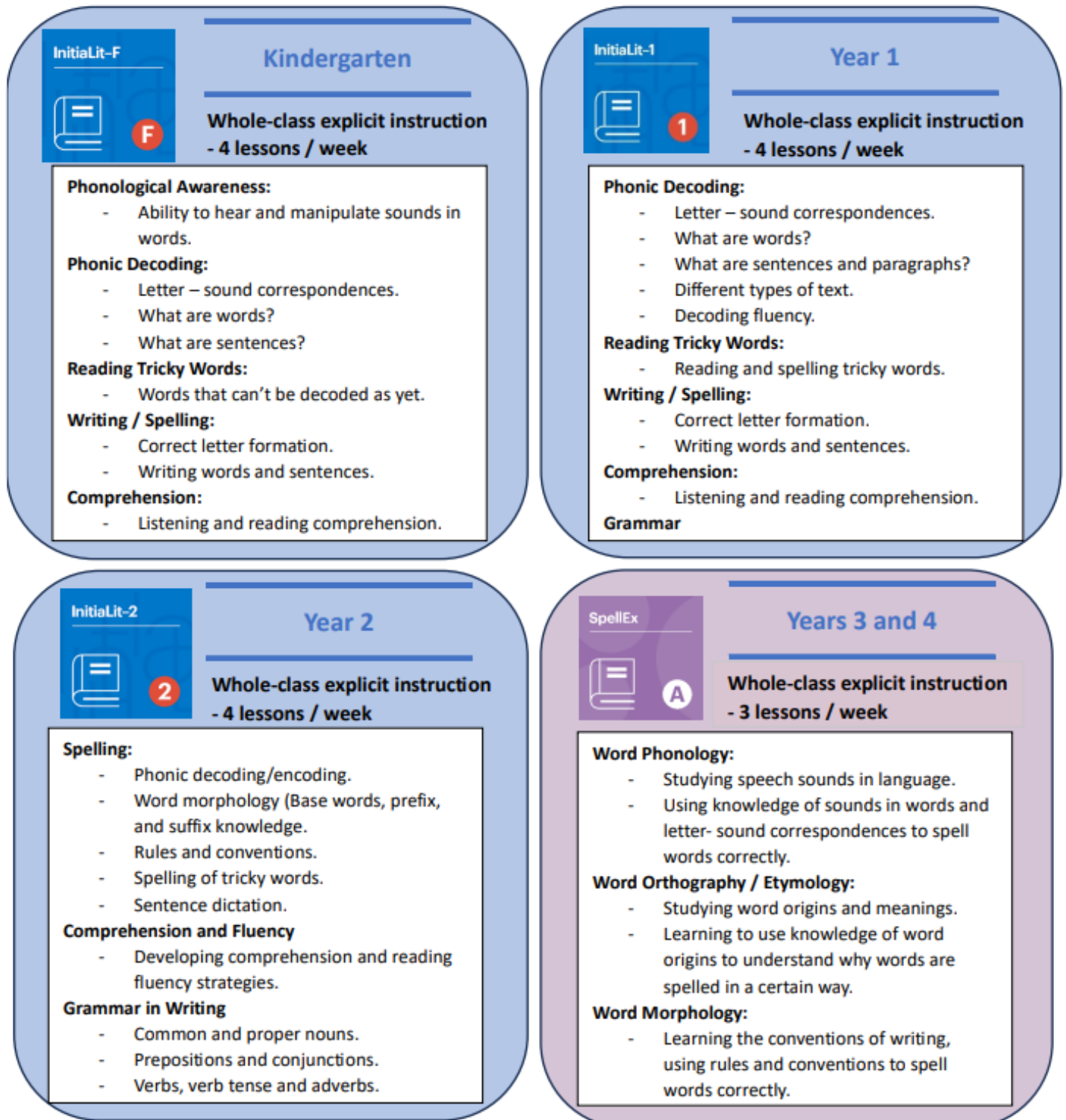
If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

Curriculum & Instruction

In 2025 Clovelly Public School will be continuing with the implementation of the InitialLit and SpellEx programs. These two programs are evidence-based whole-class literacy programs which will provide all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers.

Below is a brief overview of the programs.

Ally Campbell
Assistant Principal Curriculum & Instruction (APCI)



From the Library

Welcome Back

Welcome back to our CPS Library! Mrs van Dam and I have been very busy getting the library up and running for a new school year.

What's New in the Library?

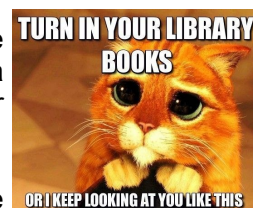
Our comic/graphic novels have been moved to the 'Tardis' space at the front of the library. These titles are extremely popular amongst our students.

We have a tub of 'Book Buddy' teddies and our big teddy, Jelly that our younger readers may like to read to.

Students are encouraged to look out for new book displays at the front of the library, which get moved around at regular intervals.

Overdue and Lost Books

Thank you to the students who returned their books at the end of last year. The shelves are now looking really full with great titles to borrow, however, there are still a large amount of outstanding returns. Could you please have a look on your bookshelves and return any outstanding books as soon as possible?



From time to time, we will send out a notice of overdue books. We are looking into the possibility of emailing these to you at the end of each term, but may also send paper copies as the need arises. If you have previously notified the library staff about missing books and they still appear on your overdue notice, please let us know so we can rectify this on the computer system.

Whilst we do not charge for lost books, a donation to the library would be greatly appreciated. To make a payment for lost library books please login to School Bytes <https://portal.schoolbytes.education/auth/login> go to Finance, Add Item (+) and select 'Lost Library Books' and pay by credit card.

Events

The Premier's Reading Challenge and Readathon will run concurrently from Week 9 into Term 2.

We are really excited to get this year up and running. It has been lovely to see so many enthusiastic students already spend some time in the library over the last few days.



Scholastic Book Club catalogues for Issue 1, 2025 are going home with students this week. The catalogue can also be found online at [https://](https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/book-club/)

www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/book-club/

For free delivery to school order only from Issue 1. Home delivery is now \$10.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. These books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and are inexpensive.

As well as bridging the important class-to-home reading gap, Book Club also benefits Australian schools—for every Book Club order placed, Scholastic gives back 15% of the order total to schools to spend on valuable educational resources via its Scholastic Rewards program.

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Please note: **Book Club LOOP** is the only way to pay- the school will not accept any money via teachers or the School Office.

Closing date for all orders and payments is Wednesday 19 February 2025

For further information see <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/>



Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back after the long holiday break! I hope you all had a wonderful and rejuvenating time. As we step into this new year, I look forward to supporting our students' wellbeing and growth. Every newsletter I'll be sharing some ideas/tips/advice with you on topics I often get questions about. I hope you find it relevant and useful.

Transition to/back to school

A new school year can be exciting but may also bring some nervousness. It's natural for children to experience a mix of emotions and adjustment as they begin the year with many changes – a new grade, teacher, classroom, mix of peers...the list goes on. Here are key ways to support your child's transition:

- ♦ **Stay Positive** – Encourage excitement about new experiences and reassure them that feeling nervous is normal.
- ♦ **Set Routines Early** – Gradually adjust sleep and morning schedules to ease into the school rhythm.
- ♦ **Encourage Friendships** – Arrange playdates or talk about ways to make new friends.
- ♦ **Validate Feelings** – Listen to their worries and remind them that adjusting takes time.
- ♦ **Build Independence** – Give small responsibilities to boost confidence in handling school tasks.
- ♦ **Stay Supportive** – Check in regularly and seek additional help if needed.

With patience, structure, and encouragement, your child will soon feel comfortable and confident in their new routine!

I Want to Hear from You! Your Input Matters!

As I strive to support the mental health and wellbeing of all our students, I want to ensure my articles cover the topics that matter most to you and your family. Do you have concerns about anxiety, resilience, social skills, screen time, or other areas of child development? Let me know!

Please share your suggestions via the school email clovelly-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

with **“Attention School Counsellor - newsletter”** in the subject line and I will endeavour to cover the topic throughout the year. Your input helps me provide valuable resources and support for our school community.

Looking forward to hearing your ideas!

Rachel Berezovsky
School Counsellor & Registered Psychologist





234.50 for 3 days! Offer ends March 16!

PROGRAM INCLUDES

- 01 9-3pm each day
- 02 Basketball, Rugby, AFL, Netball, Soccer and Hockey on offer
- 03 Suitable for all ages and skill levels
- 04 Guest appearances at selected programs

THREE DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS!

LOCATIONS

- Matraville Sports High School, Chifley - 14, 15, 16 April 2025
- University of NSW, Daceyville - 22, 23, 24 April 2025
- Perry Park Rec Centre, Alexandria - 15, 16, 17 April 2025
- Heffron Park, Maroubra - 22, 23, 24 April 2025
- Concord Recreation Centre, Concord - 15, 16, 17 April 2025
- Five Dock Leisure Centre, Five Dock - 22, 23, 24 April 2025

It was overall very positive and the kids made great connections with coaching staff and other participants

Contact Us:
1300 914 368
admin@australiansportscamps.com.au

More Information:
australiansportscamps.com.au

LEARN SPANISH

at Clovelly Public School

- Learn Spanish from qualified and native Spanish speaking teachers.
- All levels welcome.
- Our program is based on interactive learning through music, songs, movement, stories and games.

When: 8am to 8:45am on Fridays
(during school term time)

\$190 per term
FREE TRIAL for new students

For enquiries, contact:

- @ infolearnandflow@gmail.com
- https://www.learnfloweducation.com
- learnfloweducation

Learn & Flow
EDUCATION

CREATIVE KIDS
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