

Tiddalik the Frog

The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story about a frog called Tiddalik.

In the Dreaming, there lived a frog called Tiddalik. He was a very greedy frog. One hot day, Tiddalik went down to the billabong where there was plenty of water. He was so thirsty that he drank all the water in the billabong.



When all the other animals came to the billabong for a drink, they discovered that there wasn't any water left.

They were so hot and thirsty too. They knew that it was the greedy frog, Tiddalik, who drank all the water. They became very angry at him. The animals knew that they had to get the water back somehow. If they wanted to get all the water out of Tiddalik and back into the billabong, they would have to make him laugh. The wise owl said that if he laughed, all the water would come out.



First, the echidna rolled down the hill into the dried up billabong. Tiddalik didn't laugh.

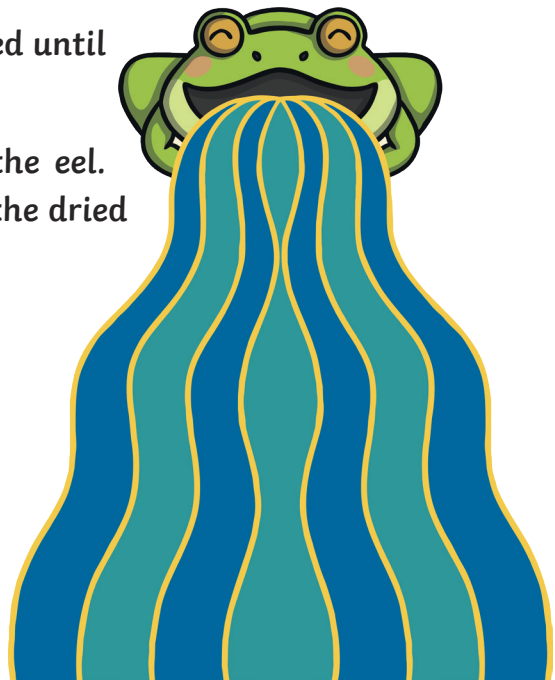
Next, the kookaburra pretended to fall out of a tree. Tiddalik still didn't laugh.

After that, the wombat danced some very funny moves. Tiddalik still didn't laugh.

The animals were so confused that they didn't know what to do.

Finally, the eel danced and danced and danced until he tied himself into a big knot.

Then, Tiddalik could not stop laughing at the eel. All of the water came out and ran back into the dried up billabong.



Questions

1. The following passage comes from the story "Tiddalik The Frog". Fill in the missing words.

When all the other animals came to the _____ for a drink, they discovered that there wasn't any water left. They were so hot and _____ too. They knew that it was the _____ frog, Tiddalik, who drank all the water. They became very angry at him. The animals knew that they had to get the water back somehow. If they wanted to get all the water out of _____ and back into the billabong, they would have to make him _____. The wise _____ said that if he _____, all the water would come out.

2. Use the passage above to do the following:
- a) Highlight the pronouns in blue. Pronouns are used to replace nouns.
For example: they, them, us.
 - b) Circle the nouns in red. Nouns are words that tell us a person, animal, thing, thing or idea. For example: tree, ring, apple.
3. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.
- a) to, who, out
 - b) somehow, too, hot
 - c) onto, billabong, owl

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

4. a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
b) The wise owl suggested that the animals make Tiddalik laugh.
5. a) The eel danced and danced until he tired himself into a big knot.
b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
6. a) All the animals became very angry.



b) Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.

7. List two interesting things you learnt from this Aboriginal Dreaming story.

a) _____

Challenge Option

Draw a picture of your favourite part of "Tiddalik The Frog".

Write at least two sentences explaining what you have drawn.

Answers

1. When all the other animals came to the **billabong** for a drink, they discovered that there wasn't any water left. They were so hot and **thirsty** too. They knew that it was the **greedy** frog, Tiddalik, who drank all the water. They became very angry at him. The animals knew that they had to get the water back somehow. If they wanted to get all the water out of **Tiddalik** and back into the billabong, they would have to make him **laugh**. The wise **owl** said that if he **laughed**, all the water would come out.
2. Use the passage above to do the following:
 - a) Highlight the pronouns in blue.
they (x7), him (x2), he.
 - b) Circle the nouns in red.
animals (x2), billabong (x2), water (x4), frog, owl.
3. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.
 - a) **to, who, out**
 - b) somehow, **too**, hot
 - c) **onto**, billabong, owl

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

4.
 - a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
 - b) **The wise owl suggested that the animals make Tiddalik laugh.**
5.
 - a) **The eel danced and danced until he tired himself into a big knot.**
 - b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
6.
 - a) All the animals became very angry.
 - b) **Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.**
7. List two interesting things you learnt from this Aboriginal Dreaming story.
Answers will vary. Students will write two things that they learnt or found interesting.

Challenge Option

Draw a picture of your favourite part of "Tiddalik The Frog".

Write at least two sentences explaining what you have drawn.

Answers will vary. Students will draw their favourite part and write two sentences explaining their illustration.

Tiddalik the Frog

The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story about a frog called Tiddalik.

In the Dreaming, there lived a frog called Tiddalik. Tiddalik lived in the Wollombi Valley. He was a greedy frog. He wanted to be the biggest frog in all the land. One hot day, Tiddalik was very thirsty. He went down to the billabong where there was plenty of water. He was so thirsty that he drank all the water in the billabong.



Other animals came to the billabong but there was no water for them to drink. They knew that it was greedy Tiddalik who drank all the water. They were angry! The wise owl said that if the animals made him laugh, all the water would come out. So, the animals thought of some ways of making Tiddalik laugh.

First, the echidna tried to make him laugh. The echidna rolled down the hill into the dried up billabong. Tiddalik didn't laugh.



Next, the kookaburra who was perched high up in the gum tree pretended to fall out. Tiddalik still didn't laugh.

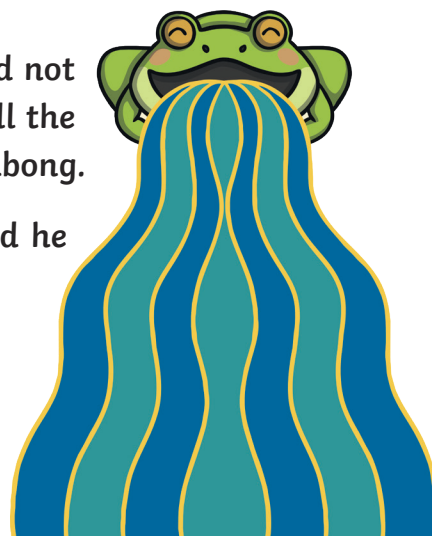
After that, the wombat started dancing some very funny moves. But still Tiddalik didn't laugh.

The animals were so confused that they didn't know what to do. They were still very thirsty.

Finally, the eel decided to give it a try. He danced and danced and danced until he tied himself into a big knot.

Suddenly Tiddalik's mouth started to move. He could not stop laughing at the eel. He laughed so much that all the water came out and ran back into the dried up billabong.

From that day, Tiddalik was never greedy again and he only drank what he needed.



Questions

1. Why did Tiddalik drink all the water from the billabong?
 - a) He was greedy.
 - b) He was thirsty.
 - c) He was angry at the other animals.
 - d) He thought there was plenty of water.
2. What did the echidna do to try and make Tiddalik laugh?
 - a) He pretended to fall out of a tree.
 - b) He started dancing some very funny dance moves.
 - c) He rolled down a hill into the dried up billabong.
 - d) The tied himself up into a big knot.
3. What made the billabong fill up with water again?
 - a) It rained for many days.
 - b) All of the animals made Tiddalik laugh.
 - c) Tiddalik laughed.
 - d) The wise owl suggested that Tiddalik should laugh.
4. Complete the sentences using the following words from the text.

greedy

billabong

wise

suggested

confused

- a) The teacher _____ that we stay inside when it rains.
 - b) I get very _____ when I try to complete my maths work.
 - c) When the student answered all of the questions correctly, the teacher said
"You are very _____."
 - d) My brother is very _____ when it comes to eating desserts.
 - e) The _____ was empty because the sun dried up all the water.
5. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.
 - a) to, who, out
 - b) somehow, too, hot
 - c) onto, billabong, owl



Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
b) The wise owl said that the animals should make Tiddalik laugh.
7. a) The eel danced and danced until he tied himself into a big knot.
b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
8. a) All the animals became very angry.
b) Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.
9. Write all the words from "Tiddalik the Frog" in the box below that have three syllables.

Challenge Option

Create a storyboard of "Tiddalik the Frog". You also need to include two to three sentences explaining what each picture is about.

Answers

1. Why did Tiddalik drink all the water from the billabong?
 - a) He was greedy.
 - b) **He was thirsty.**
 - c) He was angry at the other animals.
 - d) He thought there was plenty of water.
2. What did the echidna do to try and make Tiddalik laugh?
 - a) He pretended to fall out of a tree.
 - b) He started dancing some very funny dance moves.
 - c) **He rolled down a hill into the dried up billabong.**
 - d) The tied himself up into a big knot.
3. What made the billabong fill up with water again?
 - a) It rained for many days.
 - b) All of the animals made Tiddalik laugh.
 - c) **Tiddalik laughed.**
 - d) The wise owl suggested that Tiddalik should laugh.
4. Complete the sentences using the following words from the text.

greedy

billabong

wise

suggested

confused

- a) The teacher **suggested** that we stay inside when it rains.
 - b) I get very **confused** when I try to complete my maths work.
 - c) When the student answered all of the questions correctly, the teacher said
"You are very **wise**."
 - d) My brother is very **greedy** when it comes to eating desserts.
 - e) The **billabong** was empty because the sun dried up all the water.
5. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.
 - a) to, **who**, out
 - b) somehow, **too**, hot
 - c) **onto**, billabong, owl

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
b) **The wise owl said that the animals should make Tiddalik laugh.**
7. a) **The eel danced and danced until he tied himself into a big knot.**
b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
8. a) All the animals became very angry.
b) **Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.**
9. Write all the words from “Tiddalik the Frog” in the box below that have three syllables.
Tiddalik, Wollombi, Creation, billabong, discovered, animals, suggested, echidna, pretended, finally, decided, suddenly.

Challenge Option

Create a storyboard of “Tiddalik the Frog”. You also need to include two to three sentences explaining what each picture is about.

Answers will vary. Students will need to draw pictures for different parts of the story. They will need to write an explanation/description about what each picture is. Give credit to students for correct order, organisation and description.

Tiddalik the Frog

The following story is based on a traditional Aboriginal Dreaming story about a frog called Tiddalik.

Once upon a time in the Dreaming, there lived a frog called Tiddalik. Tiddalik lived in the Wollombi Valley in the Creation era. He was a greedy frog. He wanted to be the biggest frog in all the land. One scorching day, Tiddalik became very parched. He wandered down to the billabong where there was plenty of water. Tiddalik was so thirsty that he began to drink and drink and drink until all the water in the billabong had disappeared.



When all the other animals gathered at the billabong for a drink, they discovered that there wasn't any water left. They were so hot and thirsty too. They knew that it was the greedy frog, Tiddalik, who drank all the water. They became vexed with him. The animals knew that they had to get the water back somehow. The wise owl suggested that if he laughed, all the water would come out. The animals knew that if they wanted to get all the water back into the billabong, they would have to make the frog laugh.



First, the echidna tried to make him laugh. The echidna rolled down the hill into the dried up billabong.

Tiddalik didn't laugh.

Next, the kookaburra who was perched high up in the gum tree pretended to fall out. Tiddalik still didn't laugh.

After that, the wombat started dancing some very funny moves. But still Tiddalik didn't laugh.

The animals were so confused that they didn't know what to do. They were still very thirsty. Finally, the eel decided to make an attempt. He danced and danced and danced until he tied himself in a big knot.

Suddenly Tiddalik's mouth started to move. He could not prevent himself from laughing at the eel. He laughed so much that all the water came out and ran back into the dried up billabong.

From that day, Tiddalik was never greedy again and he only drank what he needed.



Questions

1. Why did Tiddalik drink all the water from the billabong?

2. What did the echidna do to try and make Tiddalik laugh?

3. What made the billabong fill up with water again?

4. The words in the box come from the text. Use a dictionary to find their meaning.

greedy

billabong

wise

suggested

confused

greedy:

billabong:

wise:

suggested:

confused:

5. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.

a) to, who, out

b) somehow, too, hot

c) onto, billabong, owl



Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
b) The wise owl suggested that the animals make Tiddalik laugh.
7. a) The eel danced and danced until he tied himself into a big knot.
b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
8. a) All the animals became very angry.
b) Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.
9. Create a list of all the words that have two and three syllables.

Two Syllables

Three Syllables

Challenge Option

Create your own "Tiddalik the Frog" Aboriginal Dreaming story to explain how the billabong was filled back up with water. Illustrate your story.

Answers

1. Why did Tiddalik drink all the water from the billabong?

Tiddalik drank all the water in the billabong because he was so thirsty.

2. What did the echidna do to try and make Tiddalik laugh?

The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh by rolling down a hill into the dried up billabong.

3. What made the billabong fill up with water again?

The billabong filled back up with water because the eel made Tiddalik laugh but dancing until he tied himself up into a big knot. Tiddalik thought this was funny that he began to laugh. He laughed so much that all the water came out and ran back into the dried up billabong.

4. The words in the box come from the text. Use a dictionary to find their meaning.

greedy	billabong	wise	suggested	confused
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greedy:

Excessive desire of food or wealth especially in large amounts.

billabong:

A creek bed that holds water.

wise:

Having the power of knowledge or information as to facts and circumstances.

suggested:

To mention or introduce an idea of plan for consideration or possible action.

confused:

The inability to understand. To feel bewildered and perplexed.

5. Circle the words that have the 'oo' sound.

a) to, **who**, out

b) somehow, **too**, hot

c) **onto**, billabong, owl

Which of the following occurred first? Choose a or b.

6. a) The echidna tried to make Tiddalik laugh.
b) The wise owl suggested that the animals make Tiddalik laugh.
7. a) The eel danced and danced until he tired himself into a big knot.
b) The water ran back into the dried up billabong.
8. a) All the animals became very angry.
b) Tiddalik drank all the water from the billabong.
9. Create a list of all the words that have two and three syllables.

Two Syllables

upon, Dreaming, Valley, era, greedy, wanted, biggest, scorching, became, very, thirsty, wandered, plenty, water, began, until, other, wasn't, became, somehow, into, didn't, after, wombat, started, dancing, funny, confused, himself, laughing, never, needed

Three Syllables

Tiddalik, Wollombi, Creation, billabong, discovered, animals, suggested, echidna, pretended, finally, decided, suddenly.

Challenge Option

Create your own "Tiddalik the Frog" Aboriginal Dreaming story to explain how the billabong was filled back up with water. Illustrate your story.

Answers will vary.