



Fishy Stories
FISH CREEK CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF STORIES

Fish Creek Children's Festival of Stories

2023 Fishy Stories Competition

By Eloise Esler, 4K

On the weekend I went to Fish Creek because I entered a story in their 'Fishy Stories' competition and I was chosen as a finalist.

When we first arrived, I went to the area where they did a show of all the stories that made it into the finals in their 'Fishy Stories Writing Competition'. I felt so proud to have made it into the finals.

At the show there were lots and lots of workshops run by famous children's book authors.

I went to **Gabrielle Wang's** workshop and **Alison Lester's** workshop.

At Gabrielle's workshop she showed us how to draw a really cute Chinese dragon.

At Alison Lester's workshop we drew farm animals on a piece of material with a sticky peel off back. Once we drew the animals on the material we peeled off the backing and stuck it onto an artwork that Alison Lester made using oil sticks and water colour paints. It was a land scape of a farm. The animal I made for the artwork was a horse. I had extra time so I also made a family of pigs.

We also made post cards using water colour paints and we made a border on it using masking tape around the edges. When we were finished we peeled off the masking tape leaving a strait white border. On my postcard I painted a strawberry roan horse. Strawberry roan is a type of colour of a horse's fur. It is a pinky sort of strawberry colour. On my postcard the background was a sunny grassy field with a big sun in the corner.

At the end of the day they did an arts and crafts activity, where we got given built cardboard objects to decorate and keep and those objects were space ships, swords, guitars, tiaras, knight helmets, helmets with goggles/glasses attached to them, body armour and shields. I decorated a guitar, sword and space ship. Funny information... I named my space ship Eggman because it looked like it had a face and on the face it had a moustache and eyes. It looked like Eggman from the movie Sonic the Hedgehog.

My Writing Process!

The idea for my story 'Enola's Forest' came from another story I started called **lost puppy turned into fantasy**. One of the characters in my last story was called Grace and in the story lost puppy turned into fantasy. Here's my story... I hope you like it.

Enola's Forest

By Eloise Esler

Enola looked at her friends, they all had something special about them. Casey is the funny one, Chloe is school vice-president and Sam is a brilliant soccer player.

Enola felt like she didn't have anything special about her. With that thought, Enola felt like being alone.

She went to her special place, a beautiful old Maple tree. This tree had the perfect branches for climbing, they were smooth and well spaced.

Enola swiftly climbed up to her favourite spot in the highest branch. She wedged herself into a fork in the branch and listened to birds singing.

The warmth of the air and gentle swaying of the tree made Enola fall asleep. As she began to dream, at first everything was misty. Slowly, the shape of black trees emerged. She walked towards the trees and found she was in a forest.

A tree with a faint glow catches her eye. Enola turns towards the glowing tree and a feeling of comfort grows inside her. As she walks closer she can see the tree has small buds popping out from its branches. She reaches the tree and puts her hand on its trunk and flowers erupt from the buds. They are the most amazing flowers she has ever seen, shaped like beautiful teacups in different shades of blue and purple.

The rest of the forest starts to fill with colour and animals come into the forest. Bees and birds drink nectar from the flowers. Deer and horses play together chasing each other through the trees.

Suddenly, all the animals disappear again. The trees drop their flowers and for a moment the leaves turn shades of orange, red and pink before being dropped to the ground. The trees are back to how Enola found them, dark and peaceful. That is when Enola realised that even though they don't look special now, they have moments when they shine.

Enola woke up feeling peaceful, she climbs down and runs over to her friends to share their special moments with them. She knows that she will have her turn to feel special too.