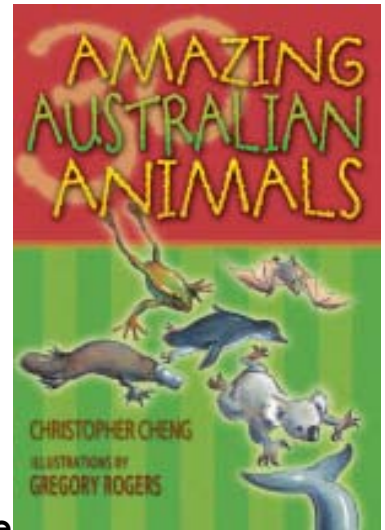


# 30 AMAZING AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS



**The latest release from national literacy campaigner, Chris Cheng, all about the amazing animals that are unique to our country.**

Take a tour through the animal world and discover what makes Australia truly unique.

Australia is an extraordinary country and many unusual creatures call it their home. On land and in the sky, under the ground and underwater, is where you'll find them.

Thirty of our most amazing animals have been selected from a parade of potential stars, from bilbies to dugongs, from koalas to blue-ringed octopi, from cicadas to kookaburras, from crocs to goannas. And you'll find some invaders too. So beware!

This non-fiction collection of animal stories for animal lovers aged 7+ lovingly places each amazing creature in the spotlight - with facts, figures, scientific names, gestation periods and breakout boxes to help bring them to life.

#### **About the author:**

Christopher Cheng is a well known Australian children's author who is passionate about promoting the importance of literacy development. An National Literacy and Numeracy Week National Ambassador for the past three years, Chris' creative approach to the world of literature, has resulted in 15 published titles including a picture book, fiction and non-fiction.

Chris' award winning picture book *One child* (illustrated by Steven Woolman) won the Wilderness Society Environment Award for Picture Books in 1998. His latest books are the historical novels *New Gold Mountain* and *Melting Pot*.

Chris has taught in schools in NSW as well as working as an Education Officer at Taronga Zoo. Although he is now a full time author, Chris still regularly conducts workshops at schools, introducing students to the writing experience.

#### **About the illustrator:**

Gregory's first major illustration commissions were book covers for young adult novels for University of Queensland Press. He has since illustrated a large number of educational and trade children's picture books. Among these are *Auntie Mary's Dead Goat* by Margaret Card, *The Postman's Race* by Ian Trevaskis, *Tracks* and *Lucy's Bay* by Gary Crew, *Way Home* by Libby Hathorn and *Running Away from Home* by Nigel Gray.

In 1995, Gregory won the Kate Greenaway Medal for his illustrations in *Way Home*. He is the first, and to date only, Australian illustrator ever to have won this prestigious British award. Gregory's most recent picture books include *Beyond the Dusk* by Victor Kelleher, and *Princess Max* by Laurie Stiller for Random House Australia.

**For more information, interview or review requests please contact Yae Morton on (02) 8923 9803 or via [ymorton@randomhouse.com.au](mailto:ymorton@randomhouse.com.au)**

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