

Tippy and Jellybean - The True Story of a Brave Koala who Saved her Baby from a Bushfire

By Sophie Cunningham & Illustrated by Anil Tortop

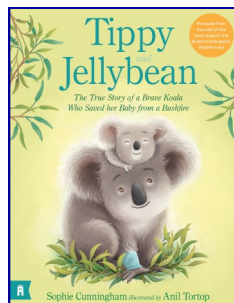
Publisher: Albert Street Books / Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781760878474 SCIS: 1968018

\$19.99

**Picture Book of
the Month**

Tippy and her baby Jellybean live in a beautiful eucalyptus forest. One day, they wake up and sniff the air. It's smokey, hot and windy. Kangaroos and wallabies are bounding. Lizards and snakes are slithering. Wombats are heading to their burrows. The cockatoos take off in an enormous flock. Tippy can't hop. Or run. Or fly. Instead she shelters her baby in the only way she can... This is the uplifting story of a mother koala who saved her baby from a bushfire, and the dedicated vets who look after them until they are healed and ready to go home. Proceeds from this book will raise money for the Bushfire Emergency Wildlife Fund.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Australian Wildlife
- Bushfires

Discussion Questions and Activities:

Show the cover of the book to the class, reading out the title (Tippy and Jellybean), and asking the following questions:

- What sort of animals do you think Tippy and Jellybean are?
- What country are these animals native to?
- What do they like to eat?
- Where do they live – in trees or in rivers?

Now focus the class's attention on the book's subtitle (The True Story of a Brave Koala Who Saved Her Baby from a Bushfire) and ask these questions:

- What does 'True Story' mean?
- What is a bushfire?
- Does anyone remember the bushfires in 2019? What happened to lots of animals then?
- Can you see the bandage on Tippy's front leg? Why might she have needed a wear it?
- What is the name of a doctor who looks after animals when they are injured?
- Help students process some or all answers to the above questions by asking them to guess what will happen to Tippy and Jellybean in the story before opening the book.

Read the story through once and ask students to complete the following comprehension questions:

- Why do you think Tippy was described as brave?
- Why do you think Tippy protected Jellybean?
- What did Kami the vet do to help Tippy and Jellybean?
- Did this story have a happy ending? Why?

Now read the story again, spending more time examining the details on each double-page spread:

- First Spread: Ask students to identify each of Tippy and Jellybean's good friends in the image. Next ask them to find the cockatoo in the image. Finally, ask them to find and name any animals not mentioned in the story.
- Fourth Spread: What does the word singed mean? What sort of colours has the illustrator used to show so much of the beautiful forest has been singed? But there still are signs of life here. Can you find other animals on the right-hand page that are still alive?
- Eleventh Spread: Six months later the forest is almost back to new. What are some of the signs of this in the illustration? Find each of Tippy and Jellybeans friends in the forest.