

# ♥ Back To School ♥

**Today it was announced by Premier Andrews that all students attending a special school in Victoria will be physically returning to school on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May.**

**There will be a Pupil Free Day on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May across all Victorian government schools. Matt and Alesha will send further information regarding these announcements and what it will look like for your child over the coming days. Remote Learning will remain in place and unchanged until Week 7.**

## Warragul & District Specialist School Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 10, Tuesday 12th May 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Wow! Can you believe we are already nearly halfway through Term 2. What a fabulous achievement from all of our students, their families and our staff. As a school, I really believe that we have demonstrated the saying "we are all in this together", with families and staff working together to provide the best possible learning environment for the students of our school. Thank you to you all.

One of the problems identified with remote learning is the lack of student connections, and socialisation between students, their peers and their teachers. As a result of this, staff have been trialling online conferences with students. Early signs indicate this has been a fabulous way to connect with each other and to provide some opportunities for socialisation amongst our students. It has been absolutely wonderful to catch up with students and to see some smiling faces that we so dearly miss.

Buzz TV has been an absolute hit, I loved hearing that one of our students watched the "Hello from WDSS" video 58 times! Over the past week, Buzz TV has continued to be updated, with a number of story reads from a number of different staff being available to watch. The new Buzz TV guide will be out again today, so have a look and head over to the school website and check out the new content there.

Our school website continues to grow with new content appearing every week. Over the last week, our Occupational Therapy Team have been busy. Have a look at the OT resources on our school website at: <http://www.wgldss.vic.edu.au/learning/occupational-therapy/>. Well done to our great OT team!

Next Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May we are planning to hold a Wacky Wednesday Dress Up Day (remotely). Students, staff (and families if they would like to join in) are encouraged to dress up in your wackiest outfit to conduct your remote learning. If you are joining your class on a video catch up on that day who knows what wackiness you might find waiting for you. Send through your wacky photos to your class teacher or the office for a chance to be featured in the newsletter.

On a final note, please make sure you talk to your classroom teacher if you are in need of direction, clarification or are looking for help in a particular area. We are here to help you with the wonderful work you are all doing at home and are so appreciative of our school community and the way that we are moving through this difficult time "together".

Stay safe, look after yourselves and your families. I hope you enjoy our fabulous newsletter, keep those photos coming so that we can continue to see your smiling faces! We look forward to seeing you in the online or real world soon.

*Rachel*



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Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May  
*Pupil Free Day*  
*(Teachers not available)*

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
*Return to School*

Do the countdown with us!  
 Print this page and mark off each day.....

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					X	X
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
X	X	X	X	X	X	X
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
X	X	X				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Student free day.	Back at school!!				
31						

# BUZZ TV



## TV Guide

Week beginning Tuesday 12th May



### Buzzing Around the World with WDSS Staff

Join WDSS Staff as they BUZZ around the world providing you with fun facts about places near and far.

Click here to watch: [Buzzing Around the World](#)



### Mellow Melodies with Colin

Join Colin for the launch of Mellow Melodies! Have a break and help keep yourself in the Green Zone by relaxing and listening to some calming tunes.

Click here to watch: [Mellow Melodies](#)



### Hey Mum, I Love You with Kerry

Join Kerry as she shares Hey Mum, I Love You. A story about Mums and just how special they are.

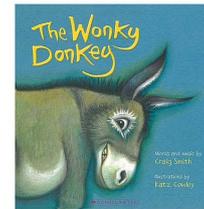
Click here to watch: [Hey Mum I Love You](#)



### The Wonky Donkey with Jess

Who has ever heard of a spunky hanky-panky cranky stinky-dinky lanky honky-tonky winky wonky donkey? Join Jess as she reads this very busy Wonky Donkey tongue twister of a story.

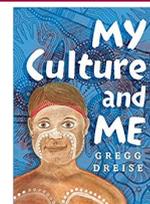
Click here to watch: [The Wonky Donkey](#)



### My Culture and Me with Sue

Feel the rhythm of the music, from your heart down to your feet. Enjoy the movements of melodies, as clapsticks keep a strong beat. Join Sue as she reads My Culture and Me, a heartfelt and stirring story of cherishing and sustaining Indigenous cultures.

Click here to watch: [My Culture and Me](#)

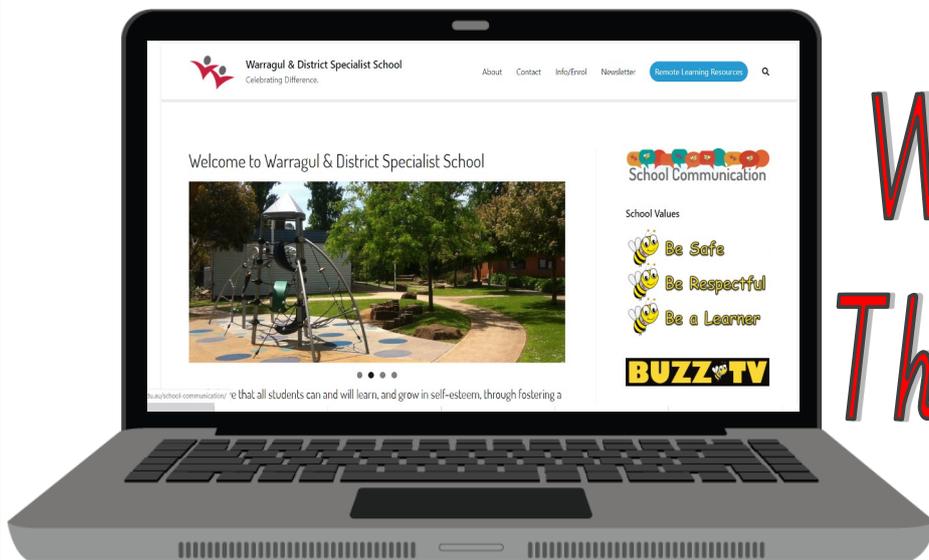


### I'm Australian Too with Kim

From countries near and far, many have made their home in Australia, sharing it with the original inhabitants, and living in peace beneath the Southern Star. Join Kim as she celebrates Australia's incredible multicultural heritage.

Click here to watch: [I'm Australian Too](#)





# What's on The Internet?



Check out the Speech Therapy page on our school website. There are lots of great speech therapy resources that provide additional supports to students. This includes social stories, recipes with visual supports, social games and supports for Proloquo2Go and Core Word Stories.

<http://www.wglds.vic.edu.au/learning/speech-therapy/>



**Behind the News** (more commonly known as **BTN**) is a long-running news programme broadcast on the ABC made in Adelaide and aimed at school-aged children. Many students are familiar with BTN as it is part of their curriculum. <https://www.abc.net.au/btn/>



This website is perfect for any aspiring astronauts. It's suitable for kids of all ages, and includes games, videos and printable puzzles and colouring sheets, all of which are space themed.

[www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/](http://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/)

# Juniors

## Room 3

Hello everyone from Room 3, home learning!!

I would like to take the time to thank all the wonderful students, Mums and Dads who have been working so hard getting into the rhythm of learning from home. Over this 2<sup>nd</sup> term, we are continuing to concentrate on our learning goals that we started in Term 1. As we all know, this has not always been easy but the students from Room 3 have done their very best by keeping safe and having fun working at home. Here are just a few fun things we have done!

- *Liz*

**Michael** has been very busy, starting each day with his exercise in the park, finding lots of different things. Here he is with a bird's nest and having fun climbing up a tree. Later, he has worked on recognising the letters of his name and numbers 1-10. Don't forget one needs a ginger bread man biscuit after all that work!



Here is **Jake**, having adventures out and about with his dad, getting fresh air on a bike ride and learning to drive a 'digger'. In the afternoon Jake is busy doing what Jake loves best, relaxing and reading books!!

*More news from Room 3 on the next page.....*

# Room 3 CONTINUED.....

There's no doubt about **Connor** – he's not going to let the time of day get in the way of his learning. From morning to night, he is keeping himself busy, counting from 1-10 in the morning and then recognising the letters of his name in the afternoon. And at the end of the day, cooking dinner for the family!!



**Brayden** has continued to work hard on his counting 1-20 and writing and recognising the letters of his name. He is having fun playing with his little sister and helping mum around the house!

**Jakob** has continued to move full steam ahead, using a key board, computer and iPad to continue to practice reading, writing sentences, answering questions and counting!

**Jet** in his usual way is always active through his day and always on the go. He has been enjoying spending time with his brothers and dad as he keeps everyone on their toes!

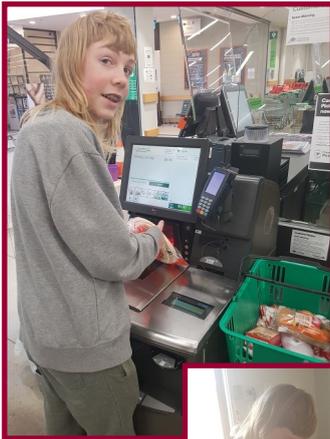
**Kynan** has been missing coming into school and spending the day with his friends. He is especially missing his good friend Connor. Looking forward to your beautiful smiling face back in Room 3.



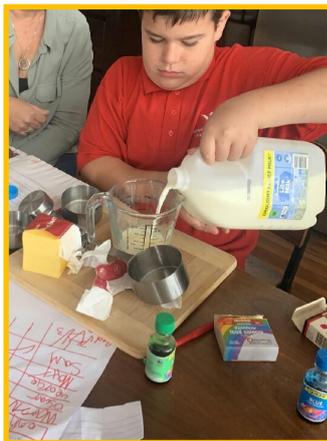
# Learning at Home

Learning from Home is '**different strokes for different folks**'. What works for some does not work for others - what is important is that it works for YOU ! Maths, Literacy and Science can be learnt by playing board games, doing puzzles, cooking, gardening or doing a 'scavenger hunt' while out walking.

Here is a look at what some of our students have been doing at home.....



**Liam** is another one of our Seniors who has adapted to remote learning with positivity and determination! He has done an AMAZING job with his online learning - completing tasks well before they are due and asking for more! Like many students he is also taking advantage of more time at home and working on his independent living skills such as shopping and cooking. Well done Liam we are SO PROUD of you and everything you have achieved, your resilience is inspirational!



**Maxx** from Room 20 has been keeping busy with learning from home. He has a great routine, which includes on-line learning, reading, cooking and daily exercise.



Last week he made a fantastic box construction - complete with a draw bridge! Maxx has a work station set up and loves displaying all of his work and drawings.

Well done Maxx, keep up the good work!

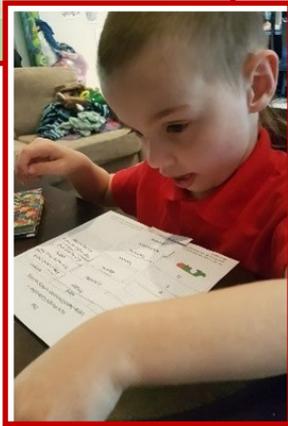




# Learning at Home



The COVID-19 restrictions have been particularly hard for our Foundation students . They had only just settled into a school routine and then it was time for a completely new way of learning! **Jacob** LOVES learning whether at school or home and he and his family have done an AMAZING job with Learning at Home, accommodating not only learning for Jacob but also his brothers and sisters (including a new baby!).



Well done Jacob and Family!!



**Sophie** was a bit restless last week and was starting to struggle being at home so much. Sophies Mum Emma decided to change things up a bit this week and it was a big hit! Sophie has cooked pancakes, been on a 4.5km walk, done craft and been riding her scooter. She also got involved in packing for the move to their new house. Well done Sophie and Emma ! Remote learning is all about adapting to what suits you!





# Learning at Home

## SENIOR SUPERSTARS!



**Ajay** still working hard and how about those yoga moves!! We love your smile Ajay!



**Mikki** playing Monkey Bingo with Dad and laughing at Mum when she beat her! Mikki is learning about 'over', 'under' and 'through' - using her device, YouTube, book and pictures. Then she acted out the Croc Hunt Story. Well done Mikki!



**Anna** and **Lillie** keeping on task! Great to see how dedicated you have both been to your learning!



**Seth** loves seeing everyone's photos in the newsletter!



# Learning at Home

## Juniors make us Jump for Joy!

WDSS Staff continue to be AWE-STRUCK with how well so many of our Students and their Families have adapted to Learning at Home! The Juniors are no exception: although it was scary venturing into the unknown, Parents and Carers have impressed us all with their stories and photos of the creativity they have used in Learning from Home!



**Zac** helping out with household chores - what a champion!

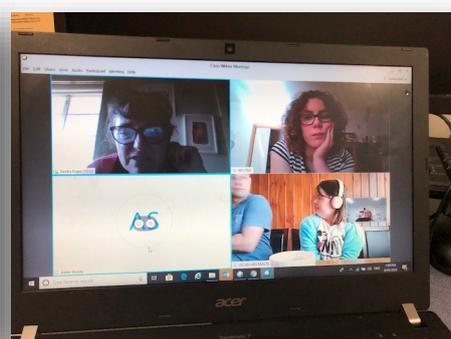


**Levi** made this AMAZING robot!



**Jordan** and his beautiful Mothers Day craft

Senior and Middle school started having class catch ups on Webex last week. It was great to see everyone chatting away - not long till we can do it face-to face!



# Student Work



Senior Students have been watching BTN (Behind the News). Produced by the ABC, Behind the News is a fun, accessible way for students to learn about what's happening in the world around them (you can find BTN on the ABC website). Room 17 were tasked with reporting on the Coronavirus Update Episode.

Bella produced this fantastic piece Awesome work Bella!

## My Coronavirus Update review

On BTN I watched about the Coronavirus Update and I learnt about how Australia is trying to flatten the curve so hospitals can cope with the virus. We have to flatten the curve by having good hygiene and social distancing. The Coronavirus has been slowing down in Australia. Other countries have had success in slowing the virus down such as South Korea, China and New Zealand by having strict rules in place. Some countries are not doing so well like American and the UK with a lot of people dying because the hospitals can cope with the virus. Australia is getting better but we still have to continue to work hard with our social distancing and good hygiene even when restrictions are lifted.

Social distancing means -

- standing 1.5 meters away from others when out in public.

Good personal hygiene means -

- washing your hand for 20 seconds with soapy water after using the bathroom, before and after cooking, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
- try not to touch your face
- cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze
- do not share drink bottles
- stop hugging friends or shaking hands when greeting people

By doing all of these things it will help slow down the spread of germs (virus). Always remember to stay at home if you are sick or have a cold.

### *How I am feeling about schooling at home...*

I don't like it I wish I was back at school seeing all my friends and teachers. Sometimes I am in the **blue zone** because it makes me sad that I can't see everyone. Sometimes I am in the **red zone** because I get angry and fed up about Covid 19. Sometimes I am even the **yellow zone** because I feel scared that Covid 19 is going to continue and I won't get to see anyone or do my normal things like going to Cassidy Crew or going swimming again.

*Written by Bella McDougal*

# Student Work

Anna also watched the Coronavirus Episode on BTN and gave us her thoughts. Well done Anna, we all miss you as well !



## BTN Coronavirus 2020 Week 5

### What was the film about?

- \* Washing your hands
- \* Keep 1.5 meters apart from other people.
- \* Flattening the curve which means people can be safe and our hospitals can cope with the number of sick people.
- \* Some countries are good at flattening the curve
- \* Australia, New Zealand and South Korea
- \* Some countries are not good at stopping the virus
- \* USA and Great Britain have lots and lots of very sick people.
- \* We can use the app
- \* The beaches are closed
- \* In some states you can have two visitors
- \* In Queensland parks are open

### Anna, how do you feel about remote learning?

- \* Happy, I feel happy
- \* I like working with my sister, I like walking my dog , I like feeding the fish during the day

I miss:

- |                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| * Going on the bus | * I miss my aides           |
| * Miss my friends  | * I miss Waverly industries |
| * Miss my teachers | * I miss Baw Baw skills     |



# STUDENT Awards

## We are Safe, Respectful Learners !



**PAIGE**

Being a conscientious, hard working remote **LEARNER**



**LILLIE**

Being a great remote **LEARNER** & consistently exceeding expectations with the quality of her work.



**COBY**

Being a great remote **LEARNER** and reading everyday!



**IKEY**

Being a **LEARNER** adjusting to the new way of school and using the body sock to regulate his emotions



**ANNA**

Being a remarkable remote **LEARNER** working really hard and consistently!



**MAXX**

Being a great **LEARNER** & doing some fantastic at-home learning!



**THURSTAN**

Being a remarkable remote **LEARNER** - working so well on his communication.



**NATHAN**

Being a remarkable remote **LEARNER** working really hard and consistently!



**JACOB**

Being a remarkable remote **LEARNER** and wanting to learn new things every day!



**MICHAEL**

Being a wonderful, enthusiastic **LEARNER** and always having a go in his home learning. Well done!



**JAKE**

Being a **LEARNER** by using his communication device to independently ask to go outside and to inform that it was raining. Well done !



**VILI**

Being a persistent **LEARNER** at home in Art, creating this masterpiece on canvas 'ISO Art'



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



This week we have Birthday Celebrations all across the school - Junior, Middle & Senior!



**Vincent**

Happy 10th  
Birthday!



**Max**

Happy 11th Birth-  
day!



**Jayden**

Happy 18th Birth-  
day!



Jayden has a very big milestone this week, Happy 18th Birthday Jayden! You have great potential and we can't wait to see what exciting things you get up to when you graduate!

## Brain

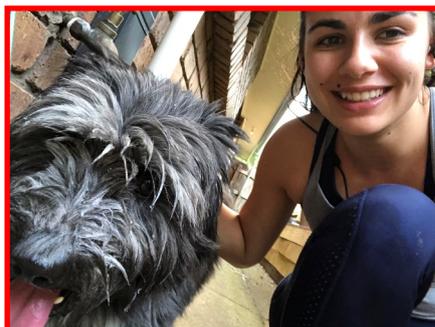
## BREAKS



Our Therapy Team has been practising what they preach and taking regular Brain Breaks!



Anne made some bread!



Bri took Billie for a run!



Jenni did some pruning



Marnie went for a scooter ride with her son!

## Top TIPS from OT

### Dressing Skills

What a bonus for both you and your child when they can dress themselves independently. Here at WDSS, Independent Living Skills are a significant feature of the program from Foundation to Graduation .....

#### Top Tips to help children with learning to dress:

- Undressing before bed is generally a more relaxed time to start with dressing skills. Also, bed clothes are generally looser and have less fastenings.
- Sit your child so they are stable, e.g. on the floor, a chair, or the bed (feet flat on the floor)
- Place clothes to go on in a pile in the order they are needed. Have them flat and the end going on first closest to them.
- Describe what you are doing, the actions and body parts you are moving, e.g. 'put your right foot in'
- Follow the same sequence and give the same instructions.



#### Remember to:

- Allow your child time to realise if things are correct or not and why.
- Leave your child alone sometimes, see what they do themselves. It may surprise you!



**KEY tip to getting shoes on the correct feet:** Sit the shoes on the floor, put a mark on the inside edge of both. Teach your child to place the shoes with the 2 marks together before putting them on!

**KEY tip to managing zippers:** Put a key ring on the zip so it is easier to hold.

**KEY tips to getting clothes the correct way around:**

- ✓ Choose t-shirts and tops that have a picture on the front, point this out to your child.
- ✓ Help your child identify the back by looking for the label if there, or mark the back with a coloured thread, ribbon, or fabric pen. Make sure you remove any labels on the inside seamlines, or elsewhere, to avoid confusion.

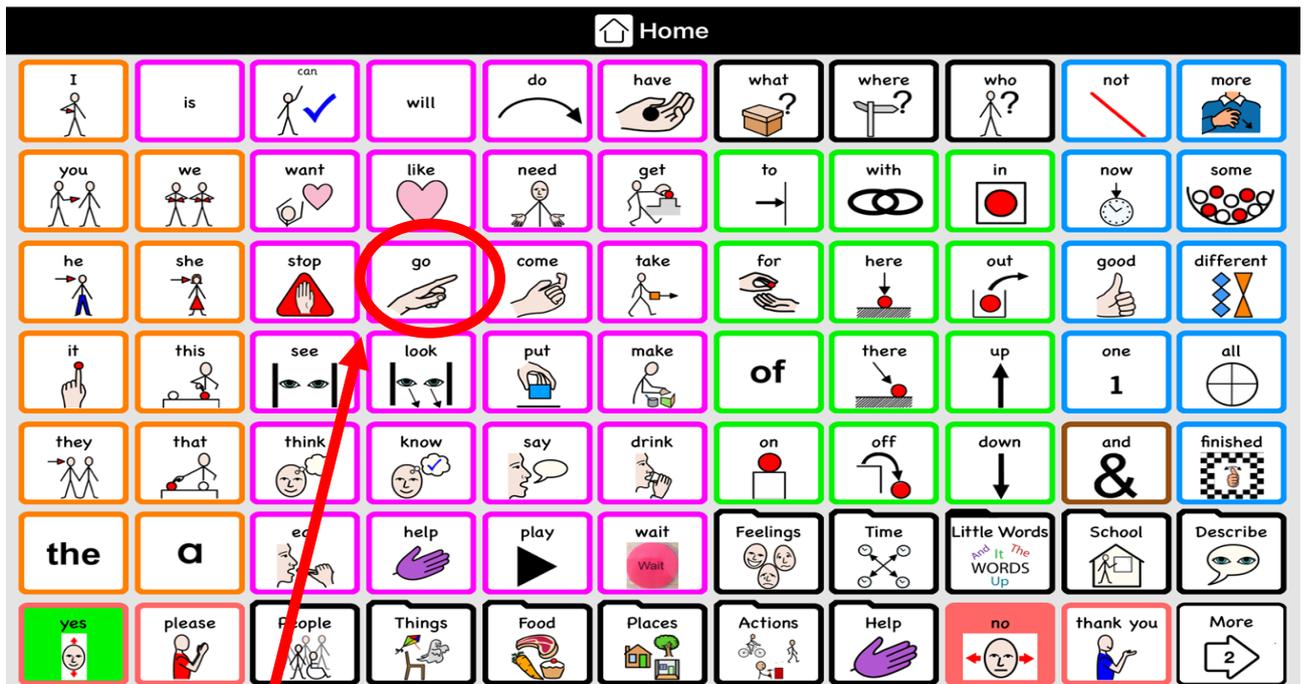


#### Fun games and activities that REALLY help develop the HAND SKILLS needed for dressing

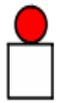
Dress ups	Foot massages	Obstacle courses
Simon Says	Barefoot walking	Peeling stickers
Threading & Lacing	Ripping paper or card	Songs, such as 'Hokey Pokey'
Posting boxes	Weaving	Dressing dolls & Teddies
Jigsaw puzzles	Using scissors, tweezers & tongs	Activities using cords & ribbons

~ For more help, ask your teacher to speak to an OT ~

## WORDS OF THE WEEK:



Location of 'go' on homepage of Proloquo2Go.





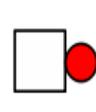


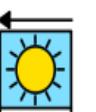








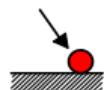





# Speech Therapy









With yesterday's news there are changes in places we can go








and do from tomorrow. These changes are:

- 

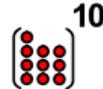









You can have five visitors in their homes and meet outdoors



in groups of 10 from Wednesday

- 







Play golf in groups of no more than 10 people

- 



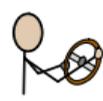
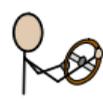






You can go fishing, in groups of no more than 10 people.

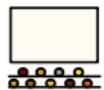
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You are able to go for a drive.

- 







Parks, playgrounds, skate parks, movies and swimming pools




continue to be closed.



Places



that



are



we



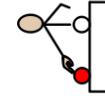
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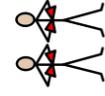
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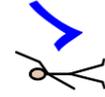
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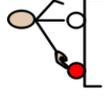
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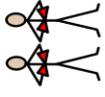
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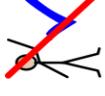
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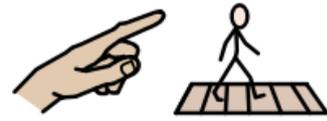
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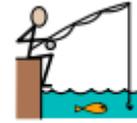
pool



go for a walk



family visiting us



fishing



visiting family



doctors



school



playground



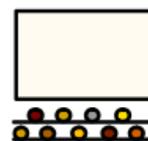
hospital



shops



go for a drive



movies