



Warrnambool Art Gallery - Explore Learn Create from home

***Paul Jennings and Jane Tanner –
The Fisherman and the Theefyspray***

Paul Jennings is one of Australia's best loved children's authors. His books have sold millions of copies, won many awards, been translated into lots of different languages and even turned into a TV series, 'Round the Twist'.

He loves to write about things that all children face – from embarrassment to being part of the gang, losing things and making mistakes.



This is Paul Jennings

Paul was born in England in 1943. The Second World War was still going on.

Life in England was hard for Paul's parents. There was rationing.

Do you know what rationing was?

Paul had a sister, Ruth, and when he was 6 the whole family left to begin a new life in Australia.

They travelled by boat.

Have a guess at how long it took to get to Australia from England...

24 hours?

4 years?

6 weeks?

30 minutes?

When Paul was a young boy he loved the Rupert the Bear stories.

What are your favourite books to read?

When Paul grew up he became a teacher. He enjoyed helping children to read.

Because of this he wanted to write books that all children could read – books that would make them laugh and want to read. So, do you know what he did?

He became an author!

His first book, Unreal, was published in 1985. That's 35 years ago, and he is still writing books today.



Jane Tanner

The Fisherman and the Theefyspray

2012

Your turn!

Find somewhere comfy to listen to Paul read you the story of The Fisherman and the Theefyspray. You can find the video on the Warrnambool Art Gallery website.

Did you enjoy listening to the story?

What did it make you think about?

Did you know that the Theefyspray came from Paul's imagination? It's not a real fish. If you want to be a writer you need lots of imagination.

This photo shows Paul and Mary-Anne with the Theefyspray that was made for the exhibition.

Can you see how the fish is jumping out the water?



Look at the colours of the fish and how it moves.

Do you think that you can create your own imaginary creature? It doesn't have to be a fish. Think about these things. If you are able to print this out, you can fill the answers on here:

Where does your creature live?

How does your creature move around?

What does your creature eat?

Firstly **draw your creature** – think about the colours you want to use too.

Next it's time to **make** your creature.

You will need:

- Scissors
- Glue
- Coloured pencils or textas
- Paper (if you don't have coloured paper you could colour in white paper or you can also use pages from an old magazine)
- Cardboard – old cartons, toilet roll tubes
- Any old bits and pieces for recycling you are allowed to use such as wool, pieces of fabric, buttons, bottle tops etc
- Imagination

1. Start off with a base piece. This could be anything, but we used cardboard tubes. This is the body
2. Using the picture you have drawn to help you, begin to add pieces and glue them to the base
3. You can use your pencils and textas to add colour and detail such as eyes and ears
4. If you want to, you can write a short story (narrative) about your creature. Use lots of adjectives (describing words)
5. Take a photo of your artwork and post it in the comments of the Warrnambool Art Gallery Facebook post. We would love to see your creations!

Resources and books:

More about Paul Jennings:

<http://www.pauljennings.com.au/>

You can watch Round the Twist on Netflix

Paul Jennings reading a part of his book, A Different Boy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=14Ok8yqVp7o>

You can enjoy reading his books!