

A Trip to the Outback

By Erin Horner

On a trip to the Australian Outback you can see many things. You might see a station. This station is not for policemen or firefighters. Here a station is a large farm or ranch. Many sheep and cattle are kept there. While visiting a station you could also see some jackaroos. These cowboys work at the station and round up the cattle. The jackaroos ride horses. Sometimes they even ride motorcycles!



On a hike in the Outback you might find a billabong. These are beautiful natural pools. They are usually found near rivers. The billabongs are often surrounded by bushes or gum trees. They can be a great place to cool off on a hot summer day.

When visiting the Outback, many people enjoy visiting the Bungle Bungles. These are huge orange and black striped rocks. They are more than 350 million years old. One of the best ways to explore this ancient wonder is on a helicopter ride.

On a trip to the Australian Outback you can see many things. Most of these are very different from what most of us find "out back" at our homes. Unless, of course, your home is located in a remote part of Australia! In that case, you'd see this beautiful Outback every time you went "out back"!

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Questions

1. What is a billabong?

_____ 2. The author probably wrote this article to _____.

- A. inform you about the Outback
- B. demonstrate how to find a jackaroo
- C. persuade you to visit the Outback
- D. describe the Bungle Bungles

_____ 3. Which words in paragraph 1 help the reader to know what *jackaroo* means?

- A. These cowboys work at the station.
- B. Sometimes they even ride motorcycles!
- C. Many sheep and cattle are kept there.
- D. This station is not for policemen.

