



# Bilby and Baby Lorikeet

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# Bilby and Baby Lorikeet, by Kate

Bilby was on his way to his Grandpa's house for his morning science lesson when he found a baby lorikeet. It had fallen out of the gumtree and was sitting in the middle of the bush track. Bilby searched and called for the lorikeet's family but no one came. So Bilby carefully picked up the baby lorikeet and carried it to his Grandpa's house.

"Look what I have found," said Bilby when Grandpa opened the door.

"Wild birds are hard to take care of," said Grandpa.

"I can take care of it," said Bilby. "I will feed it and make a warm home for it. Can I please keep it?"

"Only until it is ready to fly," replied Grandpa.

Bilby felt happy. He smiled.

Bilby and Grandpa collected nectar from the bush flowers to feed baby lorikeet and knitted a gumnut blossom blanket to keep baby lorikeet warm in the winter.

Baby lorikeet grew and followed Bilby everywhere.

One Spring day Grandpa said to Bilby, "It is time for the baby lorikeet to fly."

Bilby cried. He didn't want to let baby lorikeet go. Bilby decided to make a cage to stop baby lorikeet from leaving.

In the garden Bilby found big sticks to make a cage. Baby lorikeet watched Bilby hammer the sticks together. He looked sad. Grandpa looked sad too.

"Let's go for a walk, Bilby. I want to show you something," said Grandpa.

Bilby put down his tools and followed Grandpa. Bilby followed Grandpa along the bush track to the base of the big hill. Together they climbed to the top of the big hill.

"Look up!" said Grandpa.

Bilby looked up and saw all kinds of birds flying, gliding, diving and soaring through the air. Bilby watched and imagined that he was flying free. He could feel the wind on his face as he soared over the hills.

Bilby realised that he couldn't keep his lorikeet. He dashed back home. Bilby found baby lorikeet standing sadly in the garden.

Bilby carefully picked up baby lorikeet and carried him along the bush track and up to the top of the big hill.

Baby lorikeet spread his wings and smiled at Bilby. Then he joined the other birds.

Bilby cried tears of joy and sadness.