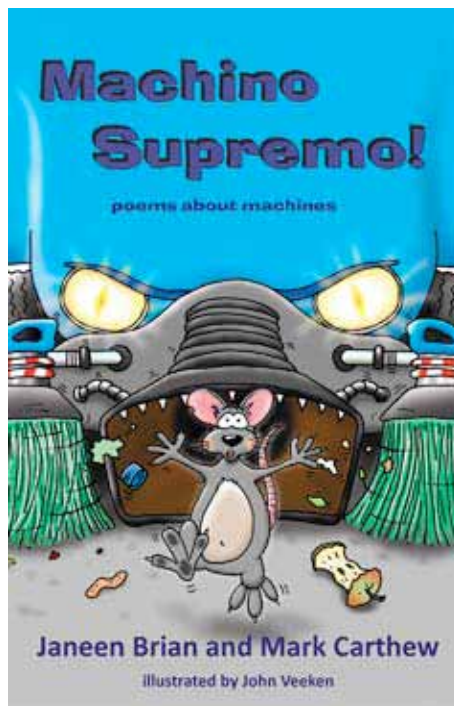


# Teacher Notes

## Machino Supremo!

poems about machines



**Janeen Brian  
and  
Mark Carthew**

**Illustrated by John Veeken**



[www.celapenepress.com.au](http://www.celapenepress.com.au)

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Machino Supremo  
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Illustrations © John Veeken 2009

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Age Guide 7+

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# **Teacher Notes**

## **Machino Supremo!**

**poems about machines**

# Background Information

## The Authors

Janeen Brian [www.janeenbrian.com](http://www.janeenbrian.com)



Mark Carthew [www.markcarthew.com.au](http://www.markcarthew.com.au)



## The Illustrator

John Veeken [www.johnveeken.com.au](http://www.johnveeken.com.au)



## Author Motivation

Both Janeen and Mark wanted to create an accessible poetry book that children and readers of all ages would enjoy over and over again that was also good fun!

Janeen and Mark's mutual love of wordplay motivated them to create something special in children's poetry and they have been inspired by the work of other children's poets such as Max Fatchen, Doug McLeod, Michael Dugan, Colin Thiele, Margaret Mahy, Tony Mitton, Jack Prelutsky, Sheree Fitch, Michael Rosen and many, many others...

Both Janeen and Mark have award winning titles in education and trade publishing and their collaboration is an exciting development for Australian children's poetry.

Mark's picture book *The Gobbling Tree* illustrated by Susy Boyer (New Frontier) was awarded the 2009 Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year (Lower Primary). Janeen's books and poetry have also won many awards and she is currently an ambassador for the South Australian Premiers Reading Challenge.

# Front and Back cover

Normally an illustrator will try with a number of ideas before they do their final cover.

Activity: Design your own cover for Machino Supremo! Poems about machines.

Choose your own font style and experiment with the placement of the words in the design. Make sure you put your name as author and illustrator. If you are working with a friend, decide who is author and who is illustrator.

Activity: Make up your own title for a book about machines.

Machino Supremo! was not the original title. It was going to be called Mutter Matters!

What other titles can you think of?

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Activity: Emboss your title

By using a rubbing technique over a raised alphabet images you will be able to emboss your title. Experiment with ways of doing this.

Activity: Write your own blurb.

The blurb is the text you see on the back cover that tells you what the book is about. It is an important part of the book.

Write your own blurb for Machino Supremo! or a title that you have made up.

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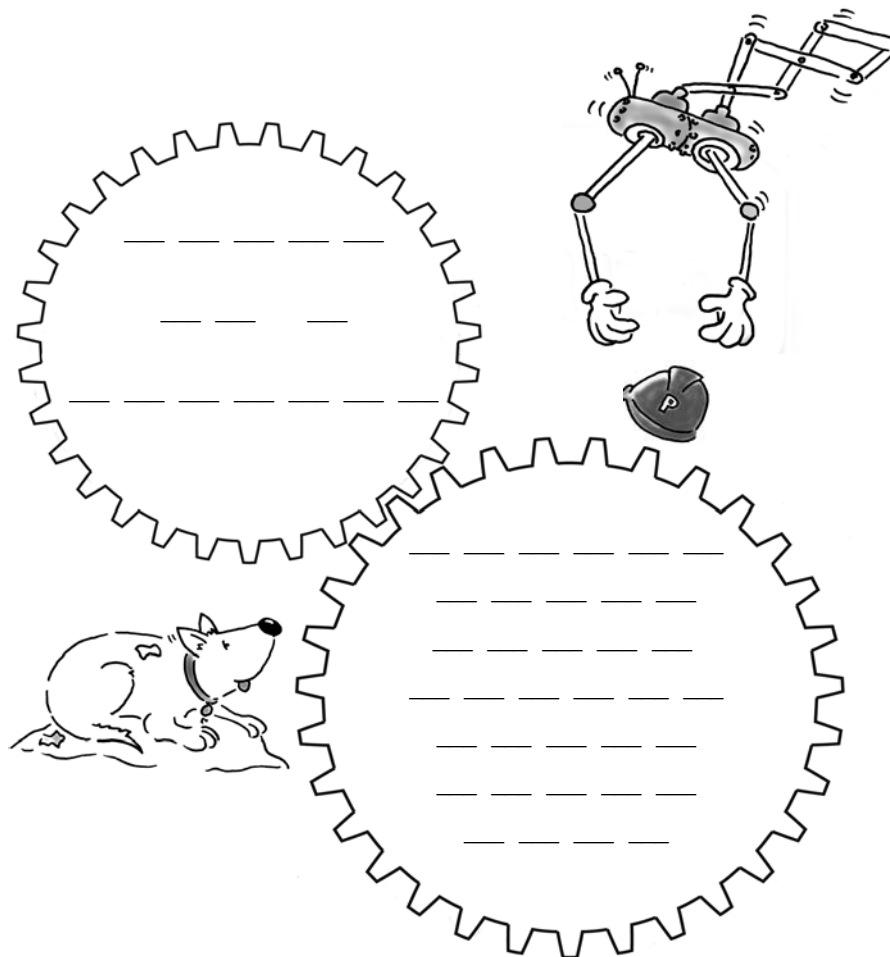
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# Hidden Message

Activity: Find the hidden message

Letters name parts **big** and **small**.  
They're hidden well.  
Can you find them all?

Use the spaces below to solve the puzzle.



# Hidden Message

Activity: Create your own hidden message about machines.

You might like to use the idea of using one letter per page. To do this, you will need a message that is exactly 53 letters.



# Write your own machine poems

Activity: Write your own poems about machines.

What other types of machines could you write poems about? Here are some ideas:

Bulldozer  
Electric toothbrush  
Dishwasher  
A heater  
An aeroplane

Make up your own machine

Poems do not have to rhyme. Try writing a poem that rhymes and one that does not.

Illustrate your poems - they could be colour or black and white.

# Jackhammer

This poem is based on the short, sharp sounds of the machine, like mutter, mutter, stutter, mutter and chitter-chatter. When words are used to mimic particular sounds it's called onomatopoeia. It comes from the Greek language meaning 'making of words'.

Activity: Draw what could be making the sounds written under each box.



Whee!



Crunch!



Squawk!



Sizzle!

# Jackhammer

Simple Machines are tools that make particular work easier. One type of Simple Machine is a wedge. A Jackhammer is a wedge.

Activity: Find out what action a wedge does and what other machines are wedges.

The word Jackhammer is made up of two separate words: Jack and hammer. We call words that combine two words, Compound Words. Here are some others.

waterfall  
flyswat  
gangplank  
snowflake

Activity: Make up a poem using one of the Compound Words listed. And try using some onomatopoeia!

# Tractors, trucks, trains and trams

This poem uses the 'tr' initial consonant blend sound.

Initial consonant blends are made when two consonants join together to make a single sound at the start of a word.

Vowels are A E I O U. Consonants are all the other alphabet letters.

The initial consonant blends sounds include:

bl, br, cl, cr, dr, fl, fr, gl, gr, pl, pr, sc, sk, sl, sm, sn, sp, st, sw, tr, tw, scr, spl, spr, squ, str, thr.

Activity:

Make up a poems using as many of one sound only or BLEND combinations as possible.

How many words can you think of staring with each blend sound? Make a list!

Activity:      Make a mobile

Write your words on pieces of card. Put holes in the tops of the cards. Using string, tie the cards together to make a mobile to hang in the classroom.

Activity:      Make a "Snap" card game.

Using the template below, create 20 cards. On 10 cards write some of the words you have come up with. Draw pictures for each word on the other 10 cards.

Now you have a "Snap" game.



# A great grey elephant

In *A great grey elephant*, Janeen Brian compares a concrete truck to an elephant.

Activity: Compare the following machines to animals:

A jack-hammer is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

A crane is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

A race car is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

A steam roller is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

A train is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

# A great grey elephant

Make up three of your own comparisons:

A \_\_\_\_\_ is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because

\_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_ is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because

\_\_\_\_\_.

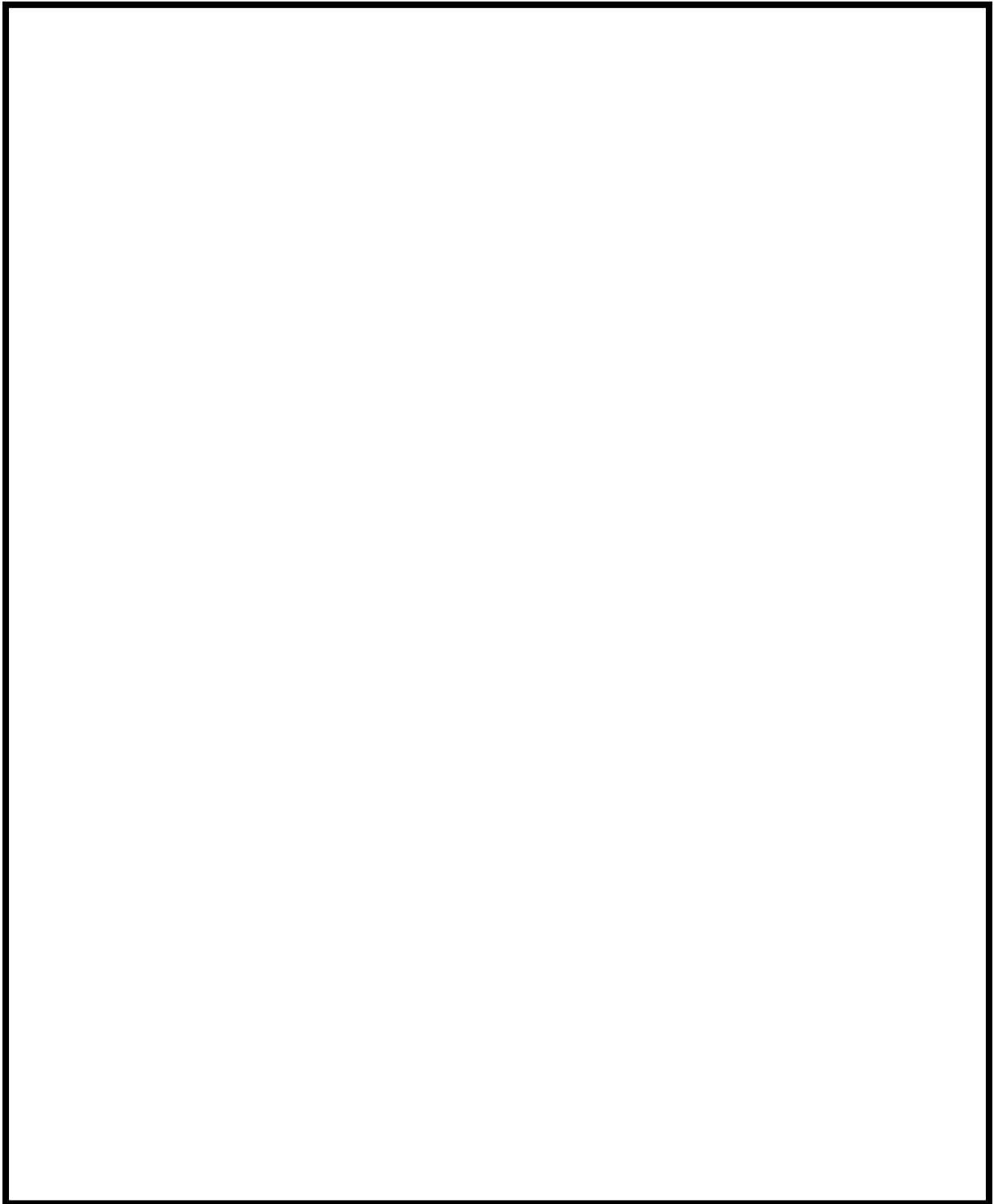
A \_\_\_\_\_ is like a \_\_\_\_\_ because

\_\_\_\_\_.

# A great grey elephant

Activity:

Draw an illustration, like the one where the cement truck looks like an elephant on page 16, about one of your comparisons.







WL-3-61

Activity: Draw your own matching sections for the robot's chest panel.



Switch



Eyes



Motor



Cogs and gears



Radar



Program data bank

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# WL-3-61

## Activity:

WL-3-61 has a data bank that tells it what to do. That's because WL-3-61 is a computer and computers need directions to follow.

Find a partner. One of you is the robot and the other is the programmer who gives the directions for the robot to follow. The robot cannot move without orders from the programmer. When directing the robot, the programmer must be precise.

Pick one of the tasks below:

- Write your name on the board.
- Take an eraser from your pencil case.
- Touch the window.
- Push in your chair at your table.

Write step-by-step directions on a piece of paper to complete your chosen task. Give your instructions to a partner. Do not let them know what task you have chosen. See if your partner can act as a robot and follow the directions to successfully complete the task.

## The wondrous crane

It's fun to make up language! Because the action first described in *The wondrous crane* poem is accurate: it lifts and lowers, it allows us to make up nonsense-sounding, but rhyming words, to describe its other actions: fast and slower, and stops and goes.

Activity:

Write down the names of five machines.

Draw a circle alongside each and fill it with any nonsense words about the machine. Think about words to do with the machine's purpose or function, shape, size or sound. See how many you can write down.

Activity:

Draw a simple crane. Now draw a very strange object hanging from the crane's hook! It might be large or small, heavy or light. Next write three reasons why the crane is lifting it. Write a short story or poem about it.

# Outback windmill

In Outback Windmill, Janeen Brian poses the interesting question to the windmill 'are you dizzy?' Today you are going to pose questions to machines.

Example:

Machine: Crane

Question: Are you afraid of heights?

What machines and questions can you think of?

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

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Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: \_\_\_\_\_

Machine: \_\_\_\_\_

# TVs

## Activity:

Write a short poem using one of the following abbreviations: CD, TV, DVD, MP3, PC

Find an old CD and write your poem on one side and draw a picture of your poem on the other.

You could make it into a wall display or a mobile for your classroom.

# Silver snake

The monorail in the poem has been likened to a silver snake. When we say something is like another it's called a simile.

Activity:

What similes can you make from the following? Compare the machine to a creature.

A truck is like a . . .

A helicopter is like a . . .

A jackhammer is like a . . .

A wheelbarrow is like a . . .

Activity:

Mono- means one or single or alone. Monorail means a train that runs on one rail. Can you see why a monocle means an eye-glass for one eye? Search the dictionary for other mono- words. Write down the meanings of two mono- words that you didn't know before.

Word 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Word 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Meaning \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Silver snake

Activity:

What other types of trains are there around the world? There's the Shinkansen, the Japanese Bullet Train, for one!  
See how many different trains you can find.

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Activity:

Write a poem about an object, but, as in *Silver snake*, don't tell the reader what it is until the very end.

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# Jean machine

An engine plate is attached to many machines. It has details about the machine on it.

Activity:

Cut out each engine plate phrase below from *Jean Machine* and put them in order.

It measures

it sews in rows

it steams

It tumble dries

it seams

It hems

it dyes blue jeans

it stitches zippers

fixes bows.

and cuffs

It clanks

it cranks

cuts

irons each day.

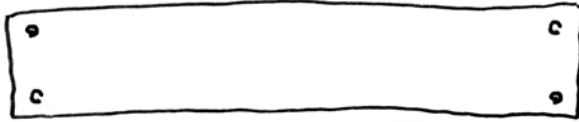
It packs in boxes  
then ...

stacks away!

# Jean machine

Activity:

Using the blank engine plates below, starting with "It", write your own short phrase on each engine plate to create your own noisy machine poem. Rhyming words in pairs work well, eg: It bumps, It thumps.

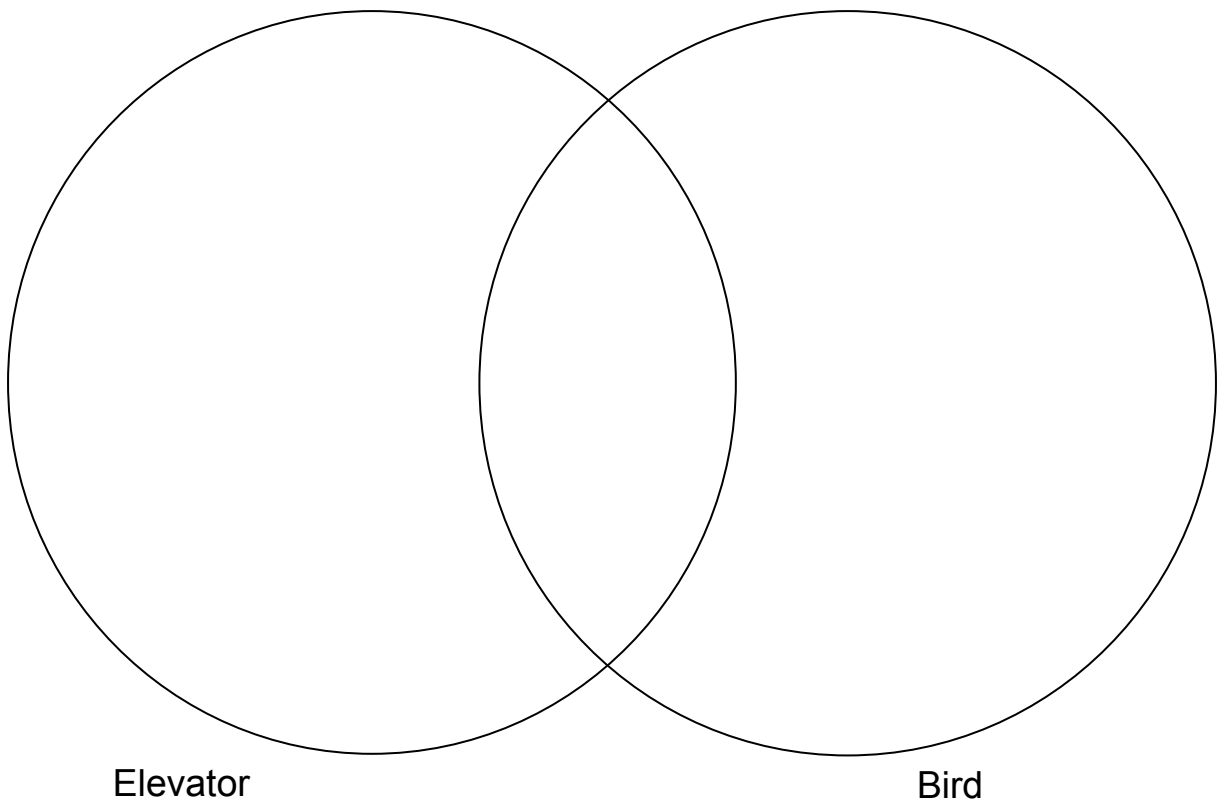


# Alligator

The poem *Alligator* compares an escalator to an alligator.

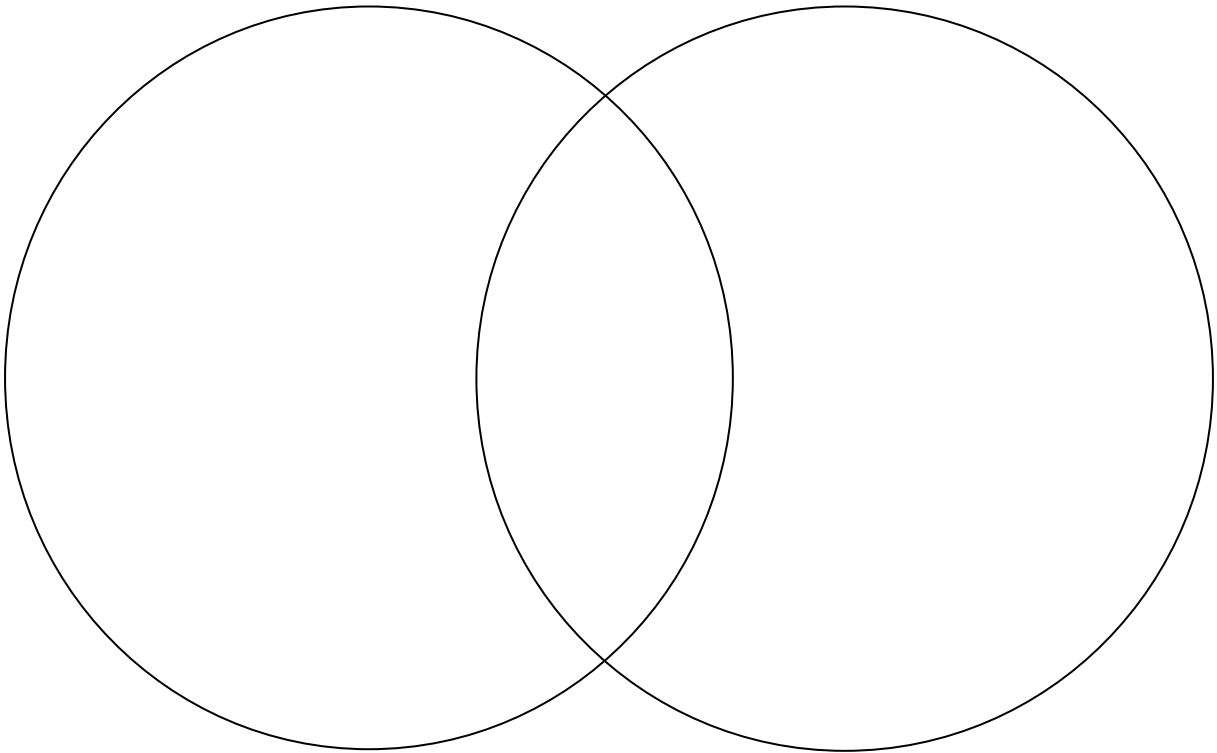
Activity:

Complete the Venn diagram below by comparing an elevator to a bird. Write what the elevator and the alligator have in common in the overlapping area and what is unique to each one in each of their circles.



# Alligator

Think of another animal and a machine it is like. Complete the Venn diagram below for these.



# The pizza oven

Activity: Create your own pizza using the toppings you would like. List the toppings.  
Come up with a name for your special pizza.  
What's its price? If there were 6 slices, how much would each slice cost?

Pizza name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ingredients:

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Price of your pizza: \$ \_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_

Price per slice: \$ \_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_

Activity: Make up your own pizza shop name  
Make up a slogan for your pizza or pizza shop!  
An example is: Peter's Perfect Pizza deal, It's everybody's favourite meal!

Pizza shop name: \_\_\_\_\_

Slogan:

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# The pizza oven

Activity:

Make your own foldable pizza box. Discuss the key features. How does it go together? How does it stay strong and in shape?

Draw and mark out your measurements with solid lines for outside shapes and dotted lines for folds. Cut and fold along the lines.

- Cut along solid \_\_\_\_\_ lines
- Fold along dotted \_ \_ \_ \_ lines

Design and label your box.

Research BOX TEMPLATES on the internet. Can you find one for a pizza box?

Activity:

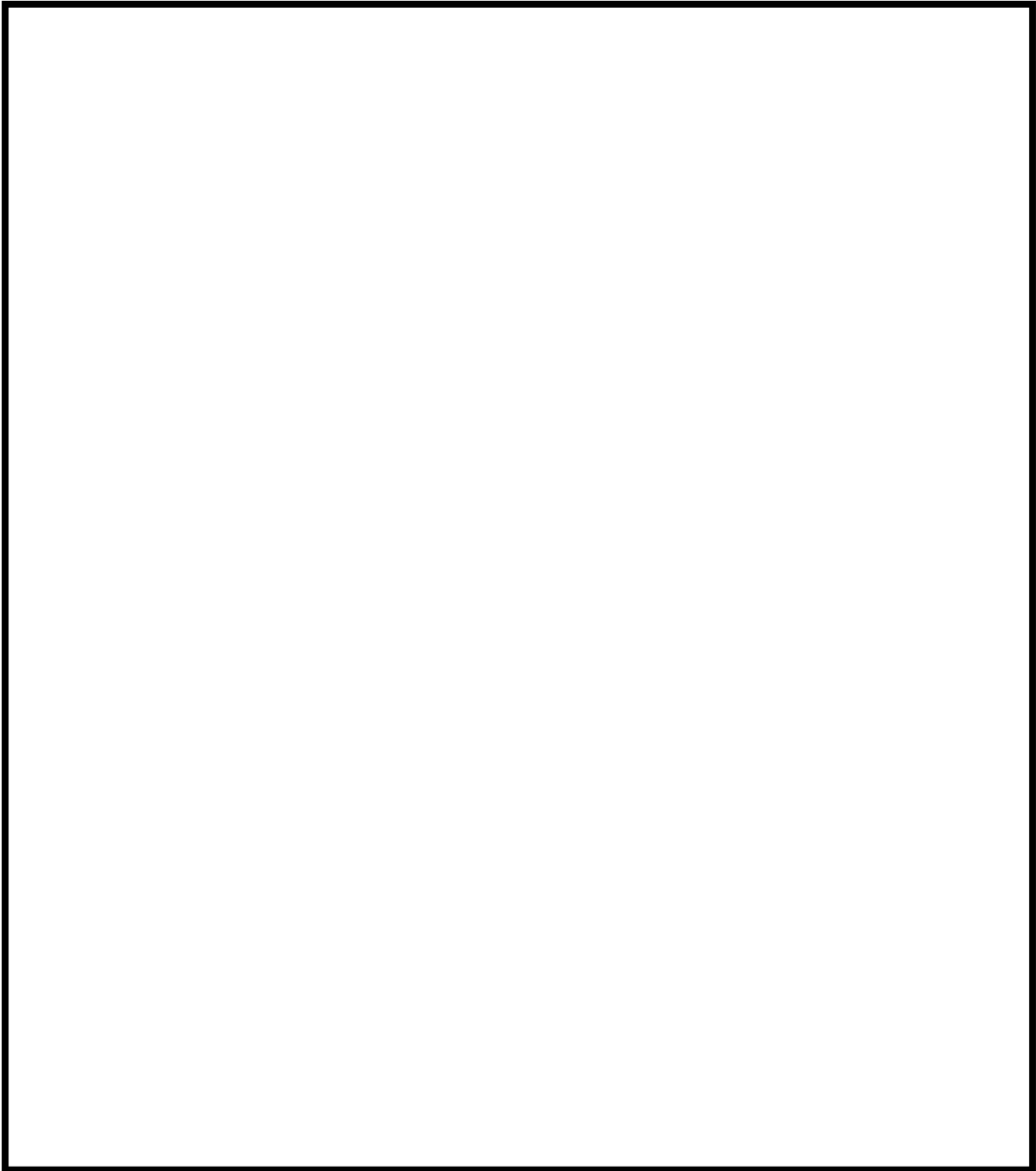
Create a pizza menu or pamphlet with lots of different pizza varieties and prices. Remember to include pictures of your pizzas.

# Power to the egg-beater

In this poem, things go wrong when the speed of the machine changes.

## Activity

Create a new machine. Draw it in the box below.



# Power to the egg-beater

What does your new machine do?

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Now imagine what would happen if its speed increased! Write about it!

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Activity:

Power machines use power to do the work, where once human beings activated them.

Find out how people did the following when there were no power machines:

- drilled holes
- mowed lawns
- whipped cream
- made butter
- did the laundry
- cut hedges



# Power to the egg-beater

Activity:

This poem almost has a singsong rhythm to it. Make up any sentence and see if you can match the rhythm.

For example:           When I went down to the beach I dived into the surf!

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Can you add to your sentence to make a rhyme? If not, find another sentence and play around with that.

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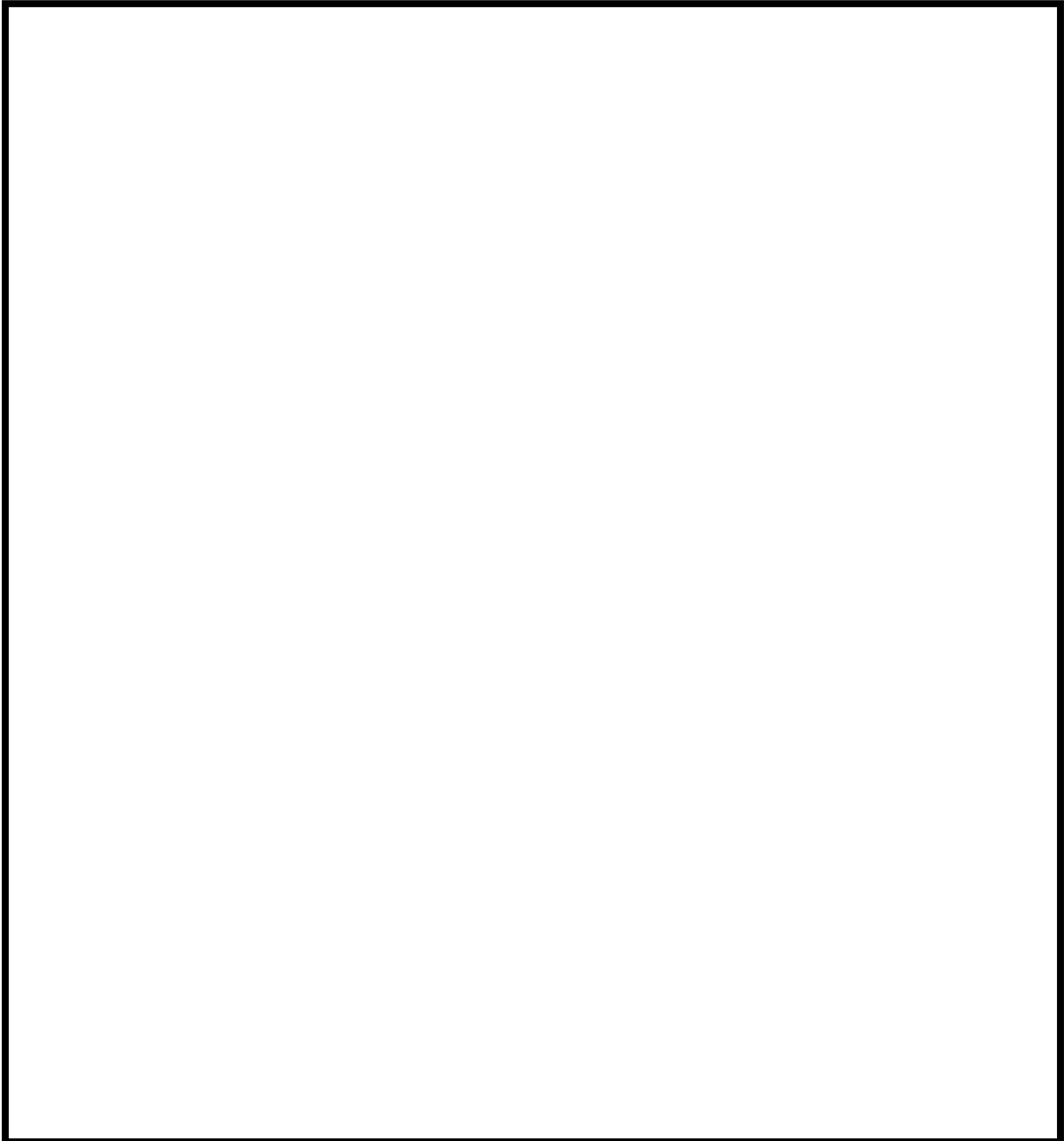
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# The Dippedoppler Toaster

Activity: Design a weird and wacky toaster.

Draw your own design for a Dippedoppler toaster. Label the main parts of your toaster.



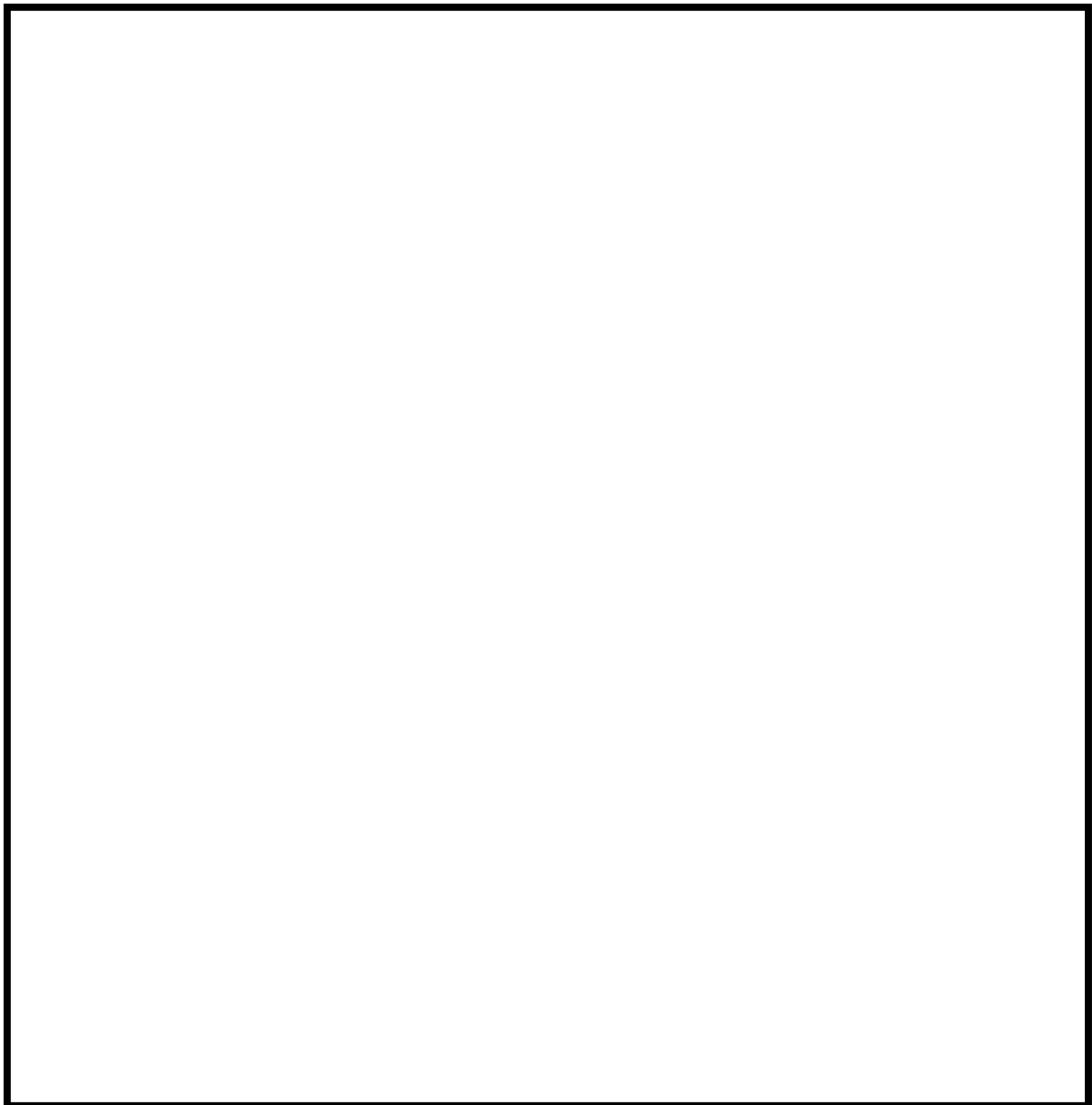
My Dippedoppler toaster

# InSinkErator ®

In this poem illustrator John Veeken used a 'bird eye' view perspective looking down on the InSinkErator ®.

Activity: Find other books that use perspective. Share and discuss.

Activity: Imagine you are up high and draw a bird eye view of an object in your house or school. Keep it secret! Have a competition to see who can guess what the objects are.



My birdseye view of an object in my house or school

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# The droning drain machine

You'll find some fascinating facts about these machines! Sometimes they are called drain snakes!

Mark wrote this poem after a plumber came to his house to clear a blocked drain. These machines are really interesting, as they curl out of the machine with long metal coils and snake down the pipe rotating as they go using cutters of all sorts of shapes to try and dislodge the blockage. They are also very noisy!

Here's some photos of the real drain machine at work in Mark's backyard!



(photo's courtesy of Mark Carthew)

Activity: Design your own drain snake machine.

# The super street sweeper

Activity:

There are a number of characters in this poem. Can you list them below:

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Take a character from the poem and create a comic strip showing what happened when the super street sweeper approached! You do not have to use all the boxes.


# The super street sweeper

Activity:

There are a number of characters in this poem. Can you list them below:

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Take a character from the poem and create a comic strip showing what happened when the super street sweeper approached! You do not have to use all the boxes.

Sometimes funny ideas come from taking an ordinary object and exaggerating it. For example, this poem exaggerates a street sweeper and explores what could happen!

Activity:

Think of an ordinary object from home or school and exaggerate it. What could happen? Let your imagination go!

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# The super street sweeper

Activity:

Sometimes thinking of opposites gives us ideas.

Finish these:

If an aeroplane shrunk \_\_\_\_\_

If a skateboard grew \_\_\_\_\_

If your desk shrunk \_\_\_\_\_

If a frog grew \_\_\_\_\_

# What not to put in the washing machine

What a funny list of things not to put in the washing machine!

Activity:

Complete the following lists:

What not to use for fuel in Mum's Car:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Five worst things to run over with a lawn mower:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

What not to put in the freezer:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_



# Spare parts

Activity: Think of a machine in your house. It could be the washing machine, the lawnmower or some other machine that your family uses.

What parts does the machine have. See how many you can list below.

Machine parts:

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Using your list of parts, draw a new machine. What would you call it?



What is the name of your new machine: \_\_\_\_\_