

Name _____

Close clues

These clues are for pairs of words which are close to each other in the dictionary.



● Fill in the missing words. The clues will help you to find them.

A fast aeroplane.
A woolly sweater.

j _____
j _____

A place where children go to learn.
A tool with two blades for cutting.

s _____
s _____

A machine people watch.
The bad mood someone is in.

t _____
t _____

Hair growing on a man's chin.
Any big animal.

b _____
b _____

A story that teaches people something.
A building where things are made by machine.

f _____
f _____

● Make up a similar pair of clues yourself and try them on a friend.

Name _____

A wartime memory



I had to make sure that my brother was awake. He used to be very bad-tempered if he was disturbed in the night and he wanted to go back to sleep.

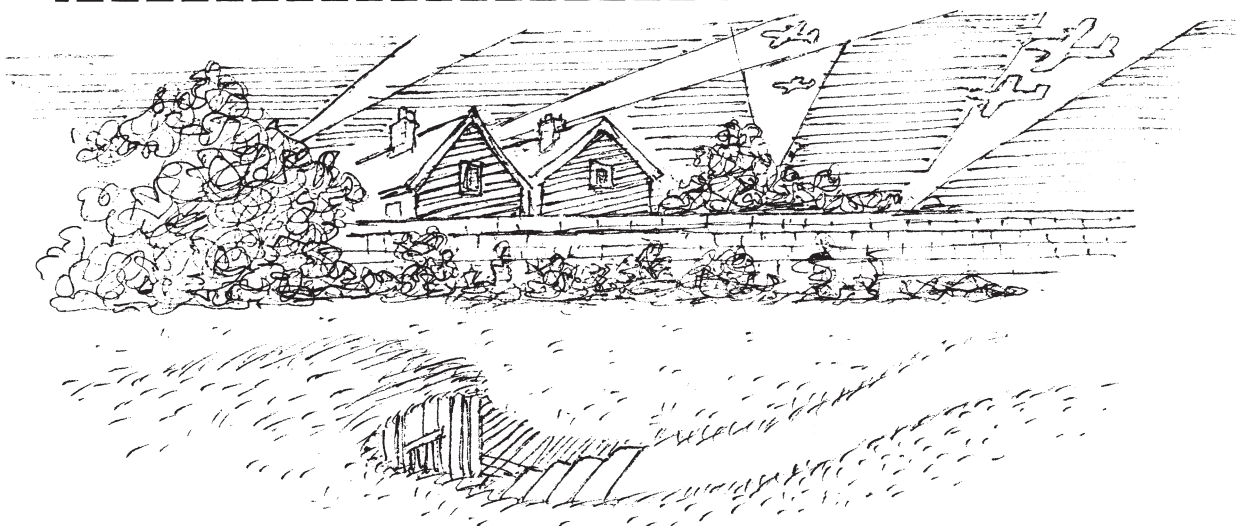
The Andersen shelter was dug into the ground. It had no heating and it always felt cold. My brother always used to grab the top bunk. There was often a puddle of rainwater on the rough cement floor.

If we heard the air-raid siren in the night we had to get up and put on warm clothes over our night things. We had to wear our shoes because it was often wet as we walked down the garden.

Mum used to hurry us down the garden path to the Andersen shelter. We weren't allowed to use a light so we often bumped into things. My dad was not with us. He was a soldier and we didn't even know where he was.

We could hear the planes going overhead and the thud of guns, but mum used to tell us not to worry. We would fall asleep and stay in the Andersen shelter until morning.

The twins, who were only babies, had to be put in the wicker laundry basket. They didn't even wake up. They had a stone hot-water bottle, wrapped in a blanket, to help keep them warm.



Name _____

The platypus

- Read the following information.
- Underline the named parts of the platypus.
- Use this vocabulary to label the illustration.



The platypus is a most unusual kind of mammal. Unlike other mammals which give birth to live young, the female platypus lays two soft-shelled eggs which she incubates for one to two weeks. When the eggs hatch she feeds the young with milk from her milk glands. The young do not suck upon the glands but push at them and then suck the milk which oozes out into her fur.

The platypus has a large, soft beak or bill which is so sensitive that it is able to detect the small creatures in the water which the platypus feeds upon. This sensitive beak is invaluable as the platypus is blind and deaf in the water.

The body of the platypus is furry. Its four legs have webbed feet. It uses the front legs to paddle and hind legs to swim. This enables it to swim strongly under the water. Male platypuses have a poison gland on their ankles which they use to fend off enemies. Adult platypuses weigh up to 2.4kg and males grow up to 60cm while females are slightly smaller. Platypuses are found only in parts of Australia and Tasmania.

