

# Part of the Party

Karri Koala loves to dance! She enjoys dancing to all different kinds of music, but her favourite thing in the world is dancing to rock 'n' roll with her two daddies.

One Saturday morning, as Dad was playing air guitar, Karri was surprised to see that the delivery bird had brought a special leaflet. Karri ran inside, excited to tell her dads that there was going to be a disco in town!

Karri's smile faded as she read the words out loud.



"But I don't have a mummy in my family," she said. "Does that mean I can't go?"

"I'm sure Mayor Emu wouldn't want you to miss the disco," said Daddy kindly. "Why don't you go and ask Katy what she's going to do? I bet she will want to take her grandma."

Karri went next door to see her best friend, Katy Kangaroo. Katy lived with her grandma and loved to dance as much as Karri did.

"I definitely want to go," said Katy excitedly. "My gran has some amazing dance moves. It shouldn't matter that she's not my mum!"

At school, Karri and Katy asked if anyone else was going to the disco.

Carla Crocodile started to cry. "My mummy will be at work," she sniffed.

"What if your big sister could take you?" suggested Karri.

"But the leaflet says it's for mummies," said Carla, and she walked away sadly.

That night, Karri went to her room feeling cross that the disco leaflet had made her, Katy and Carla feel so unwelcome. She wondered if anyone else would be feeling the same.

The next day, she decided to call a meeting for anyone who was also feeling left out. She spread the word and then waited by the lake for them to turn up.

Slowly, Karri's friends started to arrive - some girls, some boys. She was amazed at how many of them had come along. They were all upset about the disco too!

The platypus twins, Pablo and Paula, just loved discos and they wanted to take their mummy dancing together. "It's not fair that it's only for daughters!" Pablo said.

"What about everybody else?"

"Yeah, what about us?" said Eric Echidna and Levi Lizard.



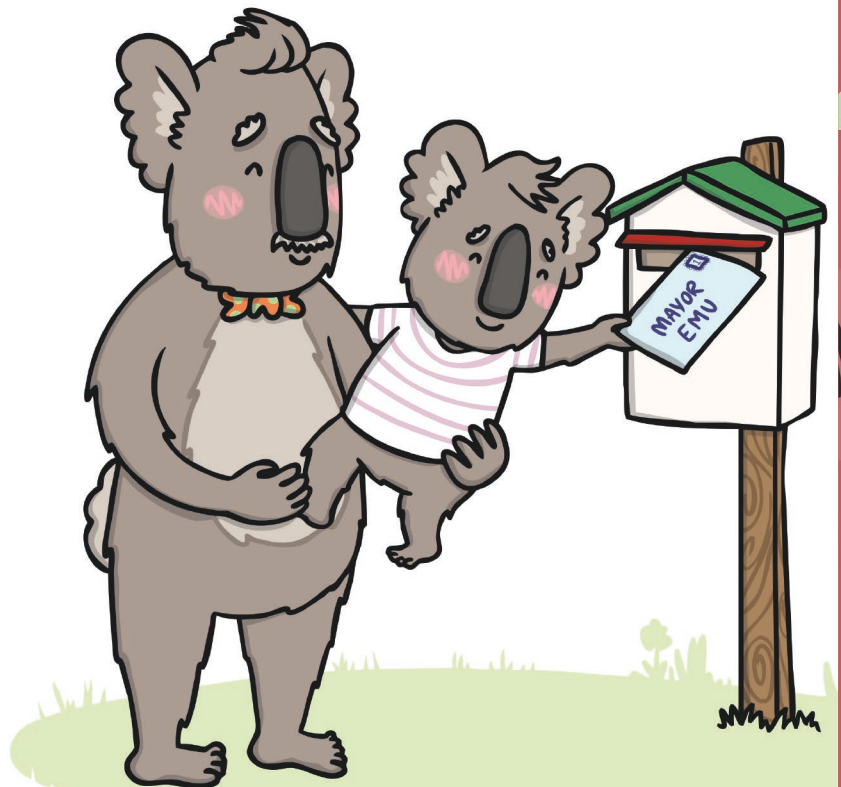
Wanda Wombat was looked after by her dad and didn't have a mum. She wanted to take her dad to the disco to celebrate their happy little family!

Deborah Dingo was confused about whether she would be allowed to bring both of her mummies. "I can't choose just one," she said anxiously, "I love them both so much!"

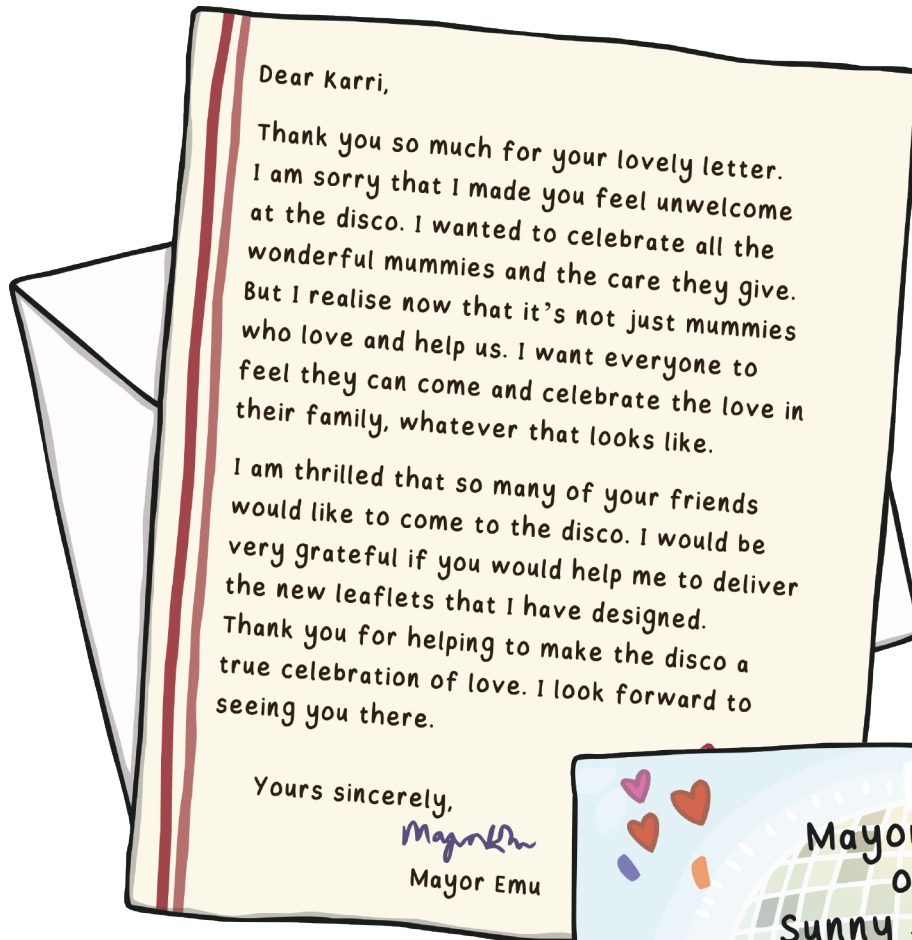
Keeley Kookaburra had been adopted by a family of galahs and lived with her mum, dad, two grannies, grandpa, four aunties, five uncles and twelve cousins. "But everyone in my family loves and helps me. I want to bring them all!" she said.

Karri went home feeling determined to make sure that all her friends and their families could be part of the party. She told Dad about the meeting and all of her friends who wanted to come too. "Why don't you write a letter to the mayor?" suggested Dad.

Karri sat down and wrote a letter, telling the mayor about all of the different families who would not be included at his disco. She posted the letter and waited.



A few days later, an envelope arrived addressed to Karri. It had the official stamp of the mayor's office. Karri felt very nervous, but with Dad and Daddy by her side, she opened the letter.





Karri handed out the leaflets to all of her friends. Dad and Daddy felt proud of their kind and thoughtful little koala.

All that was left to do was choose which disco outfits to wear and for Karri, Dad and Daddy to practise their dance moves.

That night, the town was lit up with disco lights and the sound of party music floated through the air. Karri looked at Dad and Daddy with a smile. "This is the best disco ever," she said, "and the best part of all is having you both here to share it with me!"



# Questions

1. What is Karri's favourite thing in the world? Tick one.
  - ☐ dancing to rock 'n' roll with her daddies
  - ☐ singing pop songs with her friends
  - ☐ watching movies at home
2. At the beginning of the story, what type of disco is going to be held in town? Tick one.
  - ☐ a Mummy & Daughter Disco
  - ☐ a Daddy & Daughter Disco
  - ☐ a Daddy & Son Disco
3. Who did Katy Kangaroo want to take to the disco? Tick one.
  - ☐ her brother
  - ☐ her grandma
  - ☐ her best friend
4. Who does Karri's dad tell her to write a letter to? Tick one.
  - ☐ her friends
  - ☐ her teacher
  - ☐ the mayor
5. What does Karri say is the best thing about the disco? Tick one.
  - ☐ the food
  - ☐ the music
  - ☐ being able to share it with her daddies

# Answers

1. What is Karri's favourite thing in the world? Tick one.
  - ☒ **dancing to rock 'n' roll with her daddies**
  - ☐ singing pop songs with her friends
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  - ☒ **being able to share it with her daddies**

# Questions

1. Why is Karri worried she won't be able to go to the disco? Tick one.

- ☐ She doesn't have a party outfit.
- ☐ She doesn't know how to dance.
- ☐ She doesn't have a mummy in her family.

2. What type of animal is Katy? Tick one.

- ☐ a kangaroo
- ☐ a koala
- ☐ a kookaburra

3. What does Karri decide to do for her friends who are feeling left out by the disco?

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4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

"My gran has some •

• amazing dance moves."

"But everyone in my family •

• a letter to the mayor?"

"Why don't you write •

• loves and helps me."

5. Complete this sentence.

Dad and Daddy felt proud of their kind and \_\_\_\_\_  
little koala.

happy

thoughtful

funny



# Answers

1. Why is Karri worried she won't be able to go to the disco? Tick one.

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- ☐ She doesn't know how to dance.
- ☒ **She doesn't have a mummy in her family.**

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3. What does Karri decide to do for her friends who are feeling left out by the disco?

**Karri decides to call a meeting.**

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

"My gran has some	amazing dance moves."
"But everyone in my family	a letter to the mayor?"
"Why don't you write	loves and helps me."

5. Complete this sentence.

Dad and Daddy felt proud of their kind and **thoughtful** little koala.

# Questions

1. Why is Karri excited at the beginning of the story? Tick one.

- ☐ It's her birthday.
- ☐ There's going to be a disco in town.
- ☐ It's the summer holidays.

2. Why is Karri worried she won't be able to go to the disco?

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3. Write three adjectives that describe how Karri or her friends are feeling about the mummy and daughter disco.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Draw a line to match the word to its meaning.

unwelcome	•	•	to be very happy or excited
determined	•	•	not wanted
thrilled	•	•	to make a decision and not allow anything to change it

5. Why do you think the Mayor calls the new disco 'a true celebration of love'?

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6. Why do you think it's important for everyone to feel welcome and to celebrate different types of families?

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# Answers

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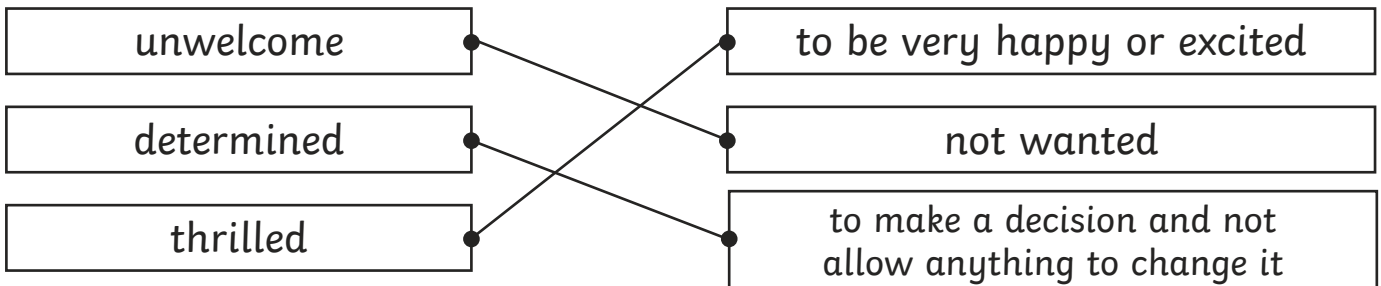
2. Why is Karri worried she won't be able to go to the disco?

**Because she doesn't have a mummy in her family.**

3. Write three adjectives that describe how Karri or her friends are feeling about the mummy and daughter disco.

**Any three from: excited, sad, cross, unwelcome, upset, confused, determined.**

4. Draw a line to match the word to its meaning.



5. Why do you think the Mayor calls the new disco 'a true celebration of love'?

**Because he wants the disco to celebrate the love in every family, whatever that looks like.**

6. Why do you think it's important for everyone to feel welcome and to celebrate different types of families?

**Various answers relating to not leaving others out/being inclusive of everyone, being fair and kind to all, treating everyone as equals.**