



## Australian Children's Band Wiggles Its Way to Asia

BY BELINDA GOLDSMITH

CANBERRA, Australia Mon Jan 13 (Reuters) - Australia's top-selling children's phenomenon, a hyperactive band of preschool teachers, pub band musicians and a giggling dinosaur, is heading to Asia after success in the United States.

The Wiggles, a children's group have embarked on a program of reproducing their act overseas.

The concept is simple. Create Wiggles **clones** in another country and teach them the songs and dances that have proved such a hit in Australia.

A Taiwanese version of The Wiggles is due to be launched on Taiwan television later this month after months of auditions and training, and **replicas** of the group are set to appear in Japan, Korea, Thailand and China over the next two years.

"We're confident this concept will work in Asia where we've already tested the music and shows," The Wiggles' business manager Mike Conway told Reuters.

"We've worked hard to build The Wiggles' branding in Australia and we think it's something that can now be used elsewhere ... The Wiggles don't want to leave Australia but they just can't be all over the world at the same time." The Wiggles' success among the under-6 age group in Australia, and the group's newfound fame in the United States, has been extraordinary in the fickle world of children's entertainment.

The group hit the spotlight in the United States after appearing on the Disney channel.

Tickets for The Wiggles' concerts on the U.S. east coast late last year sold out within hours, with reports that scalpers were selling \$15 tickets for up to \$300 each and parents sleeping outside box offices so as not to disappoint their children.

This offshore success prompted The Wiggles and Disney to join forces in a complex, 10-year deal to franchise the group in non-English speaking nations in Asia where their songs will be sung in English and the local language.

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**Glossary:** clone - a person or thing that seems to be an exact copy of someone or something else replica - a close or exact copy of something

### 1. Matching

1. Here are 5 words from the article but the letters of each word are mixed up. Use the meanings next to them to help you work out each word.

- a. **prhyeatcive** -- unable to relax or be still
- b. **ordxetrainray** -- very unusual, not normal
- c. **oolrepsch** -- the time or age before a child is old enough to attend school
- d. **cnigproredu** -- causing something to be seen or heard again
- e. **nno-nglEshi** -- someone or something that is not English

2. Each of the words in 1. has a prefix - a letter or group of letters which is added to the beginning of a word in order to form a different word. By learning different prefixes and their meanings you will extend your vocabulary and also develop your ability to guess the meanings of words you do not know.

Write the prefixes used in the words above in Column A to match each one with its meaning in Column B.

Column A	Column B
a.	- this prefix forms words that refer to something that happened before a particular date, event, etc.
b.	- this prefix forms adjectives which refer to things or people which have a large amount or too much of something.
c.	- this prefix forms nouns and adjectives which refer to people or things that do not have a particular characteristic.
d.	- this prefix forms verbs and nouns which refer to an action that is being repeated.
e.	- this prefix forms adjectives which refer to something having a large amount of a quality.

3. Use the words from 1. in the sentences below. You may need to change the form of the word in some way.
  - a. Most of the people in my class are from a \_\_\_\_\_-speaking background. Most began learning English at elementary school.
  - b. The weather today was quite \_\_\_\_\_. It was extremely hot in the morning but then the temperature dropped dramatically in the afternoon.
  - c. Is this painting an original or a \_\_\_\_\_?
  - d. The teachers said that the child suffered from \_\_\_\_\_ as he refused to sit still and listen.
  - e. My 3-year-old daughter loves her \_\_\_\_\_ teacher and talks about her all the time.

## 2: Language

The prefix 'mis' means something is being done badly or wrongly. It is used with verbs and nouns.

Example: misconduct means bad conduct.

Part One: Write words beginning with mis to match the following sentences.

1. When you don't trust someone \_\_\_\_\_.
2. To spell a word incorrectly \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When something is not used properly \_\_\_\_\_.
4. To not hear something correctly \_\_\_\_\_.
5. To put something in the wrong place \_\_\_\_\_.
6. To judge someone wrongly \_\_\_\_\_.
7. To give the wrong information \_\_\_\_\_.
8. To calculate wrongly \_\_\_\_\_.

Part Two: Now use one of words from Part One to complete the sentences that follow. (It may be necessary to change the tense of the verb):

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ the purple Wiggle. He's really quite funny when he's not asleep.
2. If you \_\_\_\_\_ the DVD player you can damage it.
3. Disney \_\_\_\_\_ the profit they could make on the Wiggles' deal.
4. Alan \_\_\_\_\_ Uncle Tom after he lied to him about going to the concert.
5. Helen was \_\_\_\_\_ about the date of the concert.
6. People often \_\_\_\_\_ my daughter's name.
7. Can you help me find the kids' Wiggles video. I seem to have \_\_\_\_\_ it.
8. I thought he said he really like the Wiggles but I \_\_\_\_\_ him. He actually said he disliked them so was unhappy with my present.



## 3. Pair work

Your teacher is going to divide the class into two groups and give each person half of a crossword. You are going to explain these words in English to a partner from the other group. Think about how to explain the words on your crossword. All of the words have prefixes.

Now find a partner from the other group. One of you is Student A, the other is Student B. Work together and fill in the crossword. Ask and answer questions with your partner. Do not show the other person your words!

## 4: Vocabulary Extension

Use your dictionary to find other words that have the prefixes you looked at in the earlier exercises and add them and their meanings to your vocabulary notebook.



# TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWER KEY

## 1: Matching - Answers

1: a. hyperactive, b. extraordinary, c. preschool, d. reproducing, e. non-English.

2: pre--this prefix forms words that refer to something that happened before a particular date, event etc.

hyper--this prefix forms adjectives which refer to things or people which have a large amount or too much of something.

non--this prefix forms nouns and adjectives which refer to people or things that do not have a particular characteristic.

re--this prefix forms verbs and nouns which refer to an action that is being repeated.

extra--this prefix forms adjectives which refer to something having a large amount of a quality.

3. a. non-English, b. extraordinary, c. reproduction, d. hyperactivity, e. preschool.

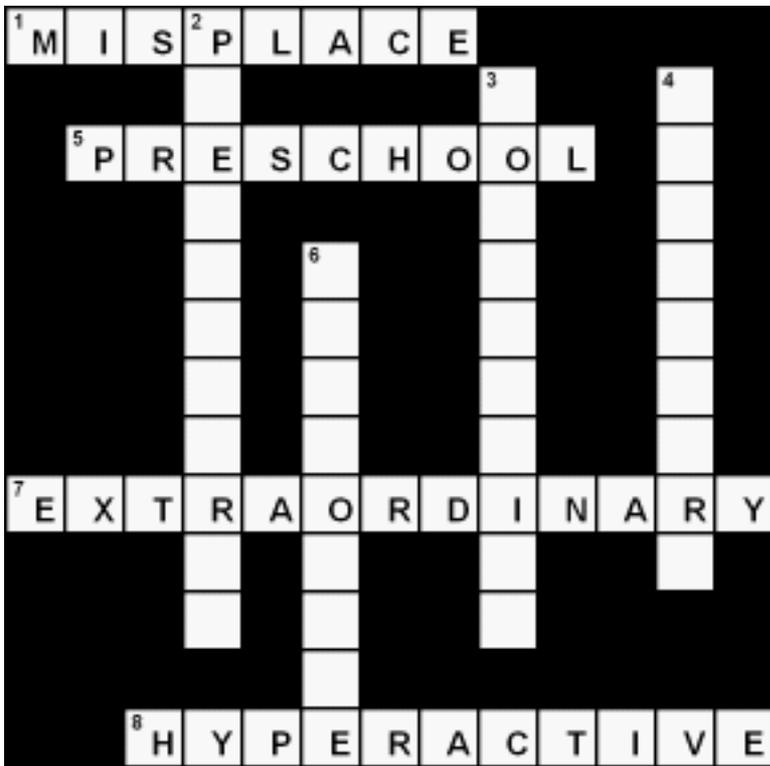
## 2: Language - Answers

Part One: 1. mistrust, 2. misspell, 3. misuse, 4. mishear, 5. misplace, 6. misjudge, 7. misinform, 8. miscalculate.

Part Two: 1. misjudged, 2. misuse, 3. miscalculated, 4. mistrusted, 5. misinformed, 6. misspell, 7. misplaced, 8. misheard.

## 3. Pair Work - Crosswords To Be Copied And Given To Students

### Pair Crossword for Student A



### Pair Crossword for Student B

