



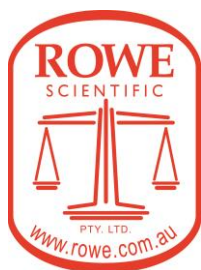
**Prize Winner**

# **Science Writing**

## **Year 3-4**

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# How plants and animals communicate

Rumble grumble, "Oh no. Did you hear that I think it is a earthquake." All of the animals in the forrest are panicing. They are trying to communicate and warn each other of the disaster.

In the forrest, the trees are falling, the ground is shaking and the animals are panicing. The first animal that noticed the disaster was the chimpanzees. They are coughing so loudly to warn the other chimpanzee about the threat. Some other chimpanzees feel threatened and are now hitting the ground and making high-pitch screaming sounds.

Soon enough the earthquake reaches the tunnels of the African demon mole rat under ground. One of the them discovered the earthquake and it started to dig.

thumping its head against the top of their tunnels, sending vibrations through the earth. Their noise can travel farther than any other noise through the earth.

When the African elephants sensed the earthquake one of the elephants started to make a low sound called infrasound. It is so low that it cannot strike human hearing. The other African elephants can hear the warning from 175 miles away.

Meanwhile on a big tree there lived a family of tarsies. When the earthquake started to shake their tree the tarsies started to panic. They emit frequencies over 20,000 high-pitch ultrasound. It helps them to communicate and alert one another of danger over the jungle noise.



When the earthquake reached the Ocean it started a huge tsunami. The dolphins are noticing the tsunami and the dolphins above the water started slapping their tails on the surface. Meanwhile, the dolphins under water are starting to click and whistle to get others' attention. Once they were calm, the Saffley Swam to a different area.

The tsunami made the bottom of the Ocean murky and when an electric eel swam into the murk it couldn't find a way out. So it used some of its electricity to navigate a way out. When it did it went to cleaner water.

A little weakly electric fish saw the electric eel swimming away. It decided to warn the other electric

fish. It generates electric fields up to one Volt in water. This is called electroreceptors. When the others saw they started doing it as well. They all got into a group and started to swim away.

A School of sharks are swimming towards the tsunami. Suddenly they sense the tsunami and they feel threatened now. The sharks' pectoral fins droop which they normally use for steering and braking during swimming. They also start arching on their backs to make their appearance more aggressive. Eventually they start swimming in figure eight loops. They use this movement to warn the threat to leave them alone.

What felt like forever, finally the earthquake and tsunami finished. The land and ocean once again were back at peace. However, all



the trees are knocked over and the animals habitats are destroyed. Thankfully the plants have their own way to communicate.

The plant uses the mycorrhiza network to communicate. They look like spider webs enmeshed in the root system. Unlike humans or animals communicate in a social sense they rather use chemical signals, hormones and nutrients that are passed between plants that can trigger signals in the recipient to undergo physiological or morphological changes.

A plant is increasing in hormones signals to the other plant to undertake physiological response such as growing taller. It also gives nutrients and water to its neighbour which is the poor plant. The nutrient will be passed from the donor to the mycorrhiza network within 1 or 2 days

In a few years time most of the plants are growing back. The animals in the forest and ocean are back in their habitats. The communication between the animals are so important to help the animals survive and help in a disaster. The communication between the plants help nature to recover after it is destroyed.

total of words = 632

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