

HORDERN
HOUSE

Occasional List
K is for kangaroo

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HORDERN HOUSE

RARE BOOKS • MANUSCRIPTS • PAINTINGS • PRINTS

Occasional list: K is for kangaroo

A light-hearted selection of kangaroo games and alphabets, celebrating one of our favourite marsupials. The first section is devoted to alphabet primers featuring the letter “K for Kangaroo”, and comprises both printed material and a complete set of French nineteenth-century children’s alphabet blocks. The second section is broader in scope, encompassing a range of educational books, games and puzzles. The final part of this list presents seven beautiful kangaroo plates, including delicately shaded lithographs and two prints derived from early colonial days (namely James Wallis and George Stubbs).

This list is intended as a preview. For more information, including bibliographic notes, further images and condition reports, please click on the text in this PDF which will open the relevant web-link. Alternately, you can type the unique stock number provided with each listing into the search field at www.hordern.com.

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Part One: Alphabets



ANONYMOUS. Alphabet de L'Histoire des Animaux, orné de 27 gravures.

Octavo, 6 pp., handcoloured engravings throughout; in original pictorial wrappers. Slightly worn, outer edge slightly chipped, otherwise a good copy. Paris, Brianchon Libraire circa 1820.

Very early fully engraved Abecedaire for children containing a quaint illustration of the kangaroo derived from the classic image by George Stubbs. The rear cover has a particularly good depiction of the Creation (Adam is sporting particularly handsome sideburns), but the front is the more interesting image, with a view of the Ménagerie du Jardin du Roi in Paris. The Jardin du Roi was built in the seventeenth century, and was opened to a wide range of visitors by Louis XIV and the great natural historian Buffon was appointed director in 1739. In the 1790s, the garden became the Jardin des Plantes under the direction of Cuvier, and a famous repository of antipodean species.

This scarce title is not held in Australian institutional collections, nor is it recorded in the Gumuchian catalogue.

\$1250

3402089



Complete set of French nineteenth-century children's alphabet blocks.

Game comprising 24 timber blocks, each papered with illustrations on each face, with six chromolithographic paper guiding sheets each measuring 177 x 262 mm., original box with papered lid. Some repairs to reverse of the five paper guiding sheets. France, circa 1870.

French alphabet blocks, comprising a game for children wherein the blocks are rearranged on their different faces to form a picture alphabet with various items and animals including a zebra, duck, and a kangaroo. The set includes the original box accompanied by the six lithographic sheets that were dissected and pasted to the blocks (five of the sheets are loose, while one sheet is pasted to the front cover of the box itself). As such, these sheets form a guide for youngsters to reassemble the blocks accordingly, and learn the alphabet in the process.

It is most unusual to find an item for children of this age and composite nature in such good condition.

\$1450

2909754



ANONYMOUS. Nouvel Alphabet. Instructif et pittoresque ou premier livre des enfants contenant un grand nombre d'exercices de lecture et un choix d'historiettes morales...

Quarto; frontispiece, 48pp., handcoloured illustration throughout, original papered stiff boards. The spine a little chipped, otherwise a very good copy. Paris, Théodore Lefèvre, circa 1880.

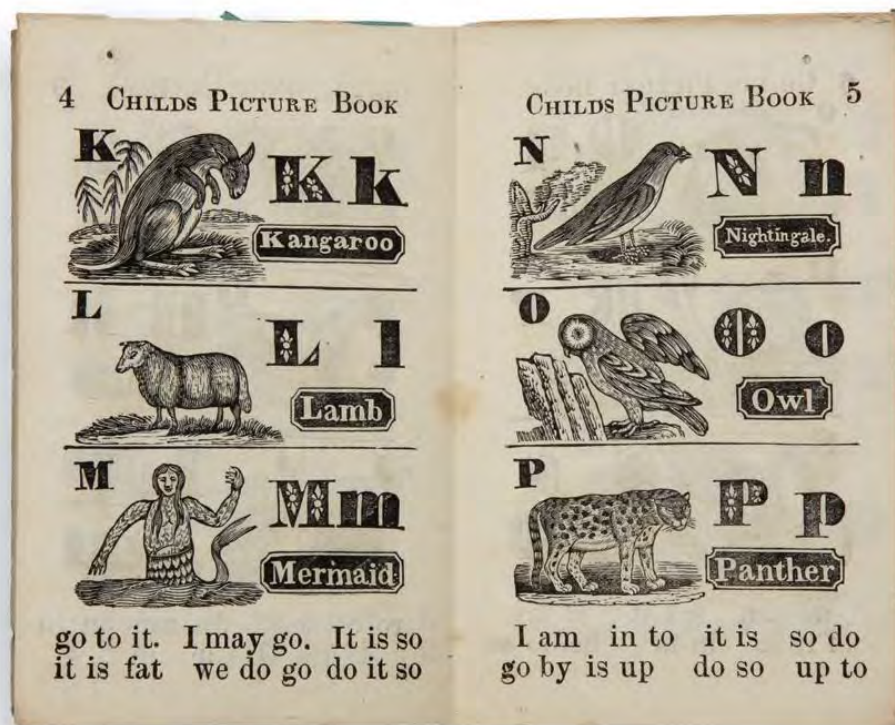
French children's primer, comprising an illustrated alphabet, grammatical games, and short tales of moral instruction. The illustrated examples accompanying the alphabet are entirely birds and animals, and refreshingly the letter K is for "Kan-gu-ro". The creature actually illustrated is somewhat chimeric, with the claws of a raptor and a striped tail.

This copy is remarkably well preserved given its age and nature, and the rear cover lists other juvenile books published by Théodore Lefèvre. This book was issued in several editions from the mid-nineteenth century onwards, some imprints bearing dated titles.

Not listed in the Gumuchian catalogue.

\$475

2903173



BISHOP & CO. The Picture Alphabet.

Duodecimo, 12 pp. in total, woodcut illustrations throughout; a charming copy in the original green printed wrappers, just lightly chipped at head of front, folded (not sewn) as issued. Houndsditch, Bishop & Co., circa 1840.

A delightful woodcut alphabet. Here are many favourites - the Fox, the Goose, and the Lamb - but where necessary, the publisher's evidently felt capable of stretching their young audience. Not only is K for Kangaroo, but there are more unusual inclusions such as I for Ibex, and even M for Mermaid. Sadly, inspiration only went so far; here, X is for the Letter X.

The work also includes a child's ditty: "When school is done, g[o] home loiter not on the wa[y] / Come to school clean and play not by the way."

\$825

3706051



COLE, Henry. An Alphabet of Quadrupeds, partly selected from the Works of Old Masters, and partly drawn from Nature.

Small square octavo, frontispiece and 24 sepia plates, all edges gilt; in the original blind-stamped green cloth, lettered in gilt, A little sunned especially to spine, a very good copy London, Joseph Cundall 1844.

First edition, uncommon. An attractive illustrated alphabet, with a charming image of a Kangaroo. Among the other plates are etchings after Rembrandt and Albrecht Durer.

Handsome chapter initials decorate the accompanying text which is enchantingly written. 'Fox. Look at this cunning, cruel fellow, making ready to spring among the chickens... But he will be punished tomorrow I think, for I heard uncle Tom order his red coat to be ready for hunting...' The Kangaroo entry remains the highlight, 'The Kangaroo is brought from New Holland: we have some in England in the Zoological Gardens. Their Nature is not at all savage.'

Henry Cole, who published this and other children's books under the pseudonym F.S. (Felix Summerly), was a notable figure of nineteenth-century England. A distinguished civil servant and associate of John Stuart Mill, he was eventually knighted and is credited with producing the first commercial Christmas card. *The Home Treasury* series, to which the *Alphabet* belongs, was edited by Cole and aimed to improve upon the standard of children's books.

Percy Muir, English Children's Books, p. 180.

\$1750

3706047



McLOUGHLIN BROTHERS. Kindergarten First Book. ABC of Objects for Home and School.

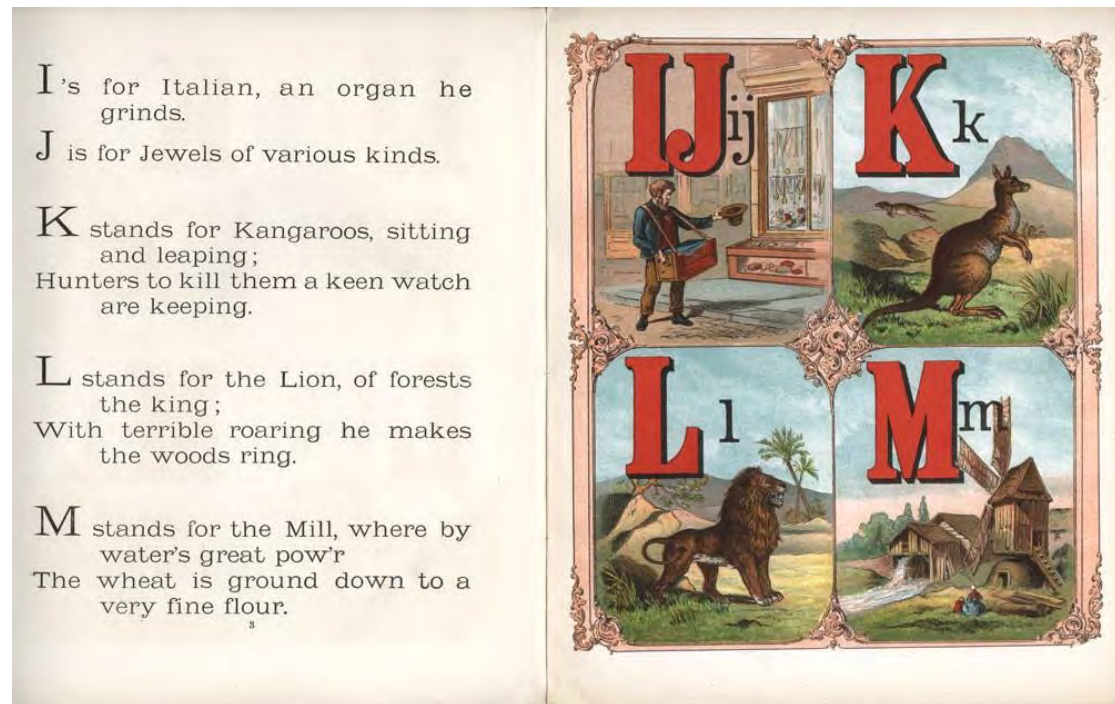
Slim quarto, colour illustrations throughout; in pictorial boards. Fine. New York, McLoughlin Brothers, 1889.

A delightful and particularly attractive American alphabet book, in very good original condition. McLoughlin Brothers - based in New York - was one of America's most prominent nineteenth-century publishers of educational works, producing some remarkably successful home-grown works rather than the more usual imports from European publishers. Their colour printing is justly famous.

This endearing alphabet with multiple objects for each letter includes a handsome kangaroo, and is not held in Australian institutional collections.

\$1250

4012342



VALENTINE, Laura. Aunt Louisa's London Toy Books, The Globe Alphabet.

Original decorated wrappers, 230 x 270mm., six full-page chromolithographic plates and five pages letterpress; a very nice example. Wrappers repaired. London, Frederick Warne & Co. circa 1880.

"Aust Louisa" was the pseudonym of Laura Valentine who wrote several children's titles for Frederick Warne during the 1880's. This alphabet features a K for Kangaroo with the following mnemonic passage for young readers: "K stands for Kangaroos, sitting and leaping; Hunters to watch them a keen watch are keeping".

This copy bears the publisher's archive stamp to the second leaf.

\$900

3706050



VALENTINE, Laura. Aunt Louisa's London Toy Books, The Alphabet of Animals.

Quarto, chromolithographic illustrations; original pictorial wrappers. Some paper repair of the spine, very good condition. London, Frederick Warne and Co. circa 1885.

A title from the series "Aunt Louisa's London Toy Books", this alphabet is entirely composed of exotic animals; for example we read:

"K is a kangaroo hopping along;

L stands for Lions, loud-roaring and strong.

M is for Monkey, most mischievous he,

N is a Nylghau from India, you see".

\$900

2903160



I ice. J jackal. K kangaroo. L lion.

[VALENTINE, Laura] McLOUGHLIN BROS. The ABC of Animals.

Large octavo; six fully chromolithographed leaves; original colour pictorial wrappers. Wrappers rubbed, good copy overall. New York, McLoughlin Bros. circa 1885.

American reissue of the *Alphabet of Animals* from series titled Aunt Louisa's London Toy Books published by Warne in London. However, the format of this American edition is a little smaller, with different lithographic printing of the original images, and reset letterpress.

\$625

2802535

Part two: Educational and Juvenile Literature



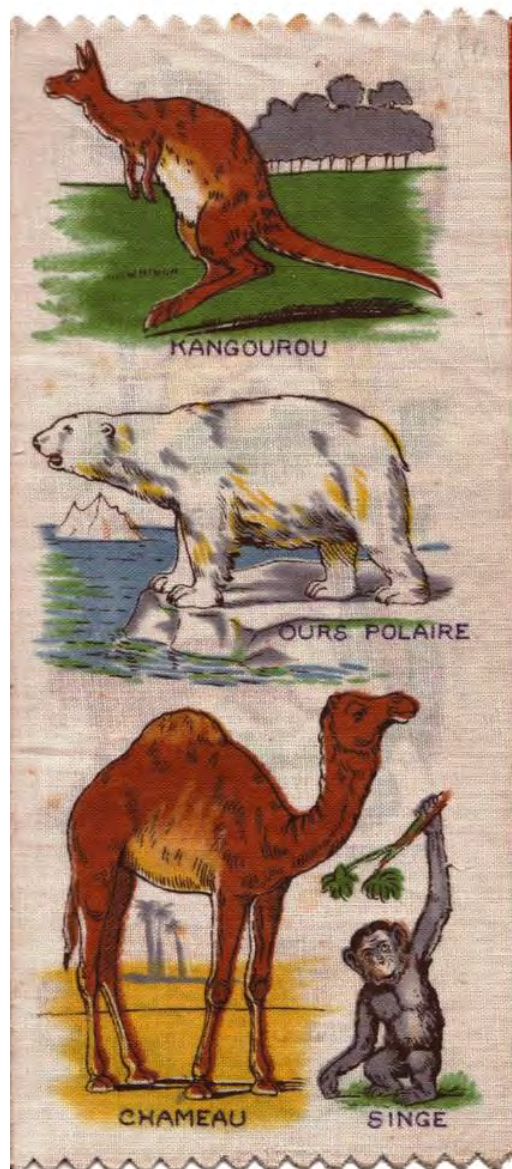
[EDUCATIONAL MENAGERIE]. Bound volume of coloured separately-issued prints, including the Australian kangaroo and emu.

Oblong album containing 119 handcoloured plates, recent red cloth. Repaired tears to a few plates (Australian images unaffected), margins of the final seven plates chipped. London, Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge circa 1860.

Attractive collection of coloured zoological plates prepared for British schoolchildren during the mid-nineteenth century, including two Australian species (an emu and a kangaroo). The plates were issued by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, the publishing arm of the Anglican mission that during the early decades of the nineteenth century diversified its output from religious and theological texts to encompass a broad range of educational material, such as the present example. The plates were originally issued separately, priced at two pennies apiece when coloured, and the present bound volume represents a good portion of the entire series (of the 119 plates here, 53 are numbered).

\$3600

3702892



[CLOTH BOOK] DODD, G. Les Animaux Sauvages.

Colour printed cloth book measuring 230 × 115, stitch sewn and folded to form four pages with illustrated covers. Fine. Paris, circa 1940.

Vibrant French natural history primer for young children, with a kangaroo; old cloth books such as this example are typically worn and ravaged, making this fine example most unusual.

\$275

2810766



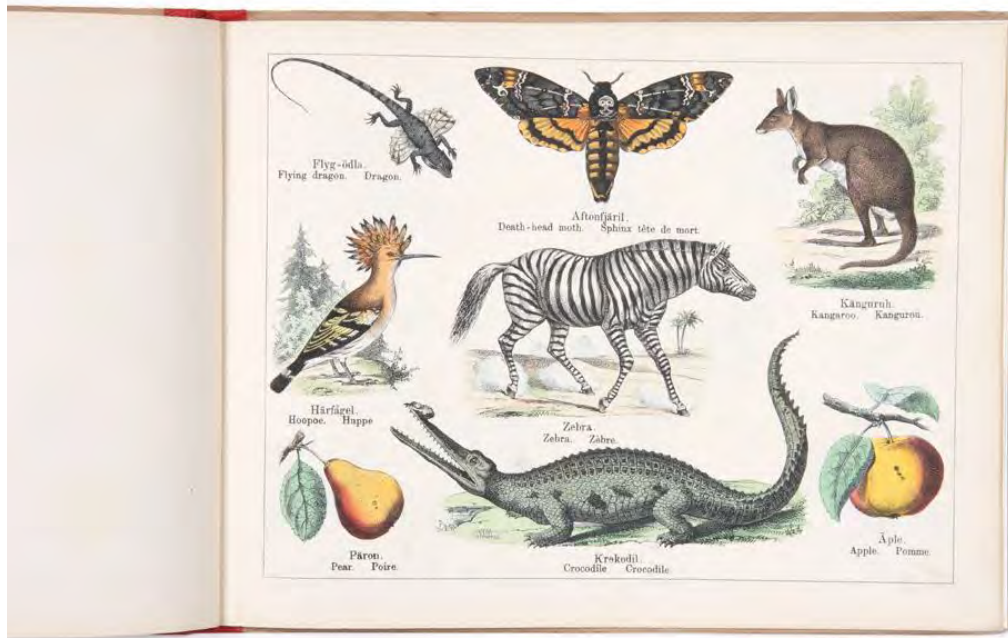
["Dr. O.J."]. Neues Zoologisches oder naturgeschichtliches Lottospiel zum Nutzen und Vergnuen fur die Jugend...

Lottery game with 12 handcoloured illustrated cards (each with 15 illustrations of mammals), 60 printed markers (text in German, French and English) in a cloth sack and 12 glass counters in a patterned cloth sack, and 2 pp. instruction leaflet; all contained in the original painted timber box with lithographed titling label decorated in gilt. Minor restoration to lid, overall excellent condition. Germany, circa 1840.

A beautiful German children's lottery game in remarkably fine original condition. The theme of the game is mammals or the 'first class of the animal kingdom'. The object of the game is to be the first to fill the squares on an illustrated game card with the smaller name cards of the animals. The handcoloured drawings are based on the works of Buffon, Schreber, Cuvier and Schinz, and include a wide variety of mammals ranging from human beings to exotic Australian species, including the echidna, platypus, kangaroo and wombat. Games of this period with all of their pieces intact are particularly rare. This one is complete with its printed rule sheet, original glass counters and the original box.

\$4750

3308853



[NATURAL HISTORY] LAMM, Oscar L. Naturhistorisk Bilder-Bok pa tre sprak.

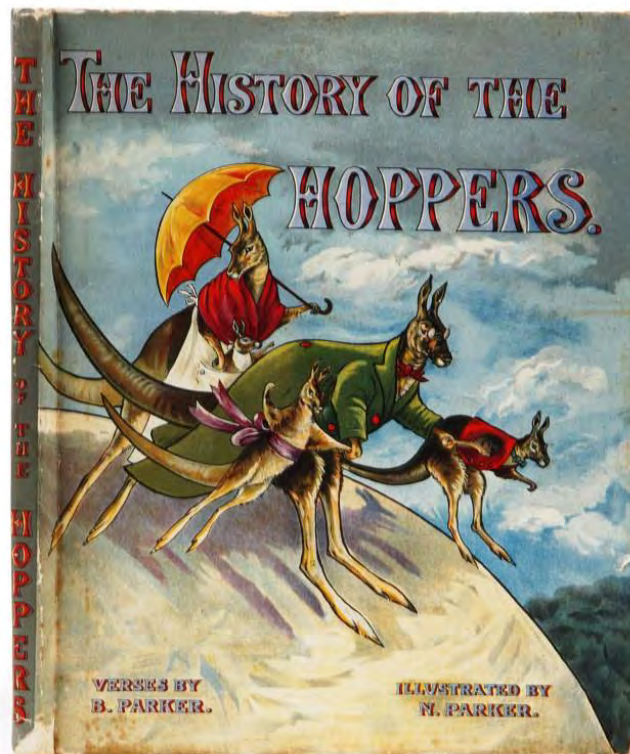
Oblong octavo, 11 pp. of handcoloured plates; new endpapers. Rebacked, very good. Stockholm, Oscar L. Lamm 1866.

Rare Swedish natural history primer for children with captions in Swedish, French and English. Included are the kangaroo and cockatoo, the unfamiliarity of the latter being demonstrated by its depiction with a red, rather than the sulphur-coloured, crest.

No copies of this book are retained in Australian collections.

\$750

2609398



PARKER, Bessie & Nancy. The History of the Hoppers.

Quarto, 12 full sepia lithographs, illustrated, neat early ownership inscription on front endpaper; in the original full-colour illustrated boards. Except for a few bumps at extremities and a small chip with slight loss at the base of the spine, in unusually good condition. London, W & R Chambers, circa 1912.

An unusually pleasing copy of the first edition of this justly famous children's book following a family of anthropomorphised kangaroo characters - 'perhaps the best known story entirely devoted to the kangaroo' (Robert Holden, *The Mint Exhibition*, 1985). This excellent copy is particularly notable for its largely intact spine, as the work is nearly always seen with rather extensive damage to this area, and is indeed very commonly rebacked.

The book is illustrated with 12 delightful full page sepia lithographs as well as many textual illustrations.

Muir, 5707.

3802468

\$3000



THE PLATYPUS SINGS OF ANTEDILUVIAN DAYS.

PEDLEY, Ethel C. Dot and the Kangaroo.

Quarto, portrait frontispiece and 19 full-page black & white illustrations by Frank Mahony; original red cloth with patterned endpapers. Front board a little rubbed and marked, yet a very good copy.

London, Thomas Burleigh, 1899.

The very rare first edition of this Australian children's classic. The story of Dot, the little girl lost in the Australian bush, who is helped by a kindly grey kangaroo, has become 'a fundamental text of Australian children's literature' (*People, Print and Paper*). It has rarely been out of print over the past century, appearing in innumerable editions, with illustrations by a variety of artists.

Muir, 5913.

\$2450

3404182



ROSTAING, Jules. Le Petit Naturaliste [Le Jeune Naturaliste]. Texte part Jules Rostaing. Lithographies par Lehnert.

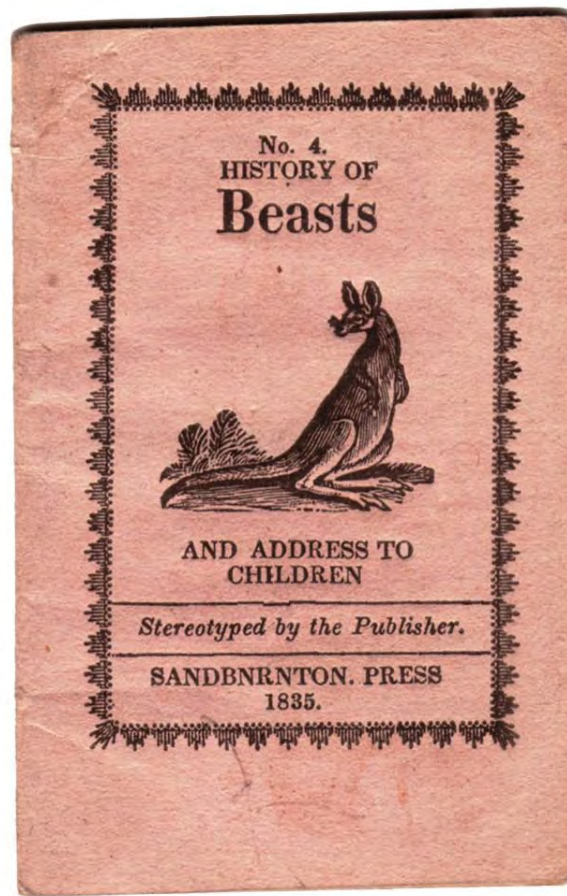
Small oblong quarto, with decorated and letterpress title-pages and 24 full-page coloured lithographs by Lehnert; original gilt blocked red papered boards. Boards rubbed, spine ends frayed; internally very good. Paris, Librairie Ducrocq, circa 1870.

Charming children's book, with 24 oblong lithographic plates and a decorated title page. The book illustrates a somewhat portly kangaroo, with accompanying descriptive text, as well as other antipodean species such as the emu, cassowary and crocodile. The author, Jules Rostaing (born 1824) was a well-known writer on all manner of books for children, including a similar publication on the Jardin des Plantes in Paris.

The book includes a lithographic decorated title reading "Le Jeune Naturaliste" followed by a letterpress title-page bearing the variant title "Le Petit Naturaliste". Nonetheless, this book is not listed in the Gumuchian catalogue under either variant of the title, although some 12 titles by Jules Rostaing are included. It is uncommon, only appearing once on the market in the past two decades, and is not retained in Australian institutional collections.

\$1150

2810761



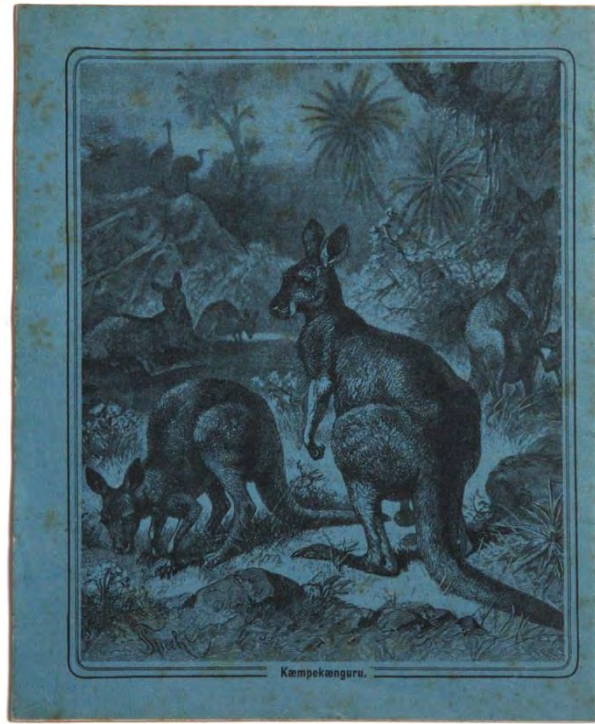
SANDBORNTON (publisher). Children's History of, Beasts, Advice and Select Hymns.

Duodecimo, with a series of woodcut illustrations; original decorated pink wrappers, a very good copy. America, Sandbornton Press 1835.

Rare children's chapbook, published in America. Intended as a natural history lesson, each animal is fully described and illustrated with naïve word blocks. The selection of beasts includes the kangaroo, and the description and illustration are charming: 'its action in moving is very singular, as it can neither walk nor run, but jumps with such singular swiftness as to escape the pursuit of the fleetest greyhound...'. Early ephemeral books for children rarely survive.

\$1250

2811894



SPECHT, Friedrich. Child's blank-ruled exercise book with decorated Kangaroo covers.

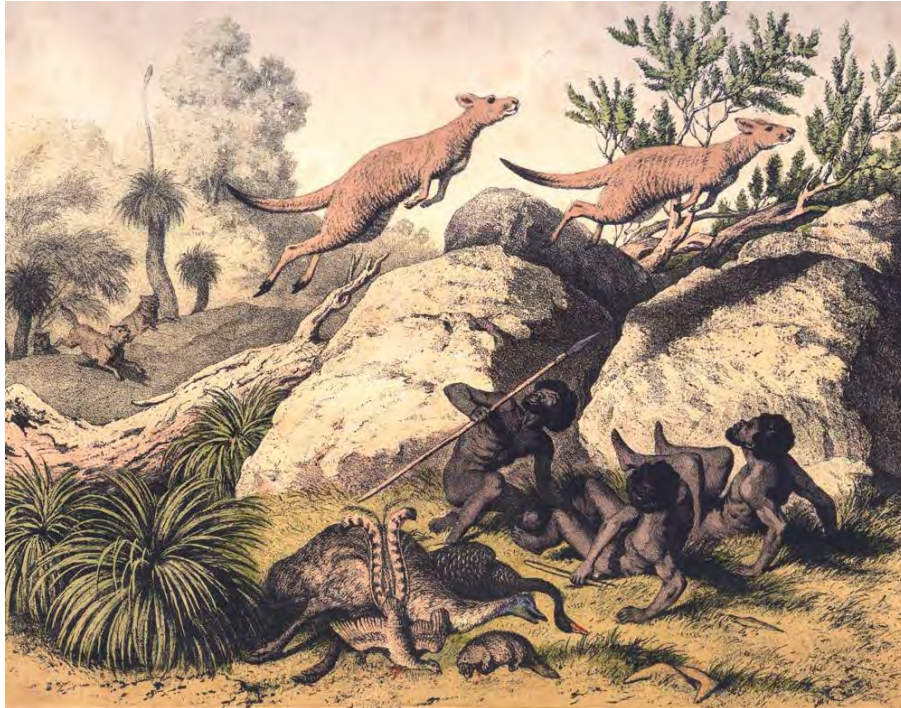
Slim lined booklet, writing exercises completed in a cursive hand, original decorated wrappers, very good. Denmark, circa 1880.

Charming children's exercise book with engraved illustrated covers depicting a group of five kangaroos titled "Kaempekaenguru".

This idyllic bushland scene, complete with a joey and its mother and two emus in the distance, comprises the entire rear cover of the booklet (a serene contrast to the front cover depicting a group of hyenas fighting over a kill). Both engraved covers are signed "F. Specht"; Friedrich Specht (1839-1909) was a German natural history illustrator who produced images for both popular and scientific publications.

\$375

4303379



WAGNER, Hermann. Zonen-Bilder.

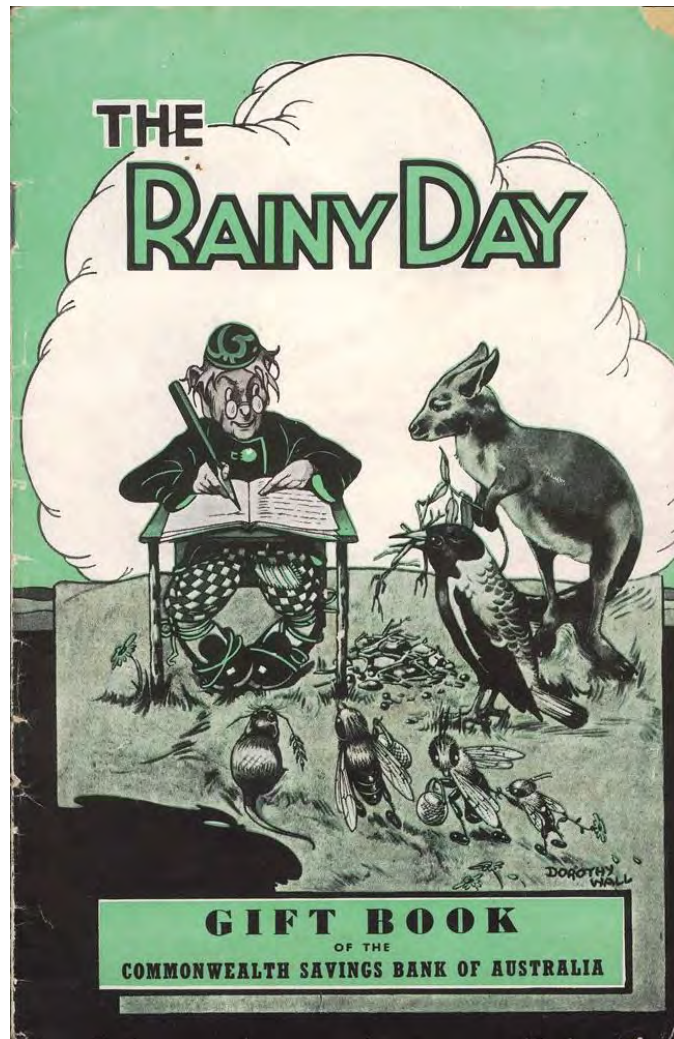
Oblong folio, 20 tinted lithograph plates; later cloth with original pictorial label. Some restoration and wear, but good in later cloth with original pictorial label, endpapers renewed. Stuttgart, Julius Hoffmann, circa 1890.

A rare nineteenth-century German colourplate natural history of the world for children, rich in images of Australian fauna including wallabies on the hop. Each of twenty countries throughout Europe, Asia, America and Africa is described with two pages of text and a large colour plate by the noted nineteenth-century German artist and book illustrator Heinrich Leutemann (1824-1905).

Most of the plates depict highly dramatic hunting scenes: either man hunting the animals, such as Indians on elephant back hunting tigers, or animals hunting and devouring other animals, such as lions eating buffalo and bison attacking bears. The final plate depicts three Australian Aboriginal hunters hiding from two rock wallabies which are pursued by a pack of dingoes. Their catch of a lyrebird, a platypus, a black swan and an emu are portrayed in the foreground.

\$1750

2903260



WALL, Dorothy. The Rainy Day Gift Book of the Commonwealth Savings Bank...

Octavo; illustrated titling-wrappers, an excellent copy. Sydney, circa 1925.

An extremely scarce ephemeral piece, both written and illustrated by Dorothy Wall, and teaching the value of "Thrift". This is one of three variant printings of this delightful gift book for children - teaching them to save against a Rainy Day - and the first of two such collaborations between Wall and the Commonwealth Bank.

Marcie Muir records two variants in different covers (see *Australian Children's Books* 7843).

\$350

2308924

Part three: Prints



ANONYMOUS. Wolliger Kanguruh.

Lithograph, 205 x 290 mm., fine. Germany, circa 1860.

Handsomely executed lithograph of a kangaroo from a mid-nineteenth century German zoological handbook; also depicted is a Javanese pangolin (scaly ant-eater).

\$250

2904308



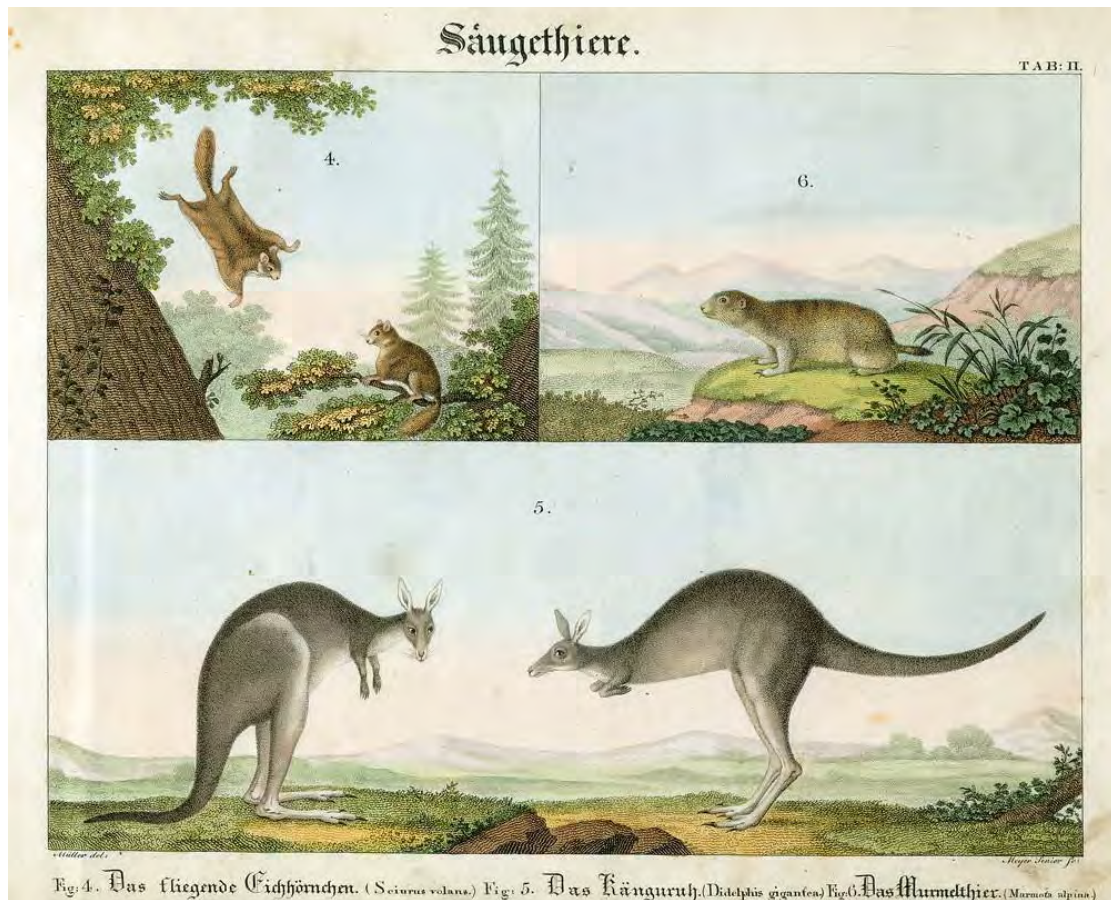
CHARDON, F. Kanguroos.

Single leaf measuring 185 x 637 mm., handcoloured steel engraving. Very good. France, 1836.

Handsome kangaroos in detailed natural settings; two species, *Laineux* and *Géant* are listed.

\$145

3503637



MÜLLER & MEYER, printmakers. Das Kanguruh (Didelphis gigantea).

Hand-coloured engraving, 225 x 280 mm., mounted. Germany, circa 1860.

Elegant image of two grey kangaroos, from a mid-nineteenth century German zoological handbook.

\$200

2904306



**[WALLIS, Major James] PRESTON, Walter. Kangaroos of New South Wales.
View from Seven-Mile Hill near Newcastle N.S.W.**

Hand-coloured engraving, 287 x 380 mm. (sheet size), mounted. Small repaired tear to lower left margin, very good. London, R.A. Ackermann, 1820.

A very early engraved study of two kangaroos, the outcome of the fruitful relationship between two convict engravers, Walter Preston and Joseph Lycett, and the artistically talented army officer Major James Wallis.

This is a natural history study from Wallis' fine album of Australian views titled *An Historical Account of the Colony of New South Wales* published by Ackermann in London in 1821. The plate was engraved by the convict artist Walter Preston whose considerable talents came to the attention of Major Wallis, then commander of the convict settlement at Newcastle. At the time, Newcastle enjoyed a fearsome reputation for as a place for secondary punishment and was described by a contemporary officer as 'the Hell of New South Wales'.

\$1500

4008983



SCHREIBER, J.F. Känguru.

Chromolithograph, 371 x 301 mm.; fine, fresh condition, mounted. Ebingen (Germany), Schreiber circa 1880.

Striking large and vivid image of a kangaroo by this German publisher, well known for their fine natural history illustrations.

\$585

2803613



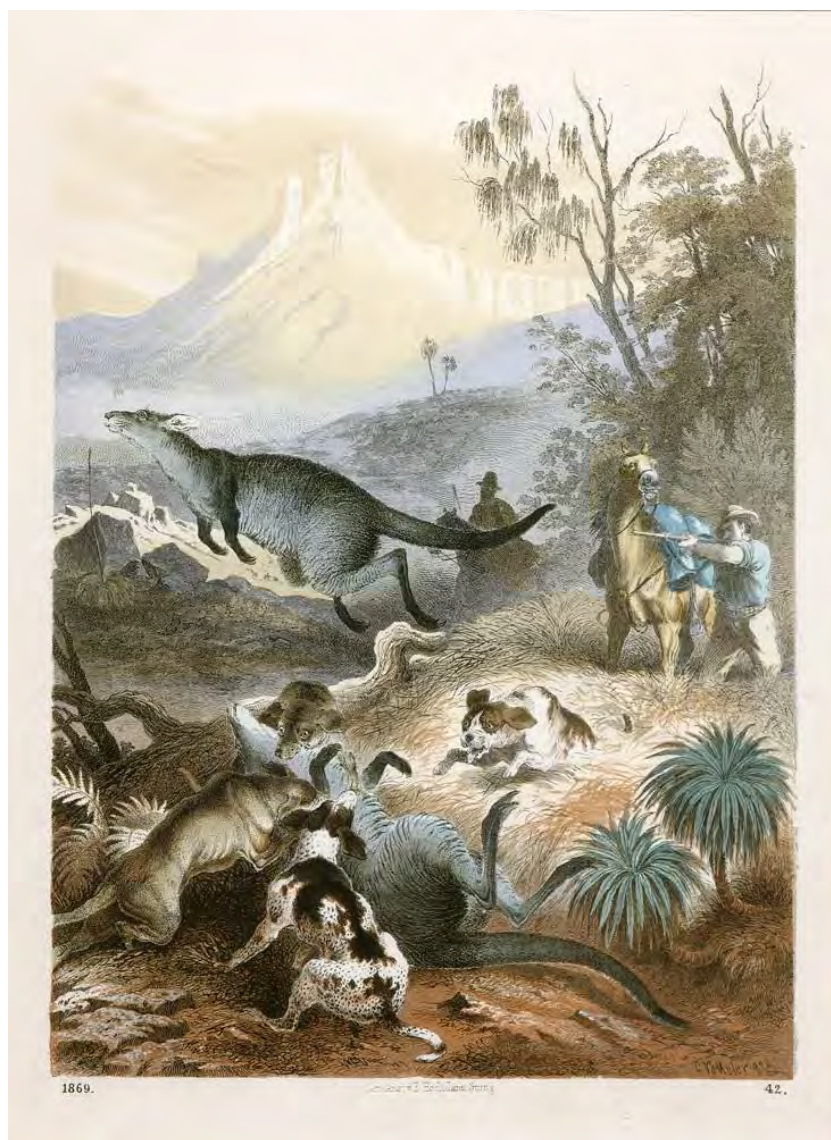
STUBBS, George (after). A Remarkable Animal found on one of Hope Islands in Capt. Cook's first Voyage.

Engraved plate measuring 365 x 235 mm. (sheet size). London, Alexander Hogg circa 1790.

Engraved kangaroo engraved from the famous natural history study by George Stubbs. The publisher, Alexander Hogg, published a popular collected edition of Cook (edited by George Anderson) in folio that was issued in weekly parts and available to readers unable to afford the expensive official editions.

\$120

1600441



VOTTELER, C. Känguru Jagd.

Coloured print, 260 x 190 mm. (sheet size), mounted. Stuttgart, E. Hochdanz, engraver 1869.

A vivid, if somewhat idealised, scene of a kangaroo hunt in a landscape reminiscent of the Alps.

\$150

2904307



WOLF, Joseph. The Red Kangaroo. *Macropus Rufus*.

Handcoloured lithograph, 435 x 590 mm., fine, mounted [London], no imprint but 1861.

Joseph Wolf, a leading English naturalist, prepared a remarkable zoological work that depicted one hundred animals (actually in the Regent's Park Zoo) in their natural surroundings. A number of the animals were Australian; perhaps the most outstanding of all is this big red kangaroo.

The plate is a handcoloured lithograph, and is from the preferred subscribers' issue in which the illustrations were laid down on heavy white sheets with captions printed in gold. This illustration has a wonderfully rich texture; not surprisingly, Joseph Wolf's work is described by Sitwell in *Fine Bird Books* as belonging in the same rank as that of Audubon and Edward Lear.

\$1500

2602151