

Orange makes a stylish

addition to the backyard. Made from pine, it can be finished in various stains — pictured is a lime wash. Weatherproof and stain-resistant, the range is Dutch-designed and custom-made locally. Measures 150cm long x 50cm deep x 50cm high.

\$499 for table plus two bench stools, House of Orange, Armadale. Phone 9500 9991 or see house-of-orange.com.au



Handy little folk

For novelty value alone, we like these Head Chefs, cute and colourful kitchen tools by Fiesta. They're fun and functional, with soft silicone bodies, bendable arms and legs and twin suction cups, which allow them to stand on their own two feet. There's a spoon, pastry brush, spatula, whisk, peeler, measuring cup and a sifter. \$14.95. Phone 1800 209 999.

Feeding time

Zoo Lunchies kids' lunch boxes feature brightly coloured animals on the front. With an insulated, roomy main compartment that holds sandwiches, snacks and drinks, they would also work for Mums out and about with littlies in tow. Simply wipe it clean and it's ready for another outing. From until.com.au \$29.95. Phone 1300 66 88 18.



Send submissions for Desirables to desirables@theage.com.au

“ By the time they had diminished from 50 to 8, the other dwarves began to suspect ‘Hungry’... ”

Gary Larson, *The Far Side*



Learn the language

INTRODUCE your kids to Chinese culture as well as the food. So goes the blurb for this book, the third in a series by US-based Yvette Garfield. OK it's a nice premise, but how many young people are going to take on board, much less retain, that snow peas are shiue dou, or that a blender translates as jiao ban ji in Mandarin? That said, the illustrations and cast of five characters give the book a comic-like accessibility, and the recipes — say, “Belly full of beef and broccoli” or “There's a wonton in my soup!” — are fun, with degree of difficulty denoted by chopsticks (a set of which, incidentally, comes in a takeaway food box with the book). Last quibble: it's American, so young readers will need to get their head around ounces, Fahrenheit, shrimp and scallions. Handstand Kids, RRP \$39.95. Available smartstix.com.au

JANE WILLSON

computers for...
ing to convert (my close friend...
to buy Apple. Now he...
ted. He... the favour and bought me
this. It's made... I believe he
bought it online. I saw one advertised for
about 60 euro. I love that I can now get
Apple into conversation while slicing onions
... that was always hard! I have the 13-inch MacBook, but being
17-inch too.
Duck Duck Goose is at QV, 31-37 Artemis Lane, city



Mmmm, doughnut

If your kids are into gadgets and Spice doughnut maker might be the one that includes your classic plain as well as some strange sounding doughnuts anyone? All you do is three minutes, enjoy six freshly \$39.95. Phone 1300 139 79



Quick frozen

Zoku's Quick Pop Maker makes icy poles in just 10 minutes. Ready to go, take it out, then add whatever ingredients you like. It can make all manner of things — fruit juices, cordials, yoghurt, etc. (For adults, frozen cocktails might be worth a try.)

Makes nine icypoles before it needs to be frozen again. \$79.99.

PERFECT BED ... A HAPPY PLACE

Coolmax Mattress Protectors

Sometimes the “perfect bed” becomes the “perfectly too hot bed”. Latex, memory foam and some pillow top mattresses can create an unexpected elevation of heat. The fabric in this mattress protector is woven in a manner that immediately reduces heat and also draws moisture away from your skin. It is soft, comfortable, lightweight, machine washable and fast drying. The fitted stretch skirt fits mattresses up to 50cms. **SB \$119 \$89** **KSB \$129 \$99** **DB \$149 \$109** **QB \$169 \$125** **KB \$189 \$145**

Sensational Pure Linen

The relaxed sophistication of beautiful pure linen can bring an entirely new dimension to your bed. Linen looks great pressed and crisp, or crumpled and totally dishevelled. A beautifully honest fabric to sleep under, linen's breathability and texture attracts followers the world over. Our range of linen comprises sheets, including oversized for deep mattresses, quilt covers, and all size pillowcases. Colour choices include white, natural flax, charcoal and dove. **All stock reduced by 15% for one week only.**

Down Mattress Toppers 20% OFF FOR 10 DAYS ONLY

Feel like sleeping on a cloud? Made in Australia to our specifications to achieve the comfort found in the finest 5 star hotels, these 30% down mattress toppers add a new dimension to morning snuggle-ins. Also ideal for beds that are too firm or need replacing. **SB \$269** **KSB \$329** **DB \$359** **QB \$439** **KB \$489 (less 20%)**

European Goose Quilt

The lightness and pure beauty of this quilt is hard to describe, other than to say it is unlike any other quilt we have ever had. Firstly the casing. It is made from super light weight German batiste down and mite proof fabric that feels like it weighs an ounce and has European textile label guarantees. Then the fill. Gathered from the most worthy geese from the coldest climates, this down puffs and fluffs with an almost weightless grace. Available in two fill weights in single, queen, king and super king. **For two weeks we will have 30% off.** Price guide: Queen standard fill **\$799 \$559.**

Egyptian Cotton Sheet Sets

Prepare to be thoroughly spoiled! Egyptian cotton is renowned for its special softness and superior strength. This genuine product has cotton grown and woven in Egypt and is made up in Australia to our specifications. Available in white, cream or taupe. **SB \$255 \$189** **KSB \$279 \$209** **DB \$315 \$235** **QB \$339 \$249** **KB \$365 \$269** Individual pieces also available, and special sizes made to order.

Superdown White Goose Pillows

Ahh...the absolute bliss of laying your head on a plump, soft, supportive white goosedown pillow. Often recommended by physiotherapists for sore necks. 600gms: ideal for smaller frames and lower sleepers. **\$169 \$119** 800gms: ideal for larger frames and higher sleepers. **\$199 \$139** European **\$219 \$159** King (50 x 90) **\$309 \$229** Travel **\$69**



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