

# Springboard<sup>into</sup> Comprehension 4

Main Idea      Fossil Fuels  
                    A Place in Space

Sequencing    Black Rock  
                    The Best Holiday Ever

Compare and Contrast    From Me to You  
                                    Your Choice!

Fact and Opinion        Community Views  
                                    The Daily News

Cause and Effect        Natural Disasters  
                                    The Invaders

**Bias and Prejudice**    **Save Our Skate Park**  
                                    Have Your Say!

RA 8.5–9.5



Save  
Our

# Skate Park



Written by Pam Rushby



Save  
Our

# Skate Park

## Contents

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Introduction . . . . .                           | 2  |
| Frogs Hollow News –                              |    |
| <i>Skate Park to Become Medical Centre . . .</i> | 4  |
| Frogs Hollow News –                              |    |
| <i>Kids Protest at Skate Park . . . . .</i>      | 6  |
| Frogs Hollow News –                              |    |
| <i>Letters to the Editor . . . . .</i>           | 8  |
| Radio Report, 4FH Frogs Hollow . . . . .         | 12 |
| Television News Report –                         |    |
| Channel 4 News . . . . .                         | 16 |
| Frogs Hollow News –                              |    |
| <i>New Skate Park for Frogs Hollow . . . . .</i> | 20 |
| Glossary and Index . . . . .                     | 24 |

Written by Pam Rushby

# Introduction

Frogs Hollow Skate Park has been a meeting place for young skateboarders for two years. The local government body, the **council**, has now decided to demolish the skate park. In its place, it plans to build a medical centre for the town. There are mixed opinions about the project among community groups.



# FROGS HOLLOW NEWS

January 12

## Skate Park to Become Medical Centre



Frogs Hollow will have a brand-new medical centre within months, Mayor William Arnott announced today.

“This has been needed for a long time,” the Mayor said. “People have had to travel long distances to get the medical care they need. This has been especially hard for older people. Some of them have to travel more than an hour for medical care. In this new centre, people will be able to visit doctors and dentists. They will be able to have X-rays taken and blood tests done. They will even be able to get prescriptions filled at a pharmacy. And all this in the one place!”

Mayor Arnott said the new centre would be built on council-owned land. “Building can begin immediately,” he said. “The developer is ready to go. Land clearing will take place at once. If all goes well, the new medical centre will be open in six months.”

Mayor Arnott says the council has been planning the new medical centre for several years. “It’s taken time to get it off the ground,” he said. “But now, it’s finally happening! In just a few months, everyone in Frogs Hollow will be able to get the medical care they need close to home. This is all due to the hard work of the council.”

In two months’ time, the people of Frogs Hollow will vote for the members of the council, in an election. Mayor Arnott seems to be thinking about it already. “I’m sure that at the election, people will look at their new centre and remember how hard the council works for them,” he said.

Councillor Fiona Daley is the leader of the group in the council that is against the Mayor, or **opposition party**. She said that the council had been promising a new medical centre for a very long time.

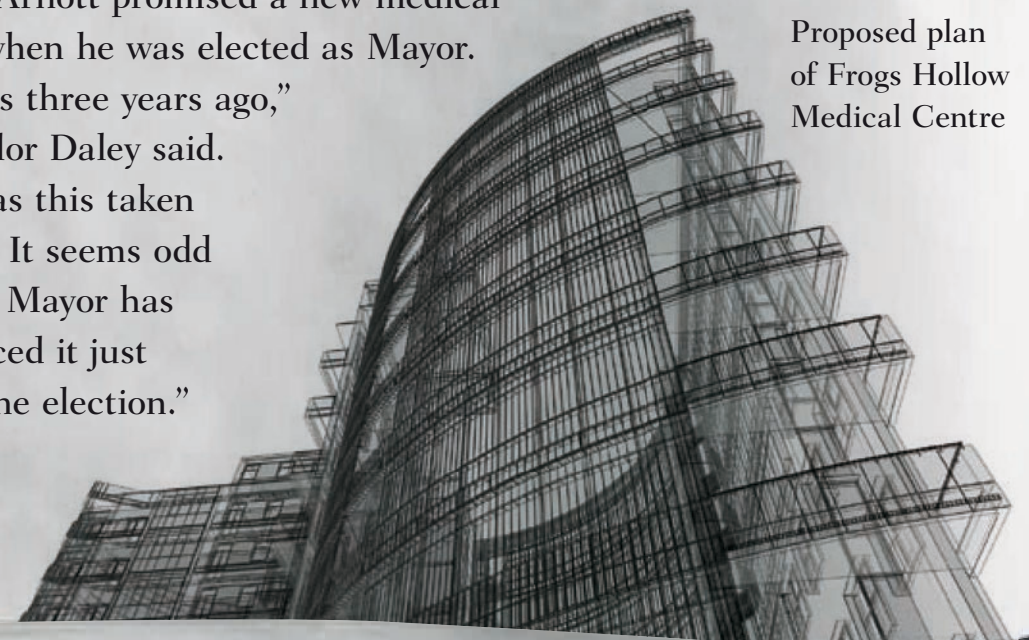
“Mayor Arnott promised a new medical centre when he was elected as Mayor.

That was three years ago,”

Councillor Daley said.

“Why has this taken so long? It seems odd that the Mayor has announced it just before the election.”

Proposed plan  
of Frogs Hollow  
Medical Centre



# FROGS HOLLOW NEWS

July 12

## Kids Protest at Skate Park

Land clearing for the new medical centre came to a total stop today, when a group of local children sat down on the site and refused to move. A protest like this is called a **sit-in**. The construction crew were mystified and were not able to start work on the project.

The site is on council-owned land at the corner of Paterson and Lawson Streets. It is currently a skate park that has been there for two years. The council built the original pipes and half-pipes. The Frogs Hollow Skate Club has also added more equipment.

The young protestors said the council had not told them the skate park would be destroyed.

“The first we knew about it was when we came here today. There were bulldozers outside already,” said 11-year-old Jason Buckley. “This is our place. We’ve added lots to it. It’s not fair that the council can take it away, just like that. Where else can we go to skate?”

The children said **they had decided** to sit on the skate park equipment and not move.

Twelve-year-old Sarah Tan said, “The councillors don’t care about us, because **we’re only** kids. They think they can do what they like! But **we’re not moving!**”

Bulldozer operators called in the Head of Development, Mr Stan McNab. Mr McNab spoke to the protestors. When they refused to make way for the bulldozers, Mr McNab rang the police.

The police contacted the children’s parents, who came to take them home. However, work on the site was stopped for the day.

