

Lithgow mud play



Grade 3 – 4 Play Day

Unfortunately during the week a few others threatened to join Lachlan and I but come Sunday it was only the two of us. As such we informed the girls that this was a MAN'S weekend and Lachlan took James and I took Connor.

We started with McD's breakfast at McGraths Hill, off to a good start we had to jump start a lady in her Prado (so much could be said...) and then also a motorbike. After the road side assistance and good karma we had built up, we were off to the Zigzag to air down and then get into some tracks.

We started with the wombat holes near Bungleboori as a warm up, then onto some rock steps and steep climbs before rejoining the powerlines and working our way down the track and up the climb to Slippery Rock. We both took a couple of goes to get up Slippery Rock itself, under the watchful eyes of a group of dirt bikes that had stopped for a break and to watch the entertainment.

Once we were up they took off, except the last one who was having trouble starting his bike. A push, a bump start and some more good karma, we sent him on his way before we decided it was time to tackle Stop Sign Hill. We have tried this climb twice before, the first time it took us 5hrs to recover the two cars; the second time about 1hr 15min to recover ourselves up the same 4 metre section of track at the bottom of Stop Sign Hill. This was something the girls happily reminded us about every time we threatened to attempt it and why they were happy for us to have a MAN's weekend (daytrip).

We climbed down the three sections to the bottom of the hill and decided to stop for lunch and let the kids play for a bit. We relaxed in the shade for a while with the whole place to ourselves. The kids had their RC 4wd's so we walked up with

them to the climb and let them drive it while we talked some lines and options.

After lunch it was time. We had discussed some new tactics and I went first with Lachlan to follow. And one two three, bang bash crash, I was up. Lachlan made it up, first time and we climbed up back to the start of the track. We stopped to enjoy the triumph, took the photo, ticked the box and moved on. – Bit of an anti climax actually...

We cruised back towards Bungleboori and took a detour towards the old Brassiere site to check out a campsite for the upcoming technical weekend. After that it was time to head home. We worked our way out to the Zigzag to air up and reflect on our success, first time up Stop Sign Hill without an extended recovery. The secret – No Girls to distract us!

Ben



