



**EARLY
YEARS
KOORIE
RESOURCE
GUIDE**



Victorian Aboriginal Educational Association Incorporated (VAEAI). *VAEAI Early Years Koorie Resource Guide*.
Northcote: 2021

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In developing this guide VAEAI has been supported by
the Australian Government, National Indigenous Advisory Agency (NIAA).



TERMINOLOGY

Protocol

The values and protocols outlined in this document are for appropriate recognition, respect, and courtesies to be extended by staff to Koorie children in the early childhood education sector. These protocols are also intended to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from other parts of Australia, now living in Victoria.

Koorie

Koorie is a term for Aboriginal people, whose traditional lands and waters exist within the boundaries that today frame the state of Victoria. They are often collectively called Koorie peoples or Koories (sometimes spelt 'Koori'). Other terms that are used for Australian Indigenous people include 'Aboriginal', 'Indigenous', 'First Nations Peoples', or for Indigenous people traditionally from the Torres Strait region 'Torres Strait Islander' to 'Islander'. When referring to Australia's First Peoples, upper case or capital 'A' and capital 'I' are used for Aboriginal and Indigenous Australians respectively. The best way to find out which terms to use when referring to the local community is to listen to Koorie community members themselves, and hear what term they use to describe themselves culturally.

Country

Country refers to the traditional lands of a particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island language or cultural group. This is commonly seen and heard in phrases such as 'Welcome to Country' and 'Acknowledgement of Country', "I grew up on Country", "We're taking students and families back to Country for language and culture workshops". Sometimes the name of the clan or nation may differ from the language they speak.

When talking about Country, people may also talk about Nation/s. Nations refers to a larger grouping or federation of clan groups, often combining a cluster of geographically, socially, politically and/or linguistically linked groups.

WELCOME



Geraldine Atkinson

VAEAI President



Vera Briggs

VAEAI Secondary Specialist Representative

The Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Incorporated (VAEAI) is the peak Koorie community organisation for Education and Training in Victoria from early childhood through to higher education.

VAEAI provides support to early education services, advising on ways in which they can improve their centres to be culturally inclusive and celebrate the history and culture of First Nations peoples.

VAEAI developed this booklet to provide Victorian Early Childhood Services access to current, high quality and local Aboriginal resources to embed in their everyday practice. These resources include books, puzzles, stickers, plaques, stories and instructional guides. VAEAI encourages services to access locally developed learning resources rather than relying on those developed in other States and Territories.

The Koorie people who have developed these resources are very passionate about Aboriginal culture. They have developed resources to share with services all around Victoria to ensure that our early childhood services are inclusive, promote Aboriginal culture and are culturally safe for Koorie children.

VAEAI ADVICE TO SERVICES

A question that VAEAI often gets from early childhood educators looking to develop a service that is inclusive of Aboriginal perspectives is “Where do I start?” We think this is a great question and a crucial first step. VAEAI strongly recommends that educators in both early education settings and schools begin with, and maintain a focus on, local Aboriginal stories and content.

Local Koorie cultural and historical content should be a priority focus and embedded wherever possible and appropriate, following a preferred Koorie community education model which focuses on the:

1. Local level first (ask yourself whose land or Country the school is situated on)
2. Followed by regional (e.g. South West; North East)
3. State (Victorian)
4. National (e.g. resources from the Northern Territory)
5. International Indigenous perspectives (e.g. Māori; First Nations in Canada).

For example, in a visual arts lesson, educators can explore Victorian art forms such as cross hatching, textile design in the production of possum skin cloaks, aspects of history and identity expressed through art and design, and explore the artworks of Victorian artists by inviting guests to support the delivery of learning objectives.

With this in mind, educators should also appreciate and acknowledge that local content may not always be representative of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who attend their services. There may of course be families who have moved to the area from other parts of the state or country. It is important to “Know your students and how they learn” (AITSL) and support educational experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories from other regions of the state and beyond. This is why it is best practice to always identify where each learning resource comes from, for example: “This is a creation story told by the Gunditjmarra people of south-west Victoria” or “We’re about to watch a dance performed by Yolngu women from East Arnhem Land.” (VAEAI *Aboriginal Early Childhood Protocols*, p. 11)



**KOORIE
EARLY
YEARS
RESOURCES**

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

VAEAI has a range of online resources for education settings and community.

These include:

- Deadly Alphabet Flash Cards & Posters
- Deadly Numbers flash cards & Posters
- Koorie Education Calendar (for teachers)
- Teaching Language Through Basketball Activity
- Hopscotch for the Mob Activity
- Humpy Diorama Activity
- Colouringap Book Activity
- Food Diorama Activity
- Exploring Colours Activity
- Rainbow song for Auslan Activity
- Koorie Kids Move
- Learning on Country Activity
- Colouring Activity: Aboriginal Dancers
- Colouring Activity: Corroboree
- Colouring Activity: Tent Embassy 1
- Colouring Activity: Tent Embassy 2
- Exploring Shapes Activity



Check out our website for our free downloads or contact our office for further information.



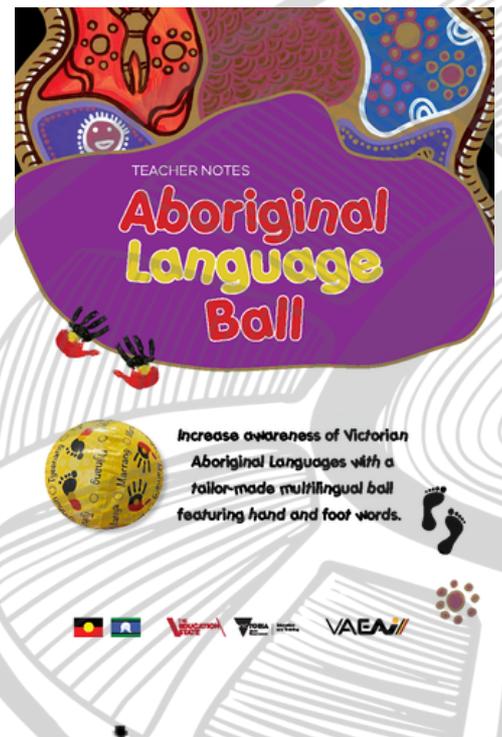
03 9481 0800



vaeai@vaeai.org.au

VAEAI/DET ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE BALL

The Aboriginal Languages Ball was developed jointly by VAEAI and Department of Education and Training to Increase awareness of Victorian Aboriginal languages with a tailor made multilingual ball featuring hand and foot words.



03 9481 0800



vaeai@vaeai.org.au

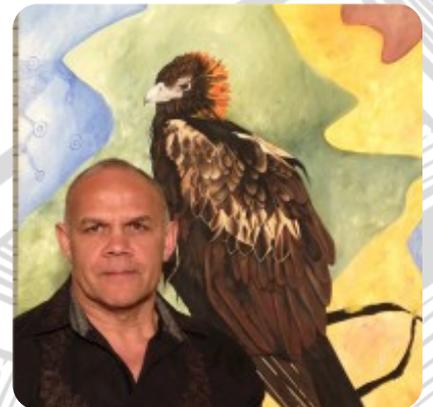
KEVIN WILLIAMS DESIGNS

Kevin Williams is a descendant of the Wiradjuri. Kevin was born in Narrandera, NSW and was raised at Warangesda Mission at Darlington Point. He is a highly successful artist and businessman. As a young boy Kevin learned the skills of making boomerangs from his father and grandfather. Kevin's interest in painting started when he was young and would sit and watch his mother paint.

Today Kevin continues his work as an artist while also supporting his local community of Echuca Victoria. What has developed through Kevin's work over the years is an ability to capture the natural characteristics of the land, native Australian animals, the environment and then combine them with the markings and symbols of the Wiradjuri.

Kevin's art is contemporary and combined with the symbols and markings from his culture and heritage.

Amongst the range of art works that Kevin produces are puzzles, letters and numbers that can be customised. For example, a kindergarten could order the letters of their service name in a Kevin Williams design to display.



 kevinwilliamsdesigns@outlook.com

 [kevinwilliamsdesigns](https://www.facebook.com/kevinwilliamsdesigns)

 [kevinwilliamsdesigns](https://www.instagram.com/kevinwilliamsdesigns)

KINYA LERRK

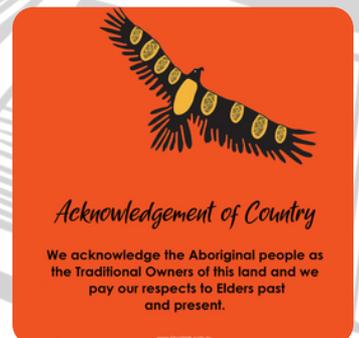
KINYA LERRK (Wemba Wemba for 'women coming together') is the collaboration of Aboriginal visual artists Emma Bamblett (Wemba Wemba, Gunditjmarra, Ngadjonji and Taungurung) and Megan Van Den Berg (Dja Dja Wurrung, Yorta Yorta and Boon Wurrung).



Emma and Megan have a strong history of collaboration on design/arts based projects.

Kinya Lerrk focuses on using design and art to make homes and offices come alive with colourful designs. Kinya Lerrk celebrates Aboriginal culture and respectfully acknowledges traditional owners of land. They are available for customised projects, like murals.

Kinya Lerrk also have a product series, which includes indoor and outdoor Acknowledgement of Country plaques and a candle series titled 'Back to Country' which evokes the scents of country.



www.kinyalerrk.com.au



kinyalerrk@gmail.com



0408 342 884



[kinyalerrk](https://www.facebook.com/kinyalerrk)



[kinya_lerrk](https://www.instagram.com/kinya_lerrk)

LOOK WHAT I CAN MAKE RESOURCE KIT/WALKING ON COUNTRY-WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

LOOK WHAT I CAN MAKE

The "Look What I Can Make" ochre resource kit helps embed Koorie perspectives in the early years space in an interactive way, using the traditional art of ochre painting as the medium.

The kit contains ochre, an easy-to-use story book, and fact sheets.

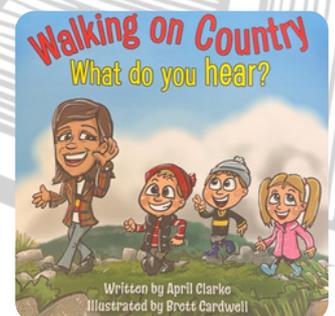
April is a Gunditjmara Kirrae-Wurrung woman and a proud mother of 3 children and grandmother to 3 grandchildren. She has extensive experience working in Aboriginal Affairs across a wide range of sectors including education, justice, children's services and health.

With over 20 years' experience in Aboriginal education, April is passionate about the promotion and delivery of Koorie perspectives in all education sectors across Victoria. She believes that creating resources for children in their younger years will ensure an early start in the sharing of Koorie perspectives and knowledge, which enriches all of society.



WALKING ON COUNTRY - WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

'Walking On Country - What Do Your Hear?' is based on an Aboriginal Grandmother's experiences of being on Country with her grandchildren and the special experiences they share and learn about together. Written from a Koorie perspective, the book invites readers of all cultural backgrounds to engage in the story and think about what they might hear the next time they go outside for a walk. You just have to stop and listen!. 'Walking On Country - What Do You Hear' is a story that can be read between parents/carers and children whilst also being an engaging story for use in early learning services and school settings.



 aprilclarkemc@hotmail.com

TIRRI TIRRI ARTS

leesha Kelly is a proud Mutthi-Mutthi Wamba-Wamba and Yorta-Yorta woman.

leesha makes jewellery with emu feathers, quandong seeds and echidna quills, leesha runs jewellery making workshops. leesha also does commission piece paintings and murals. Also going out to schools teaching aboriginal culture and painting with students.

Tirri Tirri Arts are based in South West Victoria in Portland with shipping Australia wide.



www.tirritirriarts.com



tirritirriarts@gmail.com



0487 835 589

COME TOGETHER

Come Together is a heart-warming, debut picture book for children aged 5 and up from pop artist Isaiah Firebrace, inspired by his petition to the Australian Government calling for Aboriginal history to be taught in every classroom.

In this essential book, Isaiah, a Yorta Yorta and Gunditjmara man, establishes a foundation of First Nations knowledge with 20 key topics. Alongside bright and contemporary illustrations by Mununjali and Fijian artist Jaelyn Biumaiwai, Isaiah connects us to each topic through his own personal story and culture, from the importance of Elders to the Dreaming.

At once accessible and engaging, Come Together will make every Aussie kid proud that we are home to the longest continuing culture on Earth!



**copies of 'come together' are available at
bookstores across Australia**

SWEET WATER ART

Sweet Water Art was created during lockdown due to COVID-19 by Kiewa Austin Rioli. Kiewa decided to take a leap of faith and create her own small business creating bookmarks, cards and stickers.

Kiewa says: "I have always wanted to have something of my own and one day be my own boss, so I thought why not start now? I have loved art since I was little, so I started looking into digital art. I began designing little cards and stickers and went out to buy a printer to actually print them. In the first six months of starting I went from designing and printing on my kitchen table to having an office space dedicated to my business. With the help of my amazing community I have been able to go a step further and purchase a quality sticker printer which has allowed me to expand my business so much more! I now print stickers, cards and bookmarks as well as doing commissioned digital and canvas art. I have also had the opportunity to start doing art workshop sessions in schools which I absolutely love."



Kiewa's workshops and digital art products are available through:



www.sweetwaterart.com.au



Sweetwater.artdesign@gmail.com



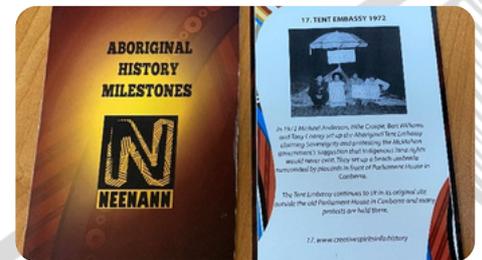
Sweet-Water-Art



sweetwater.art

ABORIGINAL HISTORY MILESTONE CARDS

The Aboriginal History Milestone Cards have been developed by Dr. Esme Bamblett, a Bangerang, Taungurung, Wiradjuri woman, and published by Neenann. They have been graphically designed by Gary Saunders. They feature some of historical events that have happened in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that have impacted on the struggle for rights. These milestones begin at colonization and continue to the Treaty process in Victoria. There are 34 cards in the pack including a Cultural/Unconscious bias checklist and a Deep Dive card.



MERLE HALL

Merle Hall is the author of the 'Adventures of the Little Black Tracka' books is a Bangerang and Wiradjuri woman from the Goulburn Valley. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Post Graduate Certificate of Journalism.



GARY SAUNDERS

Gary Saunders is a Bangerang, Yorta Yorta, Wiradjuri man. He is Neenann's Graphic Designer who has illustrated and graphically designed the 'Adventures of the Little Black Tracka' books and cards, the Bangerang Nursery Rhymes CD and the Aboriginal History Milestones cards.



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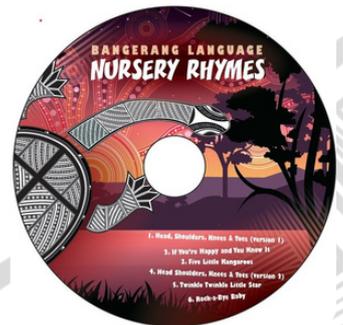
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BANGERANG CHILDREN'S SONGS/NURSERY RHYMES

BANGERANG LANGUAGE NURSERY RHYMES CD

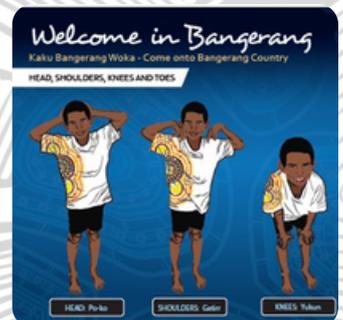
This CD contains the following children's songs/nursery rhymes sung in English and then in Bangerang Aboriginal language:

- Head shoulders knees and toes (version 1)
- Head shoulders knees and toes (version 2)
- Twinkle twinkle little star
- Five little kangaroos jumping on the bed
- If you're happy and you know it
- Rock-a-bye baby.



HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES POSTER

The head, shoulders, knees and toes poster is a graphic of two Little Black Tracks doing the head, shoulders, knees and toes actions and it has the English words for head, shoulders, knees and toes and the Bangerang words for head, shoulders, knees and toes so children can sing along to the song on the CD.



0400 013 944



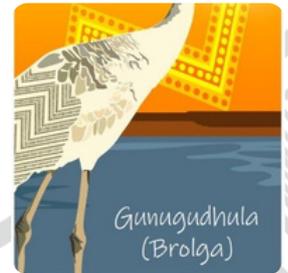
merlehall@hotmail.com

ADVENTURES OF THE LITTLE BLACKTRACKAS LANGUAGE MATCH CARDS

These cards have been developed from the *Adventures of the Little Black Trackas* books. They feature a graphic of the animal/insect on one card that is to be matched with a habitat, animal track, feather or a part of them that is hidden on the other card. It has both the English and Bangerang name for the animal/insect.

There are 40 cards in the packet that match up to 40 animals from 4 of the Little Black Tracka books:

- The Yedibila-Animal cards include the snake, kangaroo; emu, koala, dingo. They match up to the animal tracks.
- The Bamenabala-insect cards include the ant, bee, butterfly, mosquito, grasshopper. They match up to the insects habitats.
- The Djunda-bird feather cards include the cockatoo, crow, eagle, kookaburra, parrot. They match up to their feathers.
- Wala Yedibila-water animals: brolga, duck, Murray cod, platypus, yabbie match up to the part of them that is hidden.



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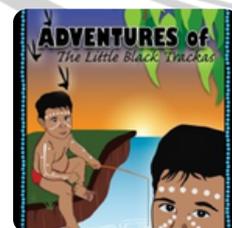
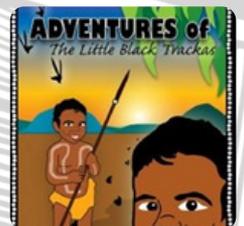
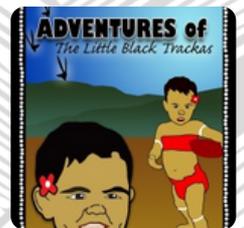
merlehall@hotmail.com

ADVENTURES OF THE LITTLE BLACKTRACKAS

The Adventures of the Little Black Trackas is an Aboriginal cultural education kit for use in early years services for children aged 0-8 years. The books incorporate words from the language of the Bangerang people from the Victorian Murray Goulburn area.

These beautiful colourful A4 books contain education and cultural concepts that support the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia of Belonging, Being and Becoming. By privileging Aboriginal culture they give educators the opportunity to 'respect multiple ways of knowing, seeing, and living and to understand and honour difference'.

The kit contains 5 books and a CD and comes in a beautiful folder with suggestions for how to use the books in the early childhood setting.



0400 013 944



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FOREVER LEARNING – A DIGITAL STORY

BERRIMBA CHILD CARE CENTRE

Berrimba Child Care Centre is a Multifunctional Aboriginal Children's Service based in Echuca, Victoria. Berrimba means "Forever Learning".

Berrimba has been an important part of the Echuca community for over 30 years. It provides a culturally safe, welcoming and supportive learning environment for many Aboriginal children to start their life-long journey with education. The staff work hard to make the children and families feel welcome and part of the community, and to connect them to culture.

Berrimba have recorded a digital story which explores the history of how the service came into being, to meet the needs of Aboriginal children and families in the local area. The story includes interviews with Elders, including Aunty Melva Johnson, a founder of Berrimba, staff, parents, and community members.

The Berrimba digital story was produced by SNAICC (Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care), to raise awareness about the work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander integrated early years services.

The digital story can be accessed from the SNAICC website or the Berrimba website. Further information about Berrimba can be accessed from the Njernda Aboriginal Corporation website.



www.njernda.com.au/services/berrimba-childcare-centre



www.snaicc.org.au/forever-learning-a-digital-story-from-berrimba-child-care-centre/

WAETBABDA NGOOTOWAN WAKA THIYAMA-KI TOGETHER WE ALL SHARE KNOWLEDGE

Sherry Johnstone is a Keerray Woorroong, Yorta Yorta woman of the Maar Nation who is based in Warrnambool.

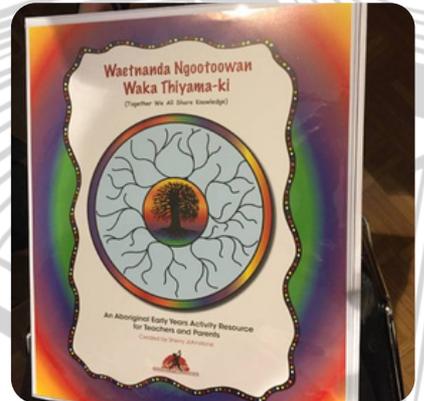
In 2018, Sherry launched a Koorie Early Years Resource Kit named Waetnanda ngootoowan waka thiyama-ki (Together we all share the knowledge).

Sherry is an experienced early years worker, artist and curator who created this 12-volume resource kit for teachers in the hope they gain some confidence and ideas to easily incorporate Aboriginal culture within their programs and services.



The kit includes:

- 10 activities based on 10 children's books with a cultural context
- 2 games activities with one including local language names for the animals
- 4 symbols activities
- A language pronunciation guide
- 8 template sheets
- A page of references, recommended books and purchase details of resources not available in book stores as well as some local language links



This resource is available through Warrnambool Books.



0418 562 905



ksjohnstone22@gmail.com



Spirit-Soul-Creations-105534584502253



www.spiritandsoulcreations.com.au



**BOOKS WRITTEN BY
ABORIGINAL
AUTHORS FOR
KINDERGARTEN
CHILDREN**

AUTHOR: FAY STEWART- MUIR

Aunty Fay Stewart-Muir is a senior Boon Wurrung and Wemba Wemba Elder, and an Elder of the Koori Court.

Aunty Fay is also a Boon Wurrung and Wemba Wemba Language Specialist and works as a prison educator in First Nation languages, as well as a creative language revival consultant and collaborator.

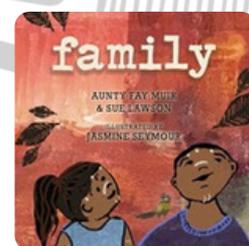
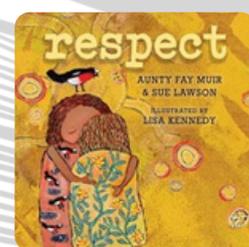
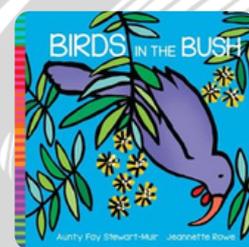


Aunty Fay is a mentor, author and educator who provides cultural guidance to students and teachers at all levels of the Victorian education system, providing cultural and curriculum advice. In recognition of her life's work, Aunty Fay was inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll in 2020, as a 'Local Champion'.

Aunty Faye has contributed Boon Wurrung Language to 40 songs in the Earth Song Cycle. These songs are an excellent resource for the early years, and are available online at:

<http://thelivingcircle21.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Whale-Betayil-Song-Cycle-250618.pdf>

Aunty Faye has also created picture books in the Our Place series that are available for purchase through Magabala Books.



Aunty Fay's books are available to order through the following websites:



www.magabala.com/products/respect

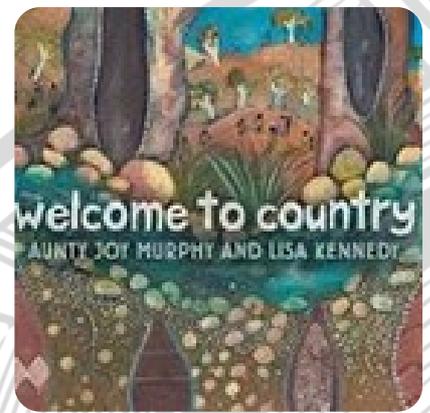
www.magabala.com/products/family

www.diybilingualbooks.com/birds-in-the-bush

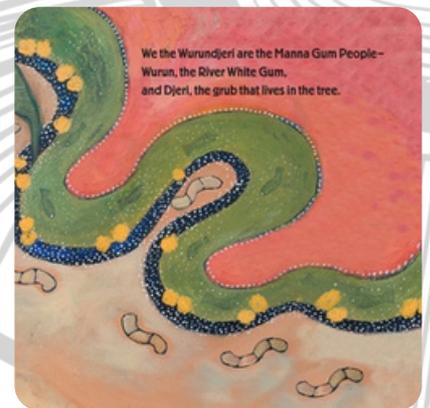
WELCOME TO COUNTRY AUNTY JOY MURPHY & LISA KENNEDY

This book is an expansive and generous Welcome to Country from Wurundjeri Elder, Aunty Joy Murphy, which has been beautifully given visual form by Indigenous artist Lisa Kennedy.

*Welcome to the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri People.
We are part of this land and the land is part of us.
This is where we come from.
Wominjeka Wurundjeri balluk yearmenn koondee bik.
Welcome to Country.*



This is a very accessible Welcome to Country that introduces and gives meaning and explanation within the text to the customs and symbols of Indigenous Australia. Aboriginal communities across Australia have boundaries that are defined by mountain ranges and waterways. Traditionally, to cross these boundaries or enter community country you needed permission from the neighbouring community. When this permission was granted the ceremony now called Welcome to Country took place. Each community had its own way of welcoming to Country, and they still do today.



Aunty Joy's book is available to order through many websites including:

www.kooricurriculum.com

www.kmart.com.au

www.amazon.com.au



THE RAINBOW SERPENT IS COMING

FIONA CLARKE

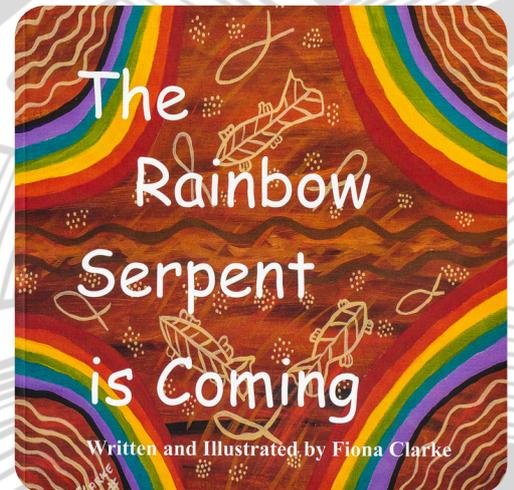
Born in Warrnambool, South West Victoria 1963 Fiona is a Kirrae Whurrong Aboriginal woman.

For 33 years Fiona has depicted her Aboriginal culture through the visual arts, including tapestry, painting, public art and through children's stories.

Since writing her first book, *Minkgill Chases the Rainbow*, Fiona has been further inspired by children to paint with brighter happier colours and express more joy and hope in her work.

Her father Banjo Clarke, (dec) was broadly considered a wise Aboriginal Elder by Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal and it was he who said to Fiona how much he loves the sound of Children's laughter. This has been a catalyst to her way of expressing her stories, to make children happy and to hear young children, (as one little girl once said) say things like, "That's the best story I've heard in my whole life."

Each story too has an important theme. Her first story, 'Minkgill Chases the Rainbow', focused on knowing who you are and where you're from. Finding your identity. Her second story was inspired by her young niece Meeka who out of the blue said, "The Rainbow Serpent is Coming" from there Fiona wrote a story focused on the importance of caring for our environment.



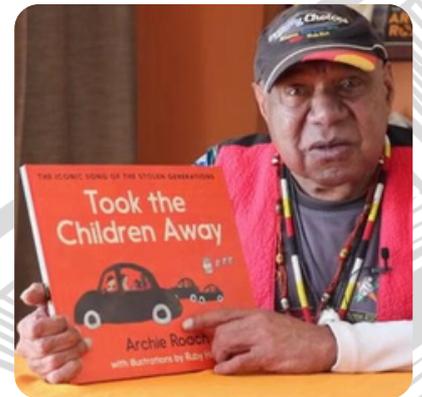
To order "the rainbow serpent is coming" please email:



fionaclarke73@hotmail.com

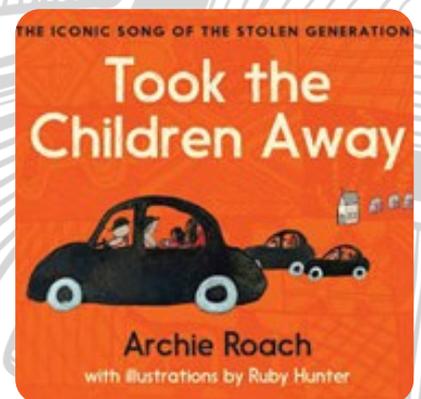
TOOK THE CHILDREN AWAY

Archie Roach AM's deeply personal song, 'Took the Children Away,' from his 1990 debut album, Charcoal Lane, was the first song ever to receive a prestigious Australian Human Rights Award. Its impact was immediate, shining a stark light on Australia's shameful past practices of removing Aboriginal children from their families. The song speaks of love and reconnection and has travelled across seas into the hearts of First Nations communities everywhere.



As part of the 30-year-anniversary of 'Took the Children Away' the lyrics of the ironic song were captured in a beautiful picture book. The book is illustrated by Archie Roach's late partner and collaborator, Ruby Hunter, who was also stolen from her family as a child.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that this book contains images of people who are deceased or who may now be deceased.



Uncle Archie Roach's book is available to order through many websites including:



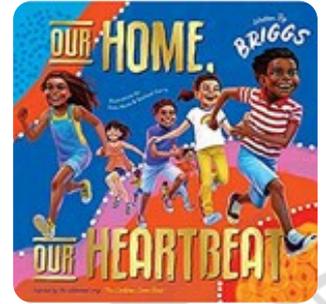
www.booktopia.com.au

www.angusrobertson.com.au

www.dymocks.com.au

***Our Home Our Heartbeat* by Adam Briggs**

Briggs is a well-known and well-accomplished Yorta Yorta rapper from Shepparton in Victoria. *Our Home, Our Heartbeat* is his first children's book, and is adapted from his song 'The Children Came Back'. In a celebration of Indigenous culture, this book features Aboriginal people who have achieved and succeeded in a variety of fields. It is a fantastic resource to use in kindergarten, because teachers can engage children through the music as well as the inspirational story. The National Gallery of Victoria has recorded Briggs reading his book, which can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upHj_oNH9xw



***Djarmbi, The Different Kookaburra* by Damian Amamoo**

This storybook is set in the bush in Barmah on the Murray river, and is based on a family of kookaburras. Djarmbi, the main character finds it difficult to express his feelings and emotions, and his squawk sounds different to the other birds. This book has been written to address the topic of autism in a way that is culturally relevant and sensitive, and here are numerous culturally-specific references – both traditional and contemporary – that help make this book warmly familiar to Aboriginal children. It is a positive, insightful and engaging book for teachers, parents and young children, and delivers an important message about appreciating diversity. A pdf version of the book can be accessed here: https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/uploads/Djarmbi-the-different-kookaburra_web2.pdf



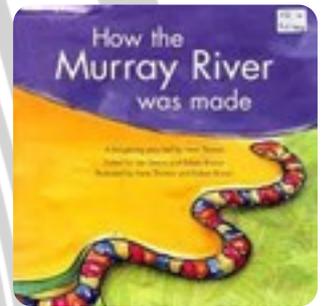
***Adventures of the Little Black Trackas* by Merle Hall, Illustrated by Gary Saunders**

The *Adventures of the Little Black Trackas* is a cultural education kit for children in the early years, aged 0-8 years. Words used in the book are in both English and Bangerang language. The kit contains 5 books and includes a CD with each story, as told by a different child. Each book is beautifully illustrated and features a little black tracka tracking a variety of animals, insects, bird feathers, water animals or family members. The books are packaged together in a folder that also contains activity ideas for use by early childhood educators.



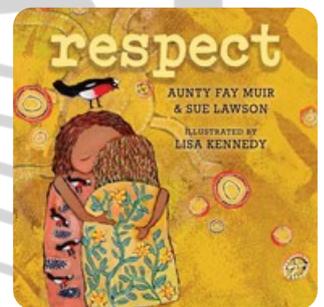
***How the Murray River was made* by Irene Thomas, Illustrated by Irene Thomas & Robert Brown**

This is a book that explains the creation story of how the Murray river was made. It tells of how an old woman was walking with her dingoes, looking for grubs and berries. She walked for a long time dragging a digging stick behind her, which made a track along the ground. The sound of the stick woke the snake, and he became very angry and thrashed to and fro, causing the track to get bigger. Soon after, it rained and this was how the Murray river was made. This is an engaging and interesting way for teachers to introduce the topic of belief systems.



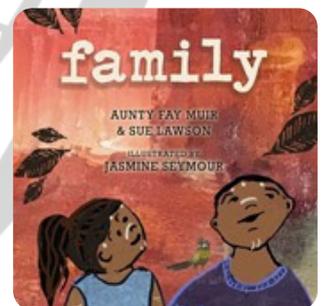
***Respect* by Aunty Faye Muir & Sue Lawson, Illustrated by Lisa Kennedy**

Aunty Fay is a Boon Wurrung and Wamba Wamba Elder who wrote this book with Sue Lawson, an award-winning children's author. This book teaches us how to respect our Elders, our family, our friends, the country on which we live, and most importantly – ourselves.



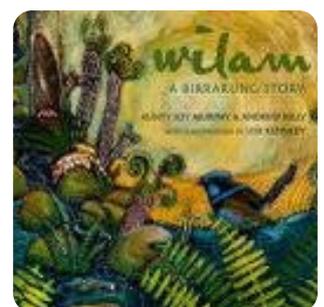
***Family* by Aunty Faye Muir & Sue Lawson, Illustrated by Jasmine Seymour**

Family is a follow up to Respect, and both books are part of a four-book series called 'Our Place'. This book teaches us about the different roles people in our families play in forming who we are now and who we become in the future, through an Aboriginal perspective. It also introduces the idea of diversity amongst people, families, and communities, using the concepts of language and Country.



***Wilam, A Birrarung Story* by Aunty Joy Murphy & Andrew Kelly, Illustrated by Lisa Kennedy**

This book tells the story of Melbourne's beautiful Yarra river, and features Woiwurrung language to explain its rich history. Bunjil the wedge-tailed eagle and creator spirit is a key character, along with other animals. It is a wonderful story book to use with children in an early childhood setting, because it is a culturally-inclusive way to think about an important land mark in Melbourne.





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