



Resources by Aboriginal illustrators and authors

Original Artworks at the State Library

Bronwyn Bancroft “Frogs under the tap” from *Big Rain Coming* by Katrina Germain

Elaine Russell “N is for Nessie, O is for Owl” from *A is for Aunty*

Percy Trezise “Ngali and Mayli go hunting for honey” from *Quinkin Mountain*

Other artworks with Aboriginal content:

Ron Brooks Preliminary illustrations from *Hughie* by David Martin

Elizabeth Durack “The baby makers” and “Weedah the mockingbird” from *Australian Legendary Tales* by K. Langloh Parker

Robert Ingpen from *The drover’s boy* by Ted Egan

Frane Lessac from *The magic boomerang* by Mark Greenwood

Titles in the Research Collection of Children’s Literature at the State Library, and the state wide public library collections.

Books about Aboriginal people were first written by Europeans telling their story, and then by Aboriginal people. Some are dreaming stories, some are stories with other themes. Teachers using these titles need to take into consideration the context in which the books were written.

In *Reading Race: Aboriginality in Australian children’s literature*, Clare Bradford discusses how different representations of Aboriginal people have helped to colour the attitudes, beliefs and assumptions of different generations of Australians. In 1994, Margaret Dunkle collated a bibliography of resources in *Black in Focus: a guide to Aboriginality in literature for young people*.

The titles mentioned below can be found both at the State Library and in public libraries around the State by searching the State Library catalogue at www.slwa.wa.gov.au. Searching can be by title, or by using the following subject headings:

Aboriginal Australians – Folklore
Aboriginal Australians – Juvenile Literature
Aboriginal Australians – Juvenile Fiction

You could also search for titles published by Magabala Books and Black Ink Press, using the publishers as a Keyword search.

The list below shows some of the titles by or about Aboriginal Australians. There will be a brief summary of the story in the catalogue entry.

The names in **bold** are Aboriginal authors or illustrators. Those that are marked with an ***asterisk** are from Western Australia.



K – 2

Adams, Jeanie

(1989) Pigs and Honey

Albert, Mary

(2004) How the birds got their colours (compiled by Pamela Lofts)

Bancroft, Bronwyn

(2008) Possum and wattle: my big book of Australian words

(2005) Patterns of Australia

(2010) Why I love Australia

***Cheedy, Ned**

(2001) Olive Python Dreaming

***Crawford, Joanne**

(2004) A home for Bilby illus. by ***Grace Fielding**

(2007) Bilby and the bushfire illus. by

***Grace Fielding**

***Dann, Lucy**

(2008) Loongie the crocodile illus. by **Bronwyn Houston** and ***Dann, Kiefer**

***Dolumyu, Jacko**

(2004) The bat and the crocodile illus. by Pamela Lofts

Dunstan, Kylie

(2008) Collecting colour

Germein, Katrina

(1999) Big rain coming illus. by **Bronwyn Bancroft**

(2000) Leaving illus. by **Bronwyn Bancroft**

***Greene, Gracie**

(1996) Roughtail: the dreaming of the roughtail lizard and other stories told by the Kukatja people

Greenwood, Mark

(1994) Magic Boomerang ill. by Frane Lessac

***Kwaymullina, Ambelin**

(2009) Caterpillar and Butterfly

(2008) The two hearted numbat

(2007) Crow and the waterhole

***Laurel, Hylton**

(2003) The cowboy frog

Lester, Alison

(2000) Ernie dances to the didgeridoo

***Little, Lorna**

(2004) The mark of the Wagarl illus. by ***Janice Lyndon**

***McRobbie, Narelle**

(1996) Who's that jumbun in the log? illustrated by ***Grace Fielding**

(1990) Bip the snapping bungaroo ill. by

***Grace Fielding**

***Morgan, Sally**

(1996) Dan's grandpa

(1992) The flying emu and other Australian stories

(1997) Just a little brown dog

***Mung Mung, George**

(1987) How the kangaroos got their tails (compiled by Pamela Lofts)

Noonuccal, Oodgeroo

(1994) Dreamtime: Aboriginal stories illus. by **Bronwyn Bancroft**

Norrington, Leonie

(2007) You and me: our place

(2010) Look see, look at me!

***O'Brien, May**

(2008) Bawoo Stories illus. by **Angela Leaney** and **Sue Wyatt**

(1990) The legend of the seven sisters

(1991) Wunambi the water snake

Roughsey, Dick

(1975) The rainbow serpent

Russell, Elaine

(2000) A is for Aunty

(2004) The shack that Dad built

***Somerville, Kirra**

(2006) The lizard gang illus. by ***Grace Fielding**

Spillman, David

(2001) Yellow-eye

***Templeton, Robyn**

(2004) Tell me why

Trezise, Percy

(1995) Quinkin Mountain

(1996) Home of the Kadimakara People (first in series, Journey of the Great Lake)

(1978) The Quinkins

***Wallam, Angus**

(2004) Corroboree illus. by ***Norma MacDonald**



WAARDA series:

Waarda, Nyungar for talking and sharing stories, is a new Indigenous children's series edited by **Sally Morgan**, for ages 6+. They can be found by searching using Keyword and typing **Waarda**.

- ***Dudgeon, Patricia** (2010) Lilli and her shadow
- ***Mia, Tjalaminu** (2009) Bush secrets
- ***Milroy, Gladys** (2009) The great cold
- ***Oxenham, Darlene** (2010) Beach sports car

Indij Readers:

The Indij Readers are a wonderful set of books and teaching resources that are written and illustrated by Indigenous Australians. The set includes stories about Indigenous kids, Indigenous families and communities. These can be found by searching using Keyword and typing in **Indij Readers**.

Years 3 – 5

- ***Bell, Helen**
(1996) Idjhil: and the land cried for its lost soul
- Berndt, Catherine**
(1987) Pheasant and kingfisher ill. by **Arone Meeks**
- Brian, Janeen**
(1996) Pilawuk: when I was young
- ***Buller-Murphy, Deborah**
(1958) An attempt to eat the moon
- ***Charles, Mary**
(1993) Winin: why the emu cannot fly
- ***Durack, Mary**
(1964) The courteous savage: Yagan of the Bibbulmun illus. by *Elizabeth Durack
(1965) Yagan of the Bibbulmun illus. by
***Revel Cooper** (same book as The courteous savage, with new title and illus.)
- and ***Durack, Elizabeth**
(1941) The way of the whirlwind
- Hashmi, Kerri**
(1998) You and me, Murrawee
- Heiss, Anita**
(2007) Yirra and her deadly dog demon
- ***Lowe, Pat**
(1997) Desert Dog
(1997) Jimmy and Pat meet the Queen illus. by
***Jimmy Pike**
- Malbunka, Mary**
(2003) When I was little, like you

Meeks, Arone

- (1991) Enora and the black crane
- (2002) Sisi and the cassowary

*Morgan, Sally

- (2008) Curly and the Fent
- (2009) Curly saves Grandma's house
- (2009) Sam's bush journey (with ***Ezekiel Kwaymullina**) illus. **Bronwyn Bancroft**

*Morgan, Sally

- (2009) Stopwatch: The land of kur
- (2009) Stopwatch: The land of mirthful
- (2010) Stopwatch: The land of dragonay

Nicholson, John
(1997) Kimberley warrior: the story of Jandamarra

***Parker, K. Langloh**
(1896) Australian Legendary Tales illus. by
*Elizabeth Durack

*Richards, June

(1997) Eagle's nest illus. by ***Shane Pickett**

Sullivan, Rosemary
(2008) Tom Tom illus. by Dee Huxley

*Torres, Pat

(1987) Jalygurr: Aussie animal rhymes; poems for kids

*Utemorrah, Daisy

(1993) Moonglue illus. by ***Sue Wyatt**
(1990) Do not go around the edges illus. by ***Pat Torres**

Williams, Edna

(2000) Down the hole, up the tree, across the sandhills : running from the State and Daisy Rates



Years 6 – 7

Arthy, Judith
(1997) The children of Mirrabooka

Beckers, Tom
(2004) Joboy's walkabout: the story of how an
aboriginal boy found his camel in the bush

Chauncy, Nan
(1960) Tangara

Dobbie, Fran
(2000) Whisper
(2004) Paper bags and dreams

*Hawke, Steve
(2007) Barefoot kids

Hill, Anthony
(1994) The burnt stick illus. by Mark Sofilas

Kidd, Diana
(1992) The fat and juicy place
illus. by **Bronwyn Bancroft**
(2000) Two hands together

*Lowe, Pat
(1994) The girl with no name
(1992) Yinti: desert child
(2000) Desert Cowboy

McDonald, Meme and **Boori Pryor**
(1998) My Girragundji
(1999) The binna-binna man

***Morgan, Sally**
My Place for younger readers in 3 parts:
(1990) Sally's story
(1990) Arthur Corunna's story
(1990) Mother and daughter: the story of Daisy
and Gladys Corunna

Mumbulla, Percy
(1996) The whalers illus. by **Bronwyn Bancroft**

Nicholson, John
(1997) Kimberley warrior: the story of Jandamarra

Norrington, Leonie
(2002) The Barrumbi Kids

***Pilkington, Doris**
(2006) Home to mother illus. by **Janice Lyndon**
(younger version of Follow the Rabbit-Proof
Fence)

Years 8 – 12

*Bunney, Ron
(2000) The hidden

Gwynne, Phillip
(1998) Deadly, unna?
(2000) Nukkin' ya

Heiss, Anita
(2001) Who am I?: the diary of Mary Talence

*Lowe, Pat
(2002) Feeling the heat

Lucashenko, Melissa
(2002) Too flash

McDonald, Meme and **Pryor, Boori**
(2002) Njunjul the sun

McDonald, Meme
(2007) Love like water (for older readers)

Moloney, James
(1993) Dougy
(first in series, followed by titles below)
(1994) Gracey
(1998) Angela

***Morgan, Sally**
(1987) My place

Norrington, Leonie
(2003) The spirit of the Barrumbi
(2007) Leaving Barrumbi

***Pilkington, Doris**
(1996) Follow the rabbit proof fence

Pryor, Boori (Monty)
(1998) Maybe tomorrow

Svendsen, Mark
(2001) Poison under their lips

