
 “[A] powerful story that unmask the lack of recognition given to Australian Indigenous servicemen ... Alfred was just a young man when he was injured and shipped home from France [in WW1]. Neither honoured as a returned soldier or offered government support afforded to non-Indigenous servicemen, Alfred took up a solitary life walking the back roads.” – Publisher. For Years 3-6. Teachers notes: [Link to Teachers Notes](https://www.magabala.com/media/wysiwyg/Teacher_Notes/Alfred_s_War_Teacher_Notes.pdf)


The author wrote most of these poems to support literacy programs. The book is for those children whose “lives [are] shaped by the sights and sounds of the bush.” – p. 2. For years K-6.


A story for “young people to teach them to support their friends during the good times and the bad times, so nobody is ever alone.” – Back cover. For children. Teachers’ notes: [Link](https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj/35533588)

Barramundi fishing story, araminga by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“A group of 4 young cousin-brothers go on a barramundi fishing adventure early one morning, to be tested by a croc, a hungry eagle, the weather and – in some cases – a lack of fishing skills!” – Back cover. Set in the Tiwi Islands. For middle primary+ students.


“The story highlights the importance of family and kinship in Aboriginal culture, and beautifully captures the intimate knowledge of plant and animal relationships that Aboriginal people possessed.” – Back cover. Illustrated with the help of the Year 2 children to whom it was first read. For children.


This Stolen Generations story is “about the pain of separation, and the strength of the human spirit.” – Back cover. Children’s fiction.


“This collection of songs is about what children see and experience in their everyday lives, in the forests, in gardens and about shells on the shore to having toast and tea.” – Ruby Hunter, p. 4. For ages 4+.

The eagle inside by Jack Manning Bancroft. Richmond, Vic: Little Hare Books, 2015. CHC F BAN

“Jimmy is the smallest bird at school. Surrounded by big, tough birds, he feels different in every way and is certain he will never fit in. But when Eagle reminds him that being small isn’t necessarily a weakness, Jimmy discovers how being different can also be a strength.” – Back cover. For primary school children.

The first Camel Cup by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“A true story as told by one of the camel trackers himself, this book is a tale of buckin’ camels, roarin’ land rovers and judo-punchin’ musters in the raw outback of Australia in the 60s and 70s.” – Back cover. For middle primary+ students.


“[T]he anthem of the land rights movement, telling the story of the proud Gurindji people and their stand against the might of the cattle baron, Lord Vestey.” – Publisher. For ages 5+.

Hunting aherre [kangaroo] by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“Two cousins and their uncle go tracking and hunting for kangaroo early one hot morning. Big cousin nervously shoots his first-ever kangaroo. Full of pride, they take it back to their camp, where their very proud great-grandparents teach the cousins how to prepare and cook it.” – Back cover. For middle primary+ students.

Hunting ilia [emu] by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“Father Emu protectively sits on his eggs, and after they hatch he teaches the chicks how to find food, while being on the lookout for predators. One day a skilled hunter follows Father Emu’s tracks and no amount of speed or caution can protect him…” – Back cover. For middle primary+ students.
Aboriginal books for children

Idjhil: and the land cries for a lost soul by Helen Bell. Nedlands, WA: Cygnet, 1996. CHC F BEL

“[T]he moving story of an Aboriginal boy who, at the age of nine, is taken from his family in accordance with the official government policy of the time. Although written as fiction, it is based on the memories and experiences of people still alive today [1996].” – Back cover. For ages 9-12. Teacher notes in Reconciliation: middle primary teacher resource book (305.89 REC).

The legend of the seven sisters: a traditional Aboriginal story from Western Australia by May L O’Brien. Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press, 2009. CHC F OBR

This story of the Wongutha people of the Eastern Goldfields tells of a group of stars known as the Seven Sisters. “The Sisters were beautiful women who used to visit the earth and wander the land. This is the story of why they appear in their position in the night sky.” – Back cover. For children.

The little platypus and the fire spirit by Mundara Koorang. Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press, 2005. CHC F KOO

“Learn how the little platypus, with the help of a fire spirit, became the curious creature we know today, that is found diving, swimming and floating in the billabongs and rivers of the bush.” – Back cover. For children.


“A beautiful story of how Mother Nature helps a lost girl find her way back to her family.” – Publisher. For ages 5+.


This book describes life before and after the atomic weapons testing of the 1950s and 1960s in the Maralinga Tjarutja lands. For students aged 10-14+ years. Teachers’ notes available from the publisher at the book’s page: https://www.allenandunwin.com/


The illustrations that accompany the lyrics are by schoolchildren from Papunya and Galwinku. For primary school students.


This story, in English and Budjalung Nation dialect, about the creation and preservation of the water catchment areas of the Widjabul Country, in northern NSW. An accompanying 20-minute DVD documentary includes a reading of the story.

Shapes of Australia by Bronwyn Bancroft. Richmond, Vic: Little Hare Books, 2017. CHC F BAN

“Bronwyn Bancroft invites you to see, through her Bundjalung eyes, Australia’s Indigenous shapes. Her artwork vividly demonstrates the way Aboriginal people have shaped the landscape for thousands of years.” – Janine Kitson (book reviewer), Education, November 2017, p. 20. For primary school children.

Solid rock: puli pulka (sacred ground) by Shane Howard. Camberwell East, Vic: One Day Hill, 2010. CHC 828 HOW

“[O]ne of the first songs of its idiom to broach the subject of Aboriginal rights in Australia.” – Back cover. Accompanying CD Rom contains the song sung in English and Pitjantntjaratja language. For primary students.


“Long ago and not so long ago, the children were taken away, their sorrow echoing across the land. But today there is hope … Maggie and her mother wait, and then they hear the words: ‘To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters … we say sorry! Sorry Day acknowledges the past and shows willingness to make things right.” – Back cover. For primary students.


The lyrics of this autobiographical song by one of the stolen generations are illustrated by Archie Roach’s late wife, Ruby Hunter, and Peter Hudson. For primary students.

Tracking & hunting eland by Margaret James & Geoff Higgs. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

This story, set in southern Africa, was chosen for the series because of the strong interest Indigenous students expressed in the hunting practices of other Indigenous people. It follows the tracking and hunting of an eland bull by the San people. For middle primary+ students.

Tracking & hunting inarleng [echidna] by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“A mum and her family go tracking echidnas amongst anthills and spinifex grass. With the help of an old tobacco tin and the sun’s reflection, Mum is able to see the echidna’s dark hideaway.” – Back cover. For middle primary+ students.

Tracking & hunting ruumiya [goanna] by Margaret James. Honey Ant Readers, 2018. CHC 305.89 JAM

“A family go hunting for a goanna on a wintery desert day, helped by their exuberant dog and his thorny devil friend.” – Back cover. For middle primary+ students.