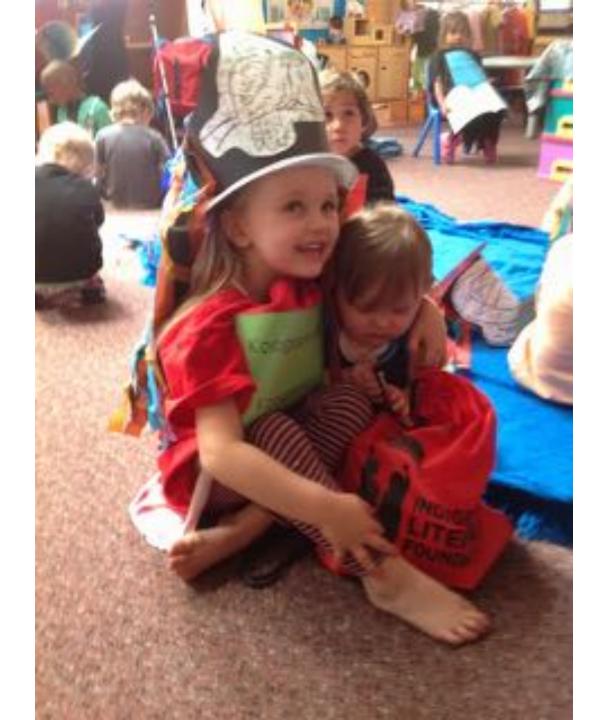
## Our Little Yuin A Writing Project by Children of Little Yuin Aboriginal Preschool



## ILF Book Buzz



Reading Opens Doors

## **Outcome:**

To enhance the literacy experience and development of beginning writing for the indigenous children in their transition from home/family to school. We hope to engage in creative, fun workshops where they use language, story, illustrating and publishing to produce a picture book they can be proud to share. The aim is for this book to reflect who they are and their local indigenous identity.

Making a Picture Book
2013



## **Umbarra** Community Totem The Pacific Black Duck

A dreamtime story is that kind of story for educating the aboriginal children in their first years of life. Stories help to explain how the land came to be shaped and inhabited; how to behave and why. These stories are a big part of the aboriginal culture. Moreover these stories are explaining the sacred nature and how to behave in this. These stories have been handed down through the generations, some of them got lost.

Umbarra, the black duck, is the totem of the Yuin nation. There is a young boy, Merriman, who called his totem Umbarra the black duck. Umbarra warns him always when danger is coming by jumping into the water and by doing splashes. One time the duck jumps in the water and ruffles his feathers up, that Merriman knows there are evil people coming.

He warns people to go on the canoes to paddle to the island and the warriors are waiting on the lakeside for the fellas. The fellas come to get the women and when they get closer to the island, the black duck warns the warriors.

They successfully keep them from invading, that's why they think that they still live there.

Duc-Huy, Moritz, Hendrik

Source: http://australianmuseum.net.au/Stories-of-the-Dreaming-General-Information

http://www.designerscarvesbymarlena.com/ER-Little-Black-Duck.jpg

http://australianmuseum.net.au/movie/Umbarra



Local Pacific Black Duck as children would see it. Cited Mogo .

koogarty frog

umbarra black duck

janan-Gabatch echidna

djunga octopus

gurrie snake

wanggali long-nosed potoroo

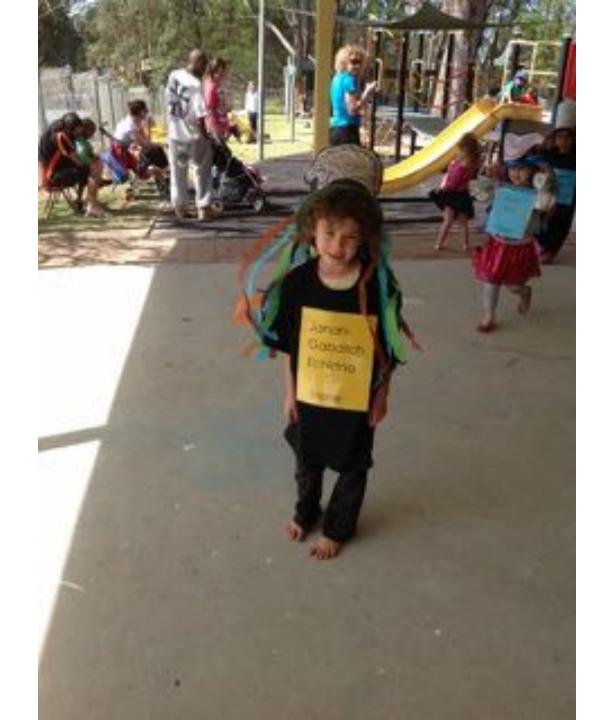
mara fish

koogoonyaroo kookaburra

Familiar animal totems chosen from Little Yuin Dreaming Path. Each author chose one and they knew their Yuin language names





























Book Launch at Little Yuin March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015. Photo by Laurelle Pacey, Pacey Media.