

CHILDREN'S BOOKS WITH FIRST NATIONS HISTORIES, CULTURES & PERSPECTIVES

The teaching of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures is an [Australian National Cross-curriculum Priority](#). When we include First Nations perspectives in our lessons, we provide opportunities for **all students** to deepen their knowledge of Australia by learning about the world's oldest continuous living cultures. We also support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to see themselves and their cultures reflected in the curriculum.

How diverse are the books in your classroom? How many books are authored and/or illustrated by First Nations people? How many books show characters with a variety of skin tones? Can your Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students see themselves in the books they are exposed to at school? By including a variety of First Nations books in your lessons and on your bookshelves, you are showing your Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students that they are important, their culture is valued and the worldviews they bring to the curriculum are welcome. Your non-Indigenous students will also benefit. Being exposed to diverse literature from a young age helps children to see and learn about other cultures, and build empathy, understanding and respect for their peers from different cultural backgrounds.

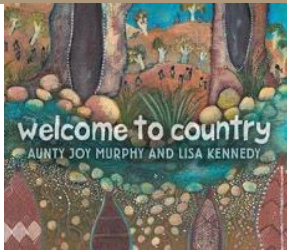


Below is a comprehensive list of children's books with First Nations histories, cultures and perspectives that will support you to explore the [organising ideas](#) (Country/Place, Culture and People) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and Histories cross-curriculum priority area. With over 35 pages of the most informative, inspirational and interesting books with First Nations perspectives listed, you are bound to find the perfect book for any lesson you have planned. For each book I have included:

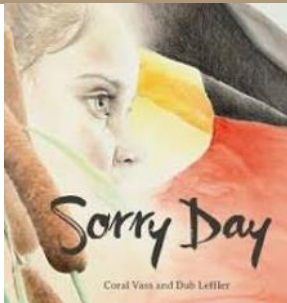

- the title, authors and illustrators;
- an image of the front cover;
- year the book was published;
- recommended year levels (in primary school);
- a summary of what the book is about; and
- links to any available teacher notes.

By downloading this document you are agreeing to:

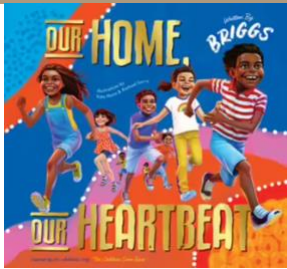
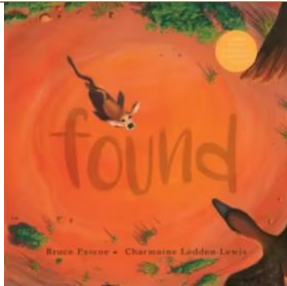
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- not copy or modify this resource; and
- credit and/or tag the author (Learning to Ngangaanha or @learning_to_ngangaanha) when using or sharing this resource, or posting about this resource online.

Please prioritise purchasing the following books from First Nations owned and operated businesses such as [Riley Callie Resources](#), [Magabala Books](#), [Koori Curriculum](#) or [Yarn Strong Sista](#), and don't forget to check out my website www.learningtongangaanha.com – a hub of information and resources to help primary teachers embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and perspectives in classrooms and schools around Australia.

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Welcome to Country</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2016</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Aunty Joy Murphy</p> <p>Lisa Kennedy</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p>An Aboriginal Welcome to Country is depicted for the first time in a stunning children's picture book. Aunty Joy Murphy welcomes us to the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri People and gives meaning and explanation within the text to the customs and symbols of First Nations peoples.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wurundjeri people – Woiwurrung language – Elders – Country/ boundaries – Traditions – Beliefs (The Dreaming) – Bunjil the eagle – Respect – Welcome to Country Protocols – Traditional Aboriginal clothing (illustrations) – Canoes (illustrations) – Tools and weapons (illustrations) – Bush tucker (illustrations)
<p><u>The Rabbits</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>1998</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>John Marsden</p> <p>Shaun Tan</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p><i>The Rabbits</i> offers a rich and immensely valuable perspective on the effect of man on his environment. Visually loaded and told with a passion for truth and understanding, <i>The Rabbits</i> aims to promote cultural awareness and a sense of caring for the natural world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Symbolism – Colonisation – <i>terra nullius</i> – Cultural differences – The effects of colonisation on First Nations peoples – Stolen Generations – Caring for Country – Sustainability – Native and introduced species – Compare and contrast (the rabbits and the numbats)
<p><u>The Lost Girl</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>1994</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Ambelin Kwaymullina</p> <p>Leanne Tobin</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>A beautiful story of how Mother Nature helps a lost girl find her way back to her family. The girl had lost her way. She wandered away from the Mothers, the Aunties and the Grandmothers, from the Fathers and the Uncles and the Grandfathers. Who will show her the way home?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family – Australian landscape (in illustrations) – Australian animals (in illustrations) – Survival – Country, who she refers to as 'mother' [nature] – Sustainability – Vivid descriptions – Onomatopoeia

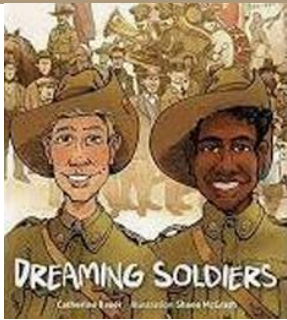
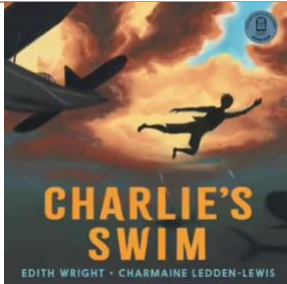

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<p>Sorry Day</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Coral Vass</p> <p>Dub Leffler</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>A book that helps students to understand Sorry Day and the Stolen Generations. It switches between a young girl losing her mum in a crowd and children who are taken from their families in the “not-so-long-ago” past. At the end of the text, factual information about Sorry Day is included.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stolen Generations – Sorry Day – Compare and contrast (the present and the past) – Australian history – Celebrations – Personification – Figurative language – Onomatopoeia – Similes – Fiction and non-fiction
<p>Stolen Girl</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2011</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Trina Saffioti</p> <p>Norma MacDonald</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p><i>Stolen Girl</i> is a fictionalised account of the Stolen Generations. This picture book tells the story of an Aboriginal girl taken from her family and sent to a children’s home. Readers are given an insight into the life of a child who has been displaced into a world void of love, family and culture. The book concludes with a sense of hope as the girl takes her first steps towards home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stolen Generations – Sorry Day – Australian history – Compare and contrast (life before and after she was taken) – Loss – Family – Dreams/ imagination – Hope

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<p><u>Sister Heart</u></p> <p>Verse novel</p> <p>2015</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Sally Morgan</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>This beautiful verse novel can be used as a personal and approachable conversation-starter about the Stolen Generations for mature young readers. Poignantly told from a young Aboriginal girl's perspective, who is taken from the north of Australia and sent to an institution in the distant south. There, she slowly makes a new life for herself and, in the face of tragedy, finds strength in new friendships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stolen Generations – Sorry Day – Loss and grief – Belonging – Family – Kinship – Friendships – Hope – Poetry
<p><u>Took the Children Away</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p>	<p>Archie Roach Ruby Hunter</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>Archie Roach AM's deeply personal song, 'Took the Children Away', from his 1990 debut album, <i>Charcoal Lane</i>, had an immediate impact, shining a stark light on Australia's shameful past practices of removing children from their families. The lyrics now sit alongside evocative illustrations in this book. Also included are Archie's recollections of his family and rare historical photographs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stolen Generations – Missions – Assimilation – Protection Act – Loss and grief – Love and reconnection – Resilience and strength – Family – Belonging – Elders (Aunties and Uncles) – Music (song: 'Took the Children Away') – Poetry – Australian history – Historical photographs


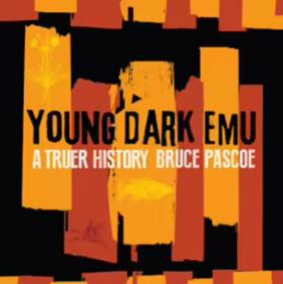
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<p>Our Home Our Heartbeat</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p>	<p>Adam Briggs (aka Briggs)</p> <p>Rachael Sarra Kate Moon</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p><i>Our Home, Our Heartbeat</i> houses the lyrics of Brigg’s song ‘The Children Came Back’ which tributes Archie Roach’s song ‘Took the Children Away’. <i>Our Home Our Heartbeat</i> is a celebration of past and present First Nations legends, as well as emerging generations, and at its heart honours the oldest continuous cultures on earth. This book celebrates the resilience of First Nations peoples.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Stolen Generations – Resilience – Archie Roach’s song ‘Took the Children Away’ – Aboriginal people who have excelled in a particular field: Gavin Wanganeen, The Sapphires, Nova Peris, Cathy Freeman, Adam Goodes, Patty Mills, Evonne Goolagong, Sir Doug Nicholls, Dr James Little, Lionel Rose, William Cooper, Lance Franklin, Archie Roach, Thelma Plum, Jessica Mauboy, Dan Sultan, Miranda Tapsell, and Emma Donovan.
<p>Found</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Bruce Pascoe</p> <p>Charmaine Ledden-Lewis</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>This gentle story set in the rugged Australian bush is about a small calf who becomes separated from his family. The little calf is alone and simply wants his mother, sisters and brothers. He can see other animals, and after running to the river, manages to ask some horses if they are his family. The calf’s family have been taken away in the back of a noisy truck. So begins the little calf’s journey to find his family. This book could be used to help explain the Stolen Generations to young students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family – Belonging – Grief and loss – Hope – Determination – Farm animals – Stolen Generations

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<p><u>My Lost Mob</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2015</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Venetia Tyson</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>This captivating picture book follows an emu who has lost his mob. Across rich and varied landscapes he roams, encountering a myriad of Australian animals, from kangaroos to cassowaries... But where will he find his lost mob? With simple language and charming illustrations, this book could be used to explain the Stolen Generations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family – Belonging – Grief and loss – Hope – Determination – Native animals – Stolen Generations
<p><u>Stories for Simon</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2017</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Lisa Miranda Sarzin Lauren Briggs</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>When Simon unwraps a beautiful boomerang wrapped in an old newspaper, he learns of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations. Who were the Stolen Generations and how can saying 'sorry' help? Through a new friendship and a magnificent collection of stories, Simon gains a deep appreciation of the past and a positive vision for the future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Stolen Generations – National Sorry Day – Reconciliation – Truth-telling – Australian history – Grief and loss – Hope – Friendship – Being sorry – Elders – Using the word 'Aunty'
<p><u>Say Yes: A Story of Friendship, Fairness and a Vote for Hope</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2017</p>	<p>Jennifer Castles Paul Seden</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p>Once there were two little girls who were best friends. They did everything together. As they got older they weren't allowed to do the same things anymore because they looked different. It was the law. This is a story about the landmark 1967 Referendum, the two women who came together to change the law... and how the Australian people said YES.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal people – Australian laws – Australian voting systems (e.g. referendums) – The 1967 Referendum – Human rights – Justice – Fairness – Racism – Past, present and future – Friendship – Similes

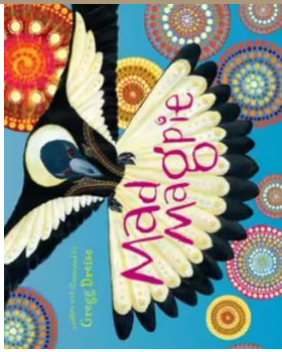
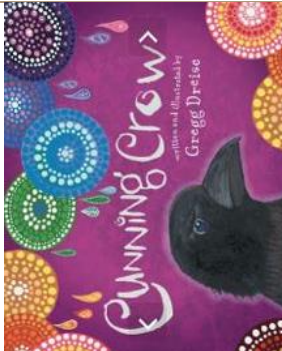
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<p>Our Race for Reconciliation</p> <p>Junior fiction novel</p> <p>2017</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Anita Heiss	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>A story of a young girl in the year 2000. Mel Gordon loves to run and she loves watching her idol Cathy Freeman run! With the Olympics being held in Australia that year, Mel and her family go to Sydney for an unforgettable journey resulting in them attending 'Corroboree 2000' – a march for all Australians to celebrate Australia's First Nations heritage and acknowledge past wrongs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sport (running) – Role models – Cathy Freeman – Sydney Olympics 2000 – Corroboree 2000 (the 'Walk for Reconciliation') – National Reconciliation Week – Truth-telling
<p>Once There Was a Boy</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2011</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Dub Leffler	 <p>Foundation-Year 6</p>	<p><i>Once there was a Boy</i> is a story about friendship, trust and forgiveness. A boy lives a simple and uncomplicated life on an island until a young girl suddenly appears. She is asked not to look under the boy's bed, but when she eventually succumbs to temptation, she breaks his heart. The reconciliation at the end of the book helps readers to understand the importance of sharing and thinking about other people's feelings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Friendship – Mistakes – Trust – Forgiveness – Reconciliation (a useful text for Reconciliation Week) – Symbolism
<p>Alfred's War</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Rachel Bin Salleh Samantha Fry	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p><i>Alfred's War</i> is a powerful story that unmask the lack of recognition given to Australian Indigenous servicemen who returned from the WWI battlelines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – ANZAC Day/ Remembrance Day – War – World War I – Racism – Mateship – Recognition

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<p>Dreaming Soldiers</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Catherine Bauer</p> <p>Shane McGrath</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>This is a touching friendship story about two young Australian boys in the 1900s; mates who do everything together, growing up side by side in the dusty cattle yards of a South Australian station and later on the dusty WWI battlefields. The simple story-telling combines with stunning images to honour the service of Australian veterans and highlight the important contribution of First Nations soldiers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australian military history – Civics and citizenship – Aboriginal people and contributions to war efforts – Racism – Community and remembrance – Mateship – Courage – Compassion, resilience, persistence, fear, hope and empathy
<p>Charlie's Swim</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p>	<p>Edith Wright</p> <p>Charmaine Ledden-Lewis</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>A heroic story (based on true events) about a young Aboriginal man who rescued a mother and her child during the Japanese attack on Broome WA in WWII.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – World War II – Heroism – Bravery – Broome, WA – Australian history – Historical narrative
<p>Come Together</p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Isaiah Firebrace</p> <p>Jaelyn Biumaiwai Keisha Leon</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p><i>Come Together</i> is a heart-warming, debut picture book written by pop artist Isaiah Firebrace. This essential book establishes a foundation of First Nations knowledge with 20 key topics, such as Acknowledgement of Country, identity, ceremony, caring for Country, traditional languages and the Dreaming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations and languages – Acknowledgement of Country – Identity – Ceremony – Country – The Dreaming – Influential First Nations people – Beliefs – Traditions – Lore/First Law – Tools and weapons – Bush foods – Aboriginal art – Music and dance

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>This Book Thinks Ya Deadly</u></p> <p>Illustrated compendium</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Corey Tutt</p> <p>Molly Hunt</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>This book is an inspirational, illustrated compendium that celebrates the diversity and success of First Nations People – Blak Excellence! 80 deadly Blakfellas are featured in this book. Each person is doing incredible things in their chosen field/s (e.g. sport, art, activism and science, through to politics, education and literature).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – First Nations people doing great things in their respective fields, including: Professor Marcia Langton, Miranda Tapsell, Tony Armstrong, Dr Anita Heiss, Danzal Baker (Baker Boy), Adam Goodes, Blak Douglas and more! – Role models – Inspiration
<p><u>The First Scientists</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p>	<p>Corey Tutt</p> <p>Blak Douglas</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>In consultation with communities, Corey tells us of many deadly feats – from bush medicine to bush trackers – that are today considered 'science', and introduces us to many amazing scientists, both past and present. The breadth of 'sciences' is incredible with six main chapters covering astronomy, engineering, forensic science, chemistry, land management and ecology. The First Scientists passed on the lessons of the land, sea and sky to the future scientists of today through stories, song and dance, and many of these lessons are now shared in this book.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal language, social and nation groups – Astronomy (Emu in the Sky) – Harvesting – Weather predictions – Engineering (boomerangs, fish traps, glue, spearheads, ropes, canoes, bush ovens) – David Unaipon – Bush tracking – Mapping – Bush medicine – Professor Lisa Jackson Pulver AM – Cultural burning – Colonisation – Lille Madden – Paul Sinclair – Aunty Rosie McGrady – Joe Williams – Protecting animals

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>The Deadly Science National Geographic Series</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Adaptations • Wild Weather • Life Cycles • Earth's Changing Surfaces • The Solar System • Animal Survival • How Plants Thrive • Renewable Resources <p>Non-fiction book series</p>	<p>National Geographic (Edited by Corey Tutt)</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>Books in this series will help students to investigate animal adaptations, life cycles, needs of living things, weather, astronomy and renewable resources – all of which link to the Australian Science Curriculum.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Animal adaptations – Needs of living things – Threats to living things – Life cycles – Weather – Natural disasters – Biology – Geology – Astronomy – Chemistry – Renewable resources – First Nations perspectives in science
<p><u>Young Dark Emu: A Truer History</u></p> <p>Non-fiction children's book</p> <p>2019</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Bruce Pascoe</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>Bruce Pascoe has brought together the research and compelling first-person accounts from his award-winning book <i>Dark Emu</i> this young reader edition (ages 10+).</p> <p>Using the accounts of early European explorers, colonists and farmers, Bruce Pascoe allows the reader to see Australia as it was upon European arrival — a land of cultivated farming areas, productive fisheries, permanent homes, and an understanding of the environment and its natural resources that supported thriving villages across the continent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal people – Different groups of Aboriginal people – Country – Australia before colonisation – Colonisers – First Fleet – <i>terra nullius</i> – Opposing views – Frontier violence – Aboriginal resistance – Agriculture – Land management – Changing landscapes – Fish traps – Water management – Shelters/structures – Food storage – Farming – Fire land management – Sacred places – Sustainability – Astronomy

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<p><u>Silly Birds</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2014</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Gregg Dreise</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>In this charming and humorous morality tale, Maliyan, a proud eagle meets a turkey, Wagun, who is a silly bird, and together these two new friends begin to do sillybird things. The Elders and Maliyan's parents are very disappointed, warning Maliyan that it's hard to soar like an eagle when you are surrounded by turkeys...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dreamtime (Dreaming) - Elders - Wisdom - Learning through looking and listening - Respect - Bragging and being silly - Friendships - Pollution - Greediness - Leadership - Traditions - Australian native birds - Aboriginal painting techniques (in illustrations) - Gamilaraay language
<p><u>Kookoo Kookaburra</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2015</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Gregg Dreise</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>Kookoo is a kind and well-loved kookaburra who is famous for entertaining the other bush creatures with his funny stories. One day Kookoo turns to teasing and making fun of the other animals. Kookoo finds himself alone and ignored by his friends. A morality tale that reminds young children that kindness is like a boomerang - if you throw it often, it comes back often.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dreamtime (Dreaming) - Elders - Wisdom - Aboriginal painting techniques (in illustrations) - Gamilaraay language - Australian native animals - Kindness - Teasing - Showing off - Emotions - Friendship


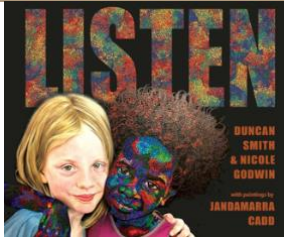
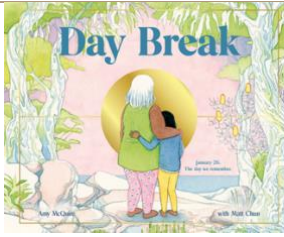
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<p><u>Mad Magpie</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2016</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Gregg Dreise	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>Inspired by wise sayings and the knowledge of Elders, <i>Mad Magpie</i> tells the story of Guluu, an angry magpie who is being teased by a gang of butcher birds. The more he is teased, the angrier he becomes. When Guluu seeks advice, his Elders tell him to stay calm like the river, ignore the butcher birds and to be strong on the inside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreamtime (Dreaming) – Elders – Advice and wisdom – Australian native birds – Teasing – Emotional regulation – Calming strategies (singing) – Aboriginal painting techniques (in illustrations) – Gamilaraay language
<p><u>Cunning Crow</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2019</p>	Gregg Dreise	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>In the Dreaming, all the birds were white and one of those white birds was a crow called Waan. When a magnificent rainbow appeared, the birds passed through the rainbow, one by one, their feathers took on its beautiful colours. Waan's feathers became a beautiful red and orange but he became jealous of the other birds and the colours of their feathers... A morality story reminding young children to be proud of their differences.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreamtime (Dreaming) – Elders – Country – Wisdom – Aboriginal painting techniques (in illustrations) – Gamilaraay language – Greediness – Opals – Sacred sites (from the author's message on the last page) – Fire – Descriptive language – Verbs

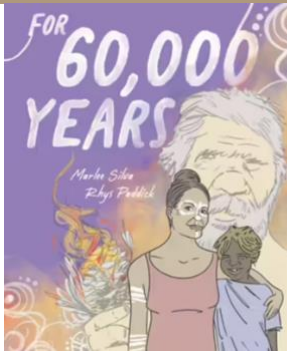
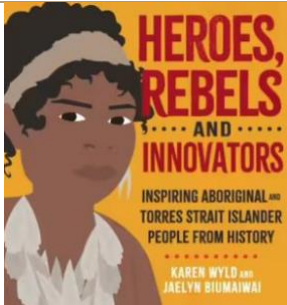
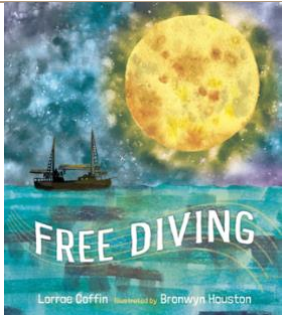
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<u>Awesome Emu</u> Picture book 2021	Gregg Dreise	 Foundation-Year 4	In the Dreaming, there was a very confident emu called Dinewah. Most animals thought he was a show-off, but he was too busy talking about himself to take any notice... Dinewah was determined to run and fly the furthest and the fastest. He even tried to fly to the Sun, but he never made it. Today, he is still up there in Father Sky. If you look carefully on dark nights, when the Moon isn't very bright, you can see the Awesome Emu. Many people know him as the Milky Way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreamtime (Dreaming) – Aboriginal painting techniques (in illustrations) – Elders – Country – Wisdom – Gamilaraay language – Astronomy – Confidence
<u>My Culture and Me</u> Picture book 2019	Gregg Dreise	 Foundation-Year 6	A stirring story about pride, respect and maintaining culture. Being Aboriginal is something to be proud of! This book encourages our youngfullas to learn their culture so they can keep it alive and pass it on one day!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identity – Pride – Traditions – Country – Ochre – Corroboree – Music and dance – Instruments (clap sticks and didgeridoo) – Elders – Maintaining and continuing culture – Descriptive language
<u>Super Snake</u> Picture book 2024	Gregg Dreise	 Foundation-Year 4	A charming morality tale of the Rainbow Serpent and the creation of the Darling River.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreamtime (Dreaming) – The Rainbow Serpent – The Darling River – Creation stories – Aboriginal beliefs – Weather – Drought – Water – Rainbow – Elders – Gamilaraay language – Aboriginal art (in illustrations)

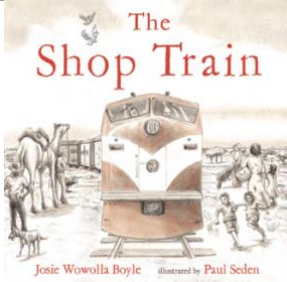

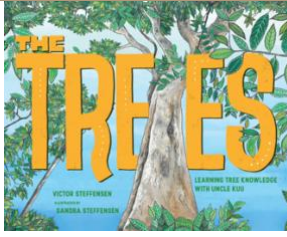
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Marngrook</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2012</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Titta Secombe</p> <p>Grace Fielding</p>	 <p>Years 1-4</p>	<p>Based on the sometimes controversial theory of how Australian Rules Football developed from 'marngrook', a ball game played by Aboriginal people in north west Victoria more than 150 years ago. The story takes place at the foot of Duwul, the highest mountain in the spectacular Grampians region of north west Victoria and the traditional country of the Djab-Wurrung and Jardwadjali clans. When Wawi notices that the children only have old toys to play with, he goes for a walk to see what he can find.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AFL – Traditional Aboriginal games – Country – Clans – Traditional custodians – Learning new skills – Significant Aboriginal sites
<p><u>Kick with my Left Foot</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2014</p>	<p>Paul Seden</p> <p>Karen Briggs</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>A simple, repetitive, cheerful story about a young boy playing Australia's favourite game.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Left and right – Verbs – Could use as a hook to teach tying shoelaces – PE skills – bounce, catch, run, kick
<p><u>Going to the Footy</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2019</p>	<p>Debbie Coombes</p>	 <p>Foundation</p>	<p>This strikingly beautiful book with highly original artwork by Debbie Coombes in a vibrant Tiwi style, will showcase many different ways to get 'to the footy' (e.g. in a tinny, a troopy or on a barge).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Transport (plane, barge, 'tinny', canoe, bus, van, 'troopy', car, trailbike) – Football – Aboriginal art (uniquely Tiwi Island art)

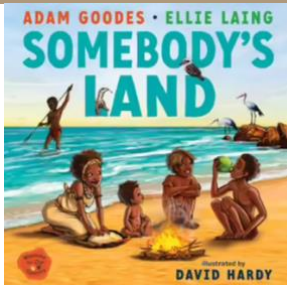
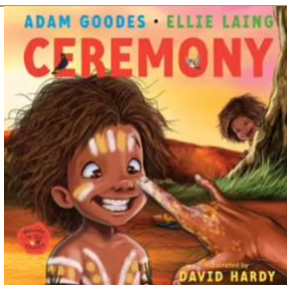
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<u>A Footy Tail</u> Picture book 2023	Alex Johnston Gregg Dreise	 Foundation-Year 4	Inspired by the South Sydney Rabbitohs and written by NRL star Alex Johnston, this rhyming picture book is about an underdog team of bunnies who are up against the stronger teams of animals in a wonderful story of unity, togetherness, resilience and teamwork.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NRL – Sport (footy) – Teamwork – Determination – Unity – Togetherness – Resilience
<u>My Deadly Boots</u> Picture book 2022	Carl Merrison Hakea Hustler Samantha Campbell	 Foundation-Year 2	A joyous, empowering story about finding confidence within yourself – boots or no boots!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sport (footy) – Self confidence – Saving money – Aboriginal English – Stereotypes – Identity
<u>Backyard Footy</u> Picture book 2024	Carl Merrison Samantha Campbell	 Foundation-Year 2	Jy is playing football alone in his small backyard in the Kimberley, but when he accidentally kicks the ball over the fence, a footy adventure begins! Footy by yourself is fun but playing with mates is better.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sport (footy) – AFL – Friends – Teammates – Sharing – Kicking and catching skills – Living in the Kimberley
<u>Finding Our Heart</u> Picture book 2020	Thomas Mayo Blak Douglas	 Years 2-6	A book about understanding Australia's past, so we can have a shared future. <i>"We will only find the heart of our nation and make our country better when First Nations voices are heard. Will you help find the heart of the nation?"</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Uluru Statement – Australian history – Rights – Colonisation/ invasion – Impacts of invasion on Aboriginal people – Mistreatment – Truth-telling

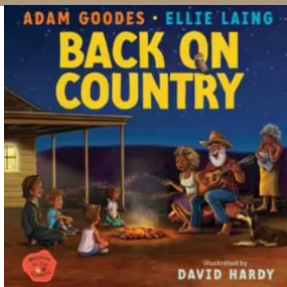
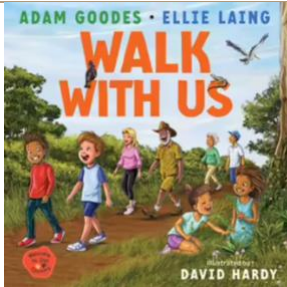
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Freedom Day: Vincent Lingiari and the story of the Wave Hill Walk-Off</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p>	<p>Rosie Smiler Thomas Mayo</p> <p>Samantha Campbell</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>In 1966, more than two hundred courageous Aboriginal people walked off the Wave Hill Cattle Station in the Northern Territory. Led by Vincent Lingiari, these stockmen and their families were walking together to fight for equal pay and land rights. <i>Freedom Day</i> delves into the events that led up to this moment, and makes a rallying cry for the things that still need to change in its wake.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Vincent Lingiari – The Wave Hill Walk Off – Freedom Day Festival – Gurindji people and Country – Ancestors – Pre-contact life – Lore/First Law – Invasion – <i>terra nullius</i> – Impacts of invasion on Aboriginal people – “Settlers” vs “Invaders” viewpoints – Racism – Mistreatment – Massacres – Slavery – Significant sites – Truth-telling – Strike/protest – Unions – Bravery/courage – Land rights – The Uluru Statement
<p><u>From Little Things Big Things Grow</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Paul Kelly Kev Carmody</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>The lyrics for the iconic Australian song 'From Little Things Big Things Grow' appears here for the first time in a beautiful book for all ages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Vincent Lingiari – Stolen wages – The Wave Hill Walk Off – Gurindji people and Country – Strike/protest – Racism – Mistreatment – Truth-telling – Land rights – Music (song: ‘From Little Things Big Things Grow)

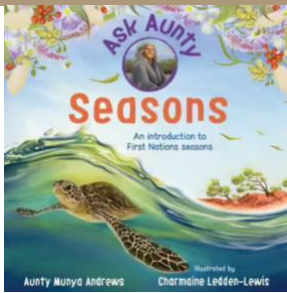
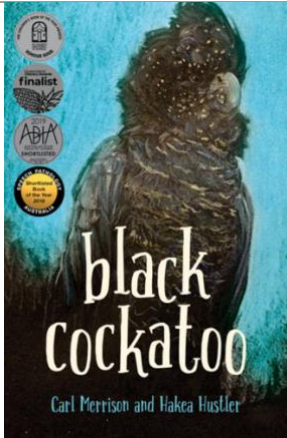
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>We are Australians</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Duncan Smith Nicole Godwin</p> <p>Jandamarra Cadd</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p><i>We are Australians</i> explores what it truly means to be an Australian citizen and encourages us to consider what our societal responsibilities are. The short, powerful phrases coupled with the expressive illustrations encourage readers to walk forward together.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Citizenship – Values – Respect – Responsibilities – Reconciliation – Belonging – Listening
<p>Listen</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Duncan Smith Nicole Godwin</p> <p>Jandamarra Cadd</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p>The short, powerful phrases coupled with the expressive illustrations encourages readers to reflect on the importance of listening and truth-telling in response to Australia's complex history.</p> <p><i>"Listen carefully. And you will hear the voices of Ancestors. Speaking to us. Guiding us. Leading us on the path to knowledge of culture, of Country. To reconciliation. Listen."</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Listening – Truth-telling – Respect – Australian history – Ancestors – Wisdom and guidance – Responsibilities
<p>Day Break</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Amy McQuire</p> <p>Matt Chun</p>	 <p>Years 2-6</p>	<p><i>Day Break</i> is the story of a family making their way back to Country on January 26. We see the strength they draw from being together, and from sharing stories as they move through a shifting landscape. The story refocuses the narratives around 'Australia Day' on First Nations survival and resistance, and in doing so honours the past while looking to the future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australia Day/ Invasion Day/ Survival Day/ Day of Mourning (January 26) – Resilience – Respect – Different opinions – Truth-telling – Connection to Country – Family – Ancestors – Frontier Wars

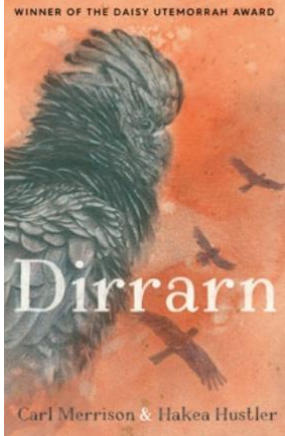
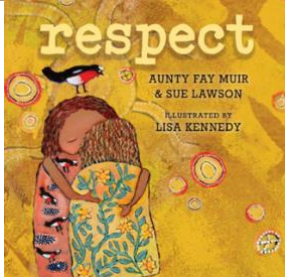
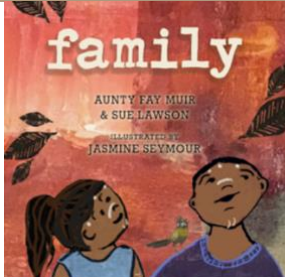
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>For 60,000 Years</p> <p>Picture Book</p> <p>2024</p>	<p>Marlee Silva</p> <p>Rhys Paddick</p>	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p>In 2021, Marlee Silva wrote a poem about January 26th which was a reflection of First Nations history, survival and her hopes for the future. She posted it on Instagram and now it's a children's picture book with stunning illustrations by Yamatji man Rhys Paddick.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australia Day/ Invasion Day/ Survival Day/ Day of Mourning (January 26) – Resilience – Strength – Survival – Truth-telling – Australian history – Poetry
<p>Heroes, Rebels and Innovators: Inspiring Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People from History</p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p>	<p>Karen Wyld</p> <p>Jaelyn Biumaiwai</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>This book is powerful and exciting, and tells us seven inspiring stories about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Patyegarang – Bungaree – Tarenorerer – Yarri & Jacky Jacky – Mohara Wacando-Lifu – David Unaipon – Fanny Balbulk Yooreel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Inspiring First Nations people from history – First contact – First Nations languages – Recognition – Resistance – Frontier wars – Bravery – Inventions
<p>Free Diving</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2017</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Lorrae Coffin</p> <p>Bronwyn Houston</p>	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p>A poignant tribute to the Aboriginal men and women who worked in the pearling industry as 'free divers' in the late nineteenth century in Western Australia. The fictionalised lyrical narrative is based on the celebrated song 'Free Diving' by singer-songwriter Lorrae Coffin. It sensitively reflects the emotional journey of a young man who leaves family and Country to work on a lugger with Japanese and Malay divers by his side.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Two National Cross-curriculum priorities (Asia and Australia's Relationship with Asia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and Histories) – Pearling industry – Music (song: 'Free Diving') – Family – Country

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>The Shop Train</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teachers Notes</p>	<p>Josie Wowolla Boyle</p> <p>Paul Seden</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>The Shop Train</i> was inspired by the 'Tea and Sugar train' that began operating in 1917 to provide supplies and services for rail workers and people living in remote communities between Port Augusta in South Australia and Kalgoorlie in Western Australia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Wonghi Country – The Tea and Sugar Train – Remote communities – Australian history – Family – Historical narrative – Descriptive language – Possible model text for adjectives and/or adverbs
<p>Looking After Country with Fire: Aboriginal Burning Knowledge with Uncle Kuu</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Victor Steffensen</p> <p>Sandra Steffensen</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 6</p>	<p><i>Looking After Country with Fire</i> demonstrates respect for Aboriginal fire knowledge. For thousands of years, First Nations people have listened and responded to the land and made friends with fire, using this knowledge to encourage plants and seeds to flourish. Join Uncle Kuu as he explains cultural burning out on Country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fire – Caring for Country – Observing Country – Animals – Land management – Cultural burning – Bushfire prevention – Sustainability – Regeneration – Learning from Elders – Respect – Impacts of colonisation – Music (lyrics and music for a song provided at the back of the book)
<p>The Trees</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Victor Steffensen</p> <p>Sandra Steffensen</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 6</p>	<p>Take a walk with Uncle Kuu in <i>The Trees</i>, a powerful and timely picture book about caring for Country and respecting First Nations knowledge. First Nations People have cared for the trees on Country for thousands of years. In return, the trees look after the people and provide them with gifts of seeds, flowers, wood and more. This creates the balance between giving and taking from the land.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Trees – Country – Caring for Country – Healing Country – Reciprocity – Balance – Deforestation – Sustainability – Lore/First Law – Elders – Ancestors – Music (lyrics and music to the song 'We are the Trees' provided at the back of the book as well as a QR code to watch the song on YouTube)

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<p>Somebody's Land</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Teachers Notes</p>	<p>Adam Goodes Ellie Laing</p> <p>David Hardy</p>	 <p>Years 1-4</p>	<p>An accessible picture book for young children that introduces First Nations history and the term 'terra nullius' to young readers. <i>Somebody's Land</i> is an invitation to connect with First Nations culture, to acknowledge the hurt of the past, and to join together as one community with a precious shared history as old as time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <i>terra nullius</i> – Life for First Nations peoples before colonisation – Australian history – Truth-telling – Healing – Reconciliation – Acknowledgement of Country
<p>Ceremony</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teachers Notes</p>	<p>Adam Goodes Ellie Laing</p> <p>David Hardy</p>	 <p>Years 1-4</p>	<p><i>Ceremony</i> invites you to celebrate the rich traditions of dance, family, community and caring for Country from the world's oldest continuous culture. The ceremony in this book is a celebration of the change of season, an ancient cultural practice of the Adnyamathanha people and many other Aboriginal clan groups around Australia.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ceremony – Traditions – Aboriginal dance – Caring for Country – Family/community – Moieties/kinship – Ochre – Traditional shelters (in illustrations) – Adnyamathanha people, culture and Yura ngarwala language (QR code provided in the book so you can hear Adam Goodes read the story – including the language words)

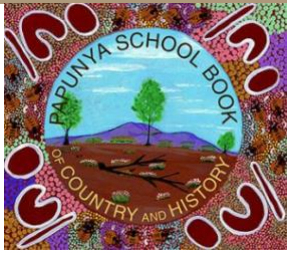
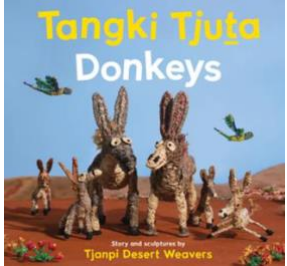
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Back on Country</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teachers Notes</p>	<p>Adam Goodes Ellie Laing</p> <p>David Hardy</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>A joyful story about the power of reconnecting to family, culture and Country. It's Lucy and David's first time back on Country. They meet their cousins and Elders, and see special places, learn local language words and hear stories as old as time. Join them to feel the strength that comes from being back on Country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Connection to Country, family and culture – Kinship/moieties – Elders – Roles and responsibilities – Language – Storytelling – Identity – Welcome to Country – Smoking ceremony – Fire – Ancestors – Ochre – Ceremony – Cave paintings – Aboriginal art – Bush foods – Astronomy – Seasons – Dreaming stories – Adnyamathanha people, culture and Yura ngarwala language (QR code provided in the book so you can hear Adam Goodes read the story – including the language words)
<p>Walk with Us</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Adam Goodes Ellie Laing</p> <p>David Hardy</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>Walk with Us</i> invites readers to find out more about the First Nations Country where they live. Harvey and Mum are heading to their favourite park for a walk on Cammeraygal land. Inspired by the Uluru Statement from the Heart, <i>Walk With Us</i> is an invitation to go on a journey of learning and appreciation - with family, with friends, and with our nation - together.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cammeraygal land – Storytelling – Uluru Statement from the Heart – Aboriginal language (QR code provided in the book so you can hear Ellie Laing read the story) – Bush foods – Making canoes from tree trunks – Caring for Country – Sustainability

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Ask Aunty: Seasons, an Introduction to First Nations Seasons</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Aunty Munya Andrews</p> <p>Charmaine Ledden-Lewis</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>A delightful and educational picture book for children that introduces First Nations seasonal calendars. Aunty Munya explains how there are six seasons on her Country. For First Nations People, the seasons don't change when the calendar does. Instead, changes in plants, animals, water, weather, fire and the stars indicate when the seasons change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – First Nations seasons – Bardi seasons – Bardi Country – Bardi language – Observing Country – Bush foods/bush tucker – Weather
<p><u>Black Cockatoo</u></p> <p>Junior fiction novel</p> <p>2018</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Carl Merrison</p> <p>Hakea Hustler</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p><i>Black Cockatoo</i> is a vignette that follows Mia, a young Aboriginal girl from a remote community in the Kimberley. She is saddened by the loss of her brother as he distances himself from the family. She feels powerless to change the things she sees around her, until one day she rescues her totem animal, the <i>dirran</i> black cockatoo, and soon discovers her own inner strength. A wonderful small tale on the power of standing up for yourself, culture and ever-present family ties.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identity – Culture – Family – Relationships – Totems – Black cockatoos – Sustainability – Choices – Consequences – Jaru language – Figurative language – Characterisation – Imagery

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Dirrarn</u></p> <p>Junior fiction novel</p> <p>2023</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Carl Merrison Hakea Hustler</p> <p>Dub Leffler</p>	 <p>Years 5-6</p>	<p>We first met Mia in <i>Black Cockatoo</i>, as she navigated her way through culture, Country and familial ties. <i>Dirrarn</i> follows Mia as she finds herself at boarding school and the challenges of living thousands of kilometres away from home, family, and the big sky country she loves. Mia along with her best friend, Naya, negotiate new friends, new ways of thinking and new ways of being in a different world.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identity – Culture – Family – Relationships – Totems – Black cockatoos – Change – Bullying – Boarding school – Strength and courage – Country – Noongar Country – Coming of age – Men’s Business – Jaru culture – Jaru language – Similes and metaphors – Smoking ceremony
<p><u>Respect</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Aunty Fay Muir Sue Lawson</p> <p>Lisa Kennedy</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>This eloquent and delicate story shows young and old alike, what respect looks like for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples – listening, learning and sharing. “Our way is respect. We listen. Learn. Share. We respect Country, each other, me.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Respect – Family – Elders – Ancestors – Country – Storytelling – Listening – Sharing – Traditions and protocols – Beliefs – The Dreaming – Figurative language
<p><u>Family</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Aunty Fay Muir Sue Lawson</p> <p>Jasmine Seymour</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>Family</i> is a thoughtful contemplation for all to learn the different ways that family makes us whole. This beautifully illustrated children’s picture book shows everyone that ‘family’ can be about heart and home; an endless sky; stories and songs. Families come in all shapes and sizes, and this remarkably simple story teaches us, that family can be many things.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family – Elders – Ancestors – Aunties and Uncles – Country – Identity – Story and song – Respect – Figurative language

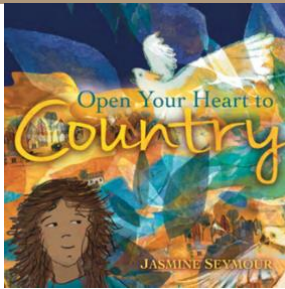
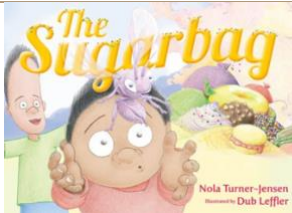
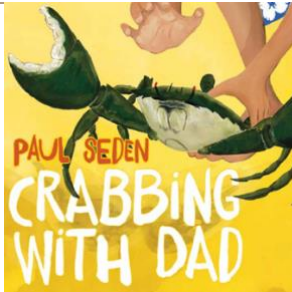
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Sharing</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2021</p>	<p>Aunty Fay Muir Sue Lawson</p> <p>Leanne Mulgo Watson</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>A tender, thoughtful story with a gentle reminder of all the ways sharing makes us stronger.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sharing (food, water, fire, plants and trees, stories, art) – Aboriginal symbols (in illustrations) – Aboriginal art – Weaving and making tools from Country – Storytelling – Bush foods/bush tucker – Sustainability (taking only what you need) – Care for Country – Reciprocity
<p><u>The Art in Country: A Treasury for Children</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p>	<p>Bronwyn Bancroft</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 6</p>	<p><i>The Art in Country</i> is a treasury of Bronwyn Bancroft's four books:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Colours of Australia – Shapes of Australia – Why I Love Australia – Patterns of Australia <p>This collection celebrates the colours, shapes and patterns of Country. Bronwyn uses descriptive language and bold artworks to explore the awe-inspiring beauty of the Australian continent and to express the depth of her feelings for it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal art – Elements of art – Colours – Shapes – Patterns – Connection to Country – Descriptive language – Similes – Metaphors – Alliteration
<p><u>Ngaginybe Jarragbe, My Story.</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Shirley Purdie</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>Told in English and Gija, this is Shirley Purdie's life story, told alongside her stunning paintings. In <i>Ngaginybe Jarragbe, My Story</i>, Shirley shares vignettes of her life growing up on Mabel Downs station, and her Gija Culture, Country and Dreaming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal art – Family history – Pastoral era – Gija culture, language and Dreaming – Connection to Country – Elders – Bush foods and hunting – Storytelling – Autobiography

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Albert Namatjira</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Vincent Namatjira</p>	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p>Award-winning artist Vincent Namatjira tells the life story of his great-grandfather, Albert Namatjira, one of Australia's most iconic artists. Vincent's witty and moving paintings are accompanied by evocative text, which records the pivotal moments in Albert's life. This poignant children's book provides an important tool for discussion about Australia's art history, and a launching pad for exploration of the key moments in Australia's Aboriginal Rights movement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albert Namatjira - Vincent Namatjira - Western Aranda (Arrernte, Arranta, Arranda) - Mission childhood - Cultural knowledge exchange - Aboriginal art - Art inspiration - Painting Country - Success and fame - Citizenship - Laws - Punishments - Prison - Living in "two worlds" - Timelines - Australian history
<p><u>Kunyi</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Kunyi June Anne McInerney</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p><i>Kunyi</i> is written and illustrated by Kunyi June Anne McInerney, a Yankunytjatjara woman, who tells the stories of her childhood growing up at the Oodnadatta Children's Home. Through an extraordinary collection of over 60 paintings, accompanied by stories, <i>Kunyi</i> presents a rare chronicle of what life was like for her. It depicts a story of how children came together to survive the hardship of being stripped away from Country, culture and family. Telling these stories helps to heal affected families and provide truth-telling of Australia's history.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stolen Generations - Aboriginal art - Personal history - Australian history - Oodnadatta Children's Home - Loss and grief - Strength and resilience - Healing and reconciliation - Yankunytjatjara people, culture and language - Connection to Country - Identity - Truth-telling

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Papunya School Book of Country And History</p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2001</p>	<p>Collaboration involving the staff and students of Papunya School, working together with children's writer Nadia Wheatley and artist Ken Searle.</p>	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p>This book tells the story of how the Anangu people from five different language groups came to live together at Papunya. From the first contact with explorers, missionaries and pastoralists, through to the Papunya art movement and the Warumpi Band, this multi-layered text leads us to the unique environment that is Papunya School.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aboriginal people - Central Australia - Elders/Community - Dreaming stories - Aboriginal languages (Luritja) - Connection to Country - Conflict - <i>terra nullius</i> - Farming - Missions - Transport - Health - Aboriginal art - Papunya art movement - Government policies - Aboriginal music - Fact and opinion - Compare and contrast (e.g. farmers and Aboriginal people) - How different authors represent and interpret events - Timelines - Sequencing - Mapping (pages 27 and 29)
<p>Tangki Tjuta – Donkeys</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher notes</p>	<p>Tjanpi Desert Weavers</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>Fresh, funny and highly original, <i>Tangki Tjuta – Donkeys</i> is an endearing dual language story about how donkeys came to be a rich part of life for one Aboriginal community. Told in Pitjantjatjara and English. A QR code is provided so you can listen to a reading of the book in both languages.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tjanpi Desert Weavers - Art (sculptures) - Weaving - Women artists - Storytelling - Country - Pitjantjatjara language - Community - Family - Creativity - Humour - Introduced species - Donkeys - Family history - Bush foods (witchetty grubs, figs, honey ants, quandongs) - Tools (spears) - Shelters

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Our World: Life at Ardiyooloon</p> <p>Non-fiction book</p> <p>2010</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Collaboration involving the staff and students of One Arm Point Community School, working together with the local community and Elders</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>This book gives a rare glimpse into the lives of the children of a remote Indigenous community in Western Australia. The children carry on the culture of the Bardi Jaawi people as they build fish traps, make spears and boomerangs, hunt crabs, turtles and dugong, learn traditional dances and share traditional stories.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal languages (Bardi) – Passing knowledge to the next generations – Ancestors – Elders – Culture – Wisdom – Local history – Family roles – Spears – Fishing – Crabbing – Finding water – Spearing – Making shields – Earth ovens – Saltwater animals – Tides – Traditional stories – Bush food – Using fish poison – Pearling – Animal tracks – Aboriginal art symbols – Boomerangs – Kinship – Fish traps – Seasons – Sustainability – Aboriginal art – Aboriginal dance – Procedure writing – Fact and opinion
<p>Sea Country</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Aunty Patsy Cameron</p> <p>Lisa Kennedy</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>In this delightful children's picture book, Aunty Patsy Cameron generously shares the stories and traditions from her family's seasonal island life in Tasmania.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Flinders Island, Tasmania – Pairebeenne Trawlwoolway clan – Culture – Country – Stories – Seasons – Bush foods – Identity – Elders – Family – Personal recollections – Vignettes

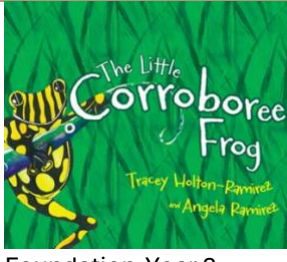
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Brother Moon</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Maree McCarthy Yoelu</p> <p>Samatha Fry</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>Brother Moon</i> is a powerful story lovingly told by a great-grandfather to his great-grandson. Beneath the dark sky of the Northern Territory, Hippy-Boy is captivated when Great-Grandpa Liman tells him the mysterious story of his brother, the moon, and how it guides his connection to Country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family – Storytelling – Astronomy – Hunting and fishing – Connection to Country
<p><u>Baby Business</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2019</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Jasmine Seymour</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>Baby Business</i> tells the story of a Darug baby smoking ceremony that welcomes baby to Country. The smoke is protects the baby and reminds them that they belong. This beautiful ritual is recounted in a way young children will completely relate to. Darug language words are integrated throughout, with a glossary at the back.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ceremony – Baby smoking ceremony – Welcome to Country – Traditions – Darug beliefs – Darug language – Totems – Kinship – Lore/First Law – Community – Caring for Country – Connection to Country
<p><u>Cooee Mittigar</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2019</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Jasmine Seymour</p> <p>Leanne Mulgo Watson</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p><i>Cooee Mittigar</i>, meaning ‘come here friend’, is an invitation to yana (walk), on Darug Country. The author and illustrator tell a story on Darug Songlines, introducing children and adults-alike to Darug Nura (Country) and language.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreaming – Darug Language – Darug Country – Ceremonie – Songlines – Lore/First Law – Seasons – Totems – Storytelling

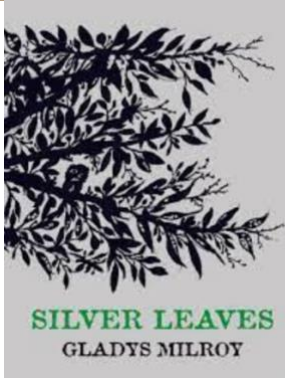
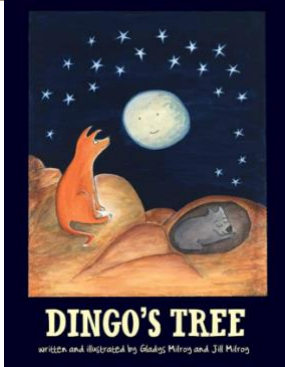
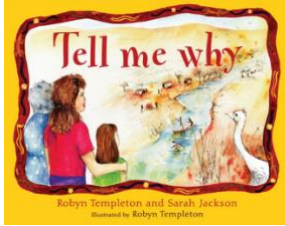

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Open your Heart to Country</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Jasmine Seymour	 <p>Years 2-6</p>	<p>A bilingual story of healing and belonging. Told in English and Dharug, <i>Open Your Heart to Country</i> is a moving account of re-connection to Country from a First Nations perspective. Sharing the nourishing power of returning home and being immersed in the language of Country, this picture book invites readers to reflect on the importance of place, not only for First Nations' peoples but for everyone.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dharug language – Language revitalisation – Connection to Country – Identity – Spirituality – Storytelling – Descriptive language
<p>The Sugarbag</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2012</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Nola Turner-Jensen</p> <p>Dub Leffler</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>An adventure story of two young brothers who, on their way to visit their grandfather, encounter a tiny native bee and hope it will lead them to some delicious sugarbag (honey). <i>“Sugarbag is a favourite treat for Aboriginal people. We call it ngarruu. When Grandfather was a little boy, he went hunting for ngarruu with his father,” Jimmy explained proudly.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sugarbag/honey (ngarruu – in Wiradjuri language) – Native, stingless bees – Bush foods/bush tucker – Storytelling – Passing on cultural knowledge to the next generation
<p>Crabbing with Dad</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2016</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Paul Seden	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>Crabbing with Dad</i> is a beautiful children's picture book about the adventures of two small children as they go out in the boat with Dad to set crab pots in their secret spot. Dad teaches the children how to handle the crabs very carefully so they don't get nipped!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Crabs – Crabbing – Bush foods/bush tucker – Mangroves – Creeks and waterways – Tides – Navigation – Family – Collecting bush tucker with modern tools/methods

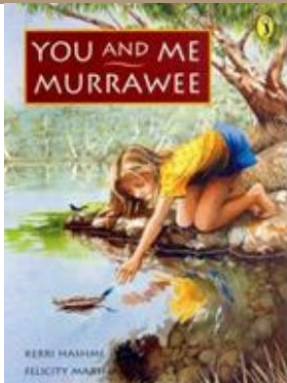
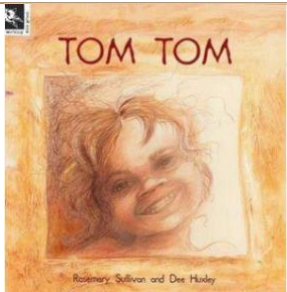
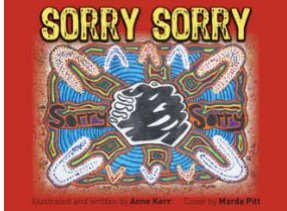
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Waru and Dhangal visit the Torres Strait Islands</p> <p>Picture book</p>	<p>Connecting the Dots through Culture</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>“Waru the turtle and Dhangal the dugong miss Zenadth Kes, Torres Strait Islands, and want to go back for a visit. With the help of their Kindy friends, they get back to the Islands and have a deadly adventure in their Community.”</i></p> <p>Full of vibrant images and informative text this book is a great way to include Torres Strait Island culture in your classroom, and serves as a handy starting point for further exploration of the Torres Strait Islands.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait Islands) – Torres Strait Islander communities, culture and language – Animals in the Torres Strait
<p>Wandihnu and the Old Dugong</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2007</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Elizabeth and Wandihnu Wymarra</p> <p>Benjamin Hodges</p>	 <p>Years 1-4</p>	<p>A contemporary story about a young girl who has grown up in the city and who is to return to Badu Island to stay with her aka (grandmother). It is time for Wandihnu to learn about the customs and culture of her people who come from the Torres Strait. Wandihnu learns a great lesson when she refuses to learn Kala Lagaw Ya, her native Torres Strait language. When her aka becomes sick Wandihnu is required to get medicinal oil from the old dugong to heal her. But the old dugong won’t listen, he only speaks Kala Lagaw Ya. If only Wandihnu had paid attention...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait Islands) – Torres Strait Islander communities, culture and language (Kala Lagaw Ya) – Badu Island – Connection to culture – Listening to and respecting Elders – Family – Identity – Dugongs – Compare and contrast (life in Sydney versus Badu Island) – Dreaming

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Is this your Egg?</u></p> <p>Picture book</p>	<p>Ella Kris</p> <p>Emma Cracknell</p>	 <p>Foundation</p>	<p>A young crab encounters a range of animals including terns, snakes, crabs, crocodiles and goannas in his search for the owner of an egg. There are Meriam Mer words for each animal for children to try. This book about eggs and the creatures they come from is a fun way for children to learn about lifecycles, differences and animal life on the beach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Zenadth Kes (the Torres Strait Islands) – Meriam Mer language – Animals (crabs, terns, snakes, crocodiles, goannas, turtles) – Animal habitats – Life cycles – Belonging
<p><u>Ros Moriarty and Balarinji Design Studio Series</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's That There? • Bush Tracks • Ten Scared Fish • Who Saw Turtle? • The Rainbow • Summer Rain • Kangaroos Hop • Splosh for the Billabong <p>Picture books</p> <p>2012-2018</p>	<p>Ros Moriarty</p> <p>Balarinji Design Studio</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>Simple, bright and cheerful books for early childhood and lower primary students that can be used to learn about Aboriginal art, native animals and Country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal art – Animals – Animal migration – Animal tracking – Numbers and counting – Mapping (aerial landscape views) – Seasons – Onomatopoeia – Nouns, verbs and adjectives – Aboriginal languages

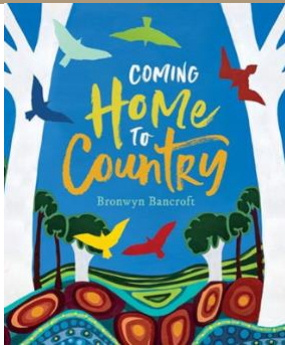
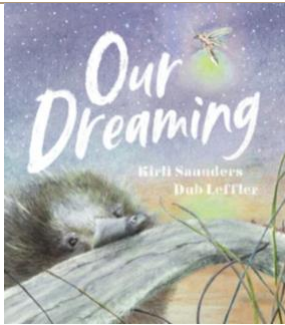
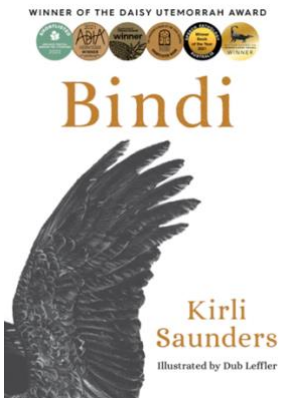
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Bush Tucker Counting</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Maureen Glover</p> <p>Gabrielle Fry</p>	 <p>MAUREEN GLOVER · GABRIELLE FRY</p> <p>Bush Tucker Counting</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>Join two young girls as they spend the day collecting delicious bush tucker to put in their coolamon. <i>Bush Tucker Counting</i> depicts various bush tucker from the North of Australia and introduces young readers to ordinal numbers, adjectives and alliteration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Bush foods/bush tucker – Country – Coolamon – Counting – Adjectives – Alliteration
<p><u>Colour Me</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2017</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Ezekiel Kwaymullina</p> <p>Moira Court</p>	 <p>Colour me</p> <p>Ezekiel Kwaymullina and Moira Court</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>"We are all different. But together we colour our world amazing."</i></p> <p>Using the rainbow as a metaphor for our diversity and uniqueness, this gorgeous picture book celebrates every individual colour as well as the power of their combination.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Colours – Diversity – Uniqueness – Creativity – Nature and wildlife – Animals – Animal habitats – Verbs – Adjectives – Nouns – Similes – Alliteration
<p><u>I Love Me!</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2003</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Sally Morgan</p> <p>Ambelin Kwaymullina</p>	 <p>I LOVE ME!</p> <p>Sally Morgan & Ambelin Kwaymullina</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>This book celebrates individuality, confidence, pride and self-esteem, in a bouncy, rhythmic prose with bright illustrations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Self-esteem – Individuality – Confidence – Pride
<p><u>ABC Dreaming</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2015</p>	<p>Warren Brim</p>	 <p>WARREN BRIM</p> <p>abc Dreaming</p> <p>Foundation</p>	<p>A unique Australian ABC book featuring the artwork of celebrated Queensland artist Warren Brim. <i>ABC Dreaming</i> introduces young children to the alphabet through Australian plants and animals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alphabet – Australian plants and animals – Aboriginal art (in illustrations)

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<p>The River</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p>	<p>Sally Morgan</p> <p>Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr</p>	 <p>the river</p> <p>Sally Morgan & Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>The River</i> takes the reader on a journey of what their eyes can see and their ears can hear. See green ants crawling, hear frogs croaking, a goanna running, a fish splashing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Freshwater Country and animals – Traditional Yolŋu art styles in illustrations (cross-hatching) – Connecting to Country – Senses – Verbs – Adjectives – Nouns – Questions and answers
<p>Thank you rain!</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Sally Morgan</p> <p>Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr</p>	 <p>Thank you rain!</p> <p>Sally Morgan & Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>Thank you rain!</i> is a joyful read and is full of plants and animals that welcome rain. It celebrates the new life and sense of renewal that comes with rain. Sally Morgan uses a simple, poetic text structure to describe the replenishment and joy that comes when we have water!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Water – Rain – Weather – Rainbows – Needs of living things – Gratitude – Animals – Habitats – Country – Change – Renewal – Traditional Yolŋu art styles in illustrations (cross-hatching) – Onomatopoeia
<p>Benny Bungarra's Big Bush Clean Up</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2018</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Sally Morgan</p> <p>Ambelin Kwaymullina</p>	 <p>BENNY BUNGARRA'S big bush clean-up</p> <p>Sally Morgan & Ambelin Kwaymullina</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>Benny Bungarra comes to the rescue when his friends are in danger from rubbish left by humans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australian animals – Sustainability – Reduce, reuse, recycle – Caring for the environment – Teamwork – Problem-solving – Pollution – danger to animals – Onomatopoeia – Verbs
<p>The Little Corroboree Frog</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2013</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Tracey Holton-Ramirez</p> <p>Angela Ramirez</p>	 <p>The Little Corroboree Frog</p> <p>Tracey Holton-Ramirez & Angela Ramirez</p> <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>A story of an endangered species of frog that is found in the snowy alpine regions of Kosciuszko National Park in NSW. Danger looms as humans threaten the frogs' habitat while they await the birth of their tadpoles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Corroboree frogs – Endangered species – Native species – Life cycles – Habitat – Danger – Climate change – Pollution – Caring for Country

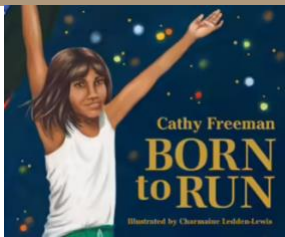
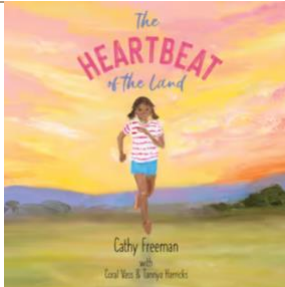
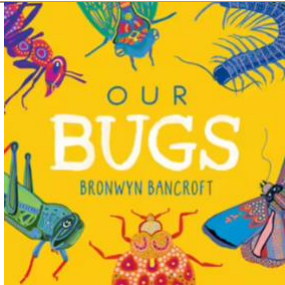
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p>Silver Leaves</p> <p>Illustrated chapter book</p> <p>2022</p>	Gladys Milroy	 <p>SILVER LEAVES GLADYS MILROY</p> <p>Years 1-4</p>	A beautiful story about conservation, working together and hope.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Caring for Country – Native birds – Goanna – Deforestation – Change – Environmental conservation – Regeneration – Teamwork – Hope
<p>Dingo's Tree</p> <p>Illustrated chapter book</p> <p>2012</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Gladys Milroy Jill Milroy	 <p>DINGO'S TREE written and illustrated by Gladys Milroy and Jill Milroy</p> <p>Years 1-6</p>	This is the story of Dingo, Wombat, Crow and their friends as they struggle to exist alongside the devastation of mining that is tearing up their beautiful homeland. This powerful children's cautionary tale on the destruction and havoc that mining causes to the land and to community is both touching and hard-hitting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Country – Connection to Country – Caring for Country – Environmental conservation – River systems – Rain – Custodianship – Friendship – Community – Sharing – Native animals – The moon – Mining – Destruction – Consequences – Leadership – Sacrifice
<p>Tell Me Why</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2004</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Robyn Templeton Sarah Jackson	 <p>Tell me why</p> <p>Robyn Templeton and Sarah Jackson Illustrated by Robyn Templeton</p> <p>Foundation-Year 6</p>	The true story of a young girl's search for identity and desire to understand her Aboriginality. Seven-year-old Sarah goes to her great-grandmother and asks questions about her family. This universal feel-good story looks at how family history shapes our childhood journeys.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identity – Family – Stolen Generations – Racism – Belonging – Passing cultural knowledge and family histories to younger generations – Skin colour/appearance – Aboriginality
<p>Fair Skin Black Fella</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2010</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	Renee Fogarty	 <p>Fair Skin Black Fella</p> <p>Renee Fogarty</p> <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>"Colour is a state of mind."</i></p> <p>This book explores the issue of skin colour for First Nations Australians.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginality – Identity – Aboriginal traditional language (Wiradjuri) – Elders – Respect – Aboriginal English – Adjectives

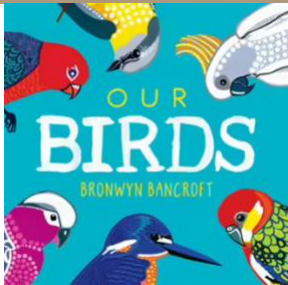
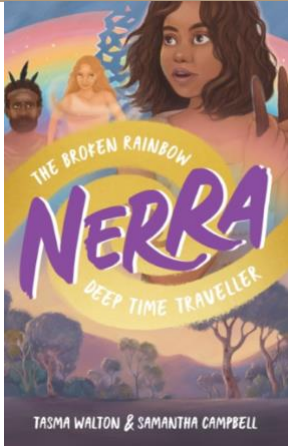
TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>You and Me Murrawee</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>1998</p>	<p>Kerri Hashmi</p> <p>Felicity Marshall</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>This eloquently written story captures life through the innocent eyes of a young girl camping with her family on the river, offering glimpses into a world as it might have existed two centuries ago.</p> <p><i>'We walk this same brown earth - you and me, Murrawee...'</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal people – Family roles – Food (duck eggs, roots and fish) – Tools (digging stick, spear, coolamon) – Passing knowledge to the next generation – Canoe making – Art making – Aboriginal languages (Ngarrindjeri people) – Compare and contrast (past and present) – Adjectives
<p><u>Tom Tom</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2008</p>	<p>Rosemary Sullivan</p> <p>Dee Huxley</p>	 <p>Kindergarten-Year 2</p>	<p>Tom Tom is always busy. He goes to pre-school, where he likes to paint pictures and make damper with play dough. He visits his Granny Annie and Granny May and Grandfather Joe. Every day he swims with his brothers and sisters and cousins in the cool, clear water of the Lemonade Springs. A simple text with vivid illustrations capturing the rich, full life of a small boy living in a remote Aboriginal community in Australia's top end.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Family structures – Life in present-day Aboriginal communities – Aboriginal beliefs (debil-debils) – Black cockatoo – Damper – Shelter – Proper nouns (Lemonade Springs, Vegemite the dog, Miss Jess) – Compare and contrast (students' lives to TomTom's life) – Mapping (inside the cover)
<p><u>Sorry Sorry</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2019</p> <p>Teacher notes provided at the back of the book</p>	<p>Anne Kerr</p> <p>Marda Pitt</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>This book is a great first step of truthfully informing young children about Australian history, with age appropriate illustrations and dialogue. This book could also be an introduction to understanding the journey of reconciliation with Australia's First Peoples.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Aboriginal art – Australian history – Truth-telling – Aboriginal perspectives of invasion – Impacts of invasion and colonisation – Oral history – Dispossession – Change – Apologising – Reconciliation – Understanding and empathy

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<p><u>Nedingar Ancestors</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Isobel Bevis</p> <p>Leanne Zilm</p>	 <p>Years 1-6</p>	<p>A young child wants to meet their Ancestors. They want to know them, and learn from them and follow their ways. Their mother gently explains that they have already met their Ancestors because they are everywhere in Country, walking close behind them. This lyrical, dual language picture book celebrates the beauty of Country and family.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ancestors – Spirituality – Family – Country – Noongar Country – Noongar beliefs – Noongar language (watch the author Isobel Bevis read the story in Noongar language here) – Identity – Belonging – Native animals
<p><u>Ninni Yabini</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Cheryl Kickett-Tucker</p> <p>Tyrown Waigana</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>In this delightful picture book, Mother and Father swan are busy rebuilding their nest after a storm when their baby, Ninni Yabini, wanders off. Luckily, the evening star, his namesake, comes out to guide him home. Written in Noongar and English, this is a memorable celebration of family and belonging.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Noongar Country – Noongar language – Swans – Native animals – Animal habitats – Family – Belonging – Astronomy – Navigation – Weather – Seasons – Storytelling
<p><u>Giinagaay Gaagal, Hello Ocean</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Melissa Greenwood</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p><i>“Gaagal (ocean) is our special place, we love to swim in the waves. We’ll catch some yamaarr (fish), eat, dance and play games.”</i></p> <p>An ode to joyful days spent by the ocean, from Gumbaynggirr artist Melissa Greenwood.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Gumbaynggirr Country and language – Aboriginal contemporary art – Ocean – Whales, dolphins, crabs – Connecting to Country – Fishing – Respect – Bush tucker – Pipis – Safety – Advice – Elders – Totems – Shelters – Ode (poetry)

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<p>Coming Home to Country</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Bronwyn Bancroft</p>	 <p>Years 3-6</p>	<p>A visual and lyrical depiction of coming home to Country.</p> <p><i>“Three hills to home, lines of Country etched like wrinkles in a wise old face.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Connection to Country – Bundjalung Country – Australian landscape – Similes – Descriptive language – Contemporary Aboriginal art (illustrations)
<p>Our Dreaming</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Kirli Saunders</p> <p>Dub Leffler</p>	 <p>Years</p>	<p><i>“Goodjagah, little one, walk with me ... I want to tell you our Dreaming as the Elders told it to me.”</i></p> <p>A journey of two echidnas who reflect on their Country and the Dreaming.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Dreaming – Gundungurra Country – Gundungurra language – Elders – Ancestors – Passing on cultural knowledge to younger generations in stories, songs, dances and art – Echidnas – Creation beliefs – Sacred sites – Belonging – Self-care – Caring for Country – Sustainability
<p>Bindi</p> <p>Verse novel</p> <p>2020</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Kirli Saunders</p> <p>Dub Leffler</p>	<p>WINNER OF THE DAISY UTEMORRAH AWARD</p>  <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p><i>Bindi</i> is a verse novel for mid-upper primary students. The main character, Bindi, explores climate, bushfires, and healing. Written from the point of view of 11-year-old on Gundungurra Country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Living rurally – Country – Mother Earth – Respect – Elders – Ancestors – Totems – Gundungurra language – Dance – Song – Community – Bushfires – Firestick Farming – Sustainability – Resilience – Family

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<p><u>Savannah Dreams</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2011</p>	<p>Lolla Stewart</p> <p>Elaine Russell</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 2</p>	<p>From Sunday to Saturday, Savannah and her family go looking for bush tucker. Everyone brings home something to share, but Savannah only finds pieces of junk. To Savannah, these items represent the spirit of a barramundi and on the last day she catches the best feed of all!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Days of the week – Counting (1-5) – Aboriginal families and communities – Hunting bush foods – Collecting bush foods – Adjectives – Imagination – Shopping
<p><u>Wylah the Koori Warrior book series</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guardians 2022 • Custodians 2023 <p>Illustrated junior fiction novels</p> <p>Teacher Notes</p>	<p>Jordan Gould</p> <p>Richard Pritchard</p>	 <p>Years 4-6</p>	<p>Wylah (pronounced: Wheel-la) is brave, clever and strong-willed, and all her best friends are giant megafauna animals. Introducing an unforgettable cast of characters, <i>Wylah The Koorie Warrior</i> is a heart-stopping and imaginative adventure, inspired by First Nations history and grounded in culture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adventure – Fantasy – Quest – Culture – Friendship – Family – Bravery – Overcoming challenges – Megafauna animals – Totems – Bush medicine – Tools and weapons – Country – Elders – Respect – Passing on cultural knowledge to younger generations – Dragons
<p><u>My body! What I say goes!</u> (Kiah's Edition)</p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Jayneen Sanders</p> <p>Jasmine Seymour</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p><i>My Body! What I Say Goes!</i> (Kiah's Indigenous Edition) is a book to empower and teach children about personal body safety, feelings, safe and unsafe touch, private parts, secrets and surprises, consent, and respectful relationships.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Protective behaviours – Personal body safety – Feelings – Early warning signs – Safe and unsafe touch – Private parts – Secrets and surprises – Consent – Respect – Relationships

TITLE	AUTHOR ILLUSTRATOR	FRONT COVER & YEAR LEVELS	BLURB	TEACHING POINTS
<p><u>Born to Run</u></p> <p>Non-fiction picture book</p> <p>2021</p> <p><u>Teacher Notes</u></p>	<p>Cathy Freeman</p> <p>Charmaine Ledden-Lewis</p>	 <p>Years 1-4</p>	<p>A gorgeous picture book that will inspire girls and boys everywhere to chase their dreams.</p> <p>As a little girl, Cathy Freeman had only had one dream – to win a gold medal at the Olympics. That dream came true at the Sydney 2000 Games. Cathy tells her story about where self-belief, hard work and the power of a loving family can take you.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sport (running) – Olympics – Goal setting – Perseverance – Determination – Motivation – Achievement – Family – Support – Love and loss – Racism – Advice – Autobiography – Personal timelines
<p><u>The Heartbeat of the Land</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2024</p>	<p>Cathy Freeman Coral Vass</p> <p>Tannya Harricks</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>When Cathy runs across the land, she hears the heartbeat of Country. One day, she realises Country is unwell... The story, told simply in large print across the images, depicts the stresses of rapid change in the climate, and expresses hope that care for the land, native planting, and wide awareness of climate change might help bring some balance back into the earth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Running – Country – Healing Country – Regeneration – Balance – Change – Plants and animals – Kuku Yalanji language – Totems – White cockatoo
<p><u>Our Bugs</u></p> <p>Picture book</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>Bronwyn Bancroft</p>	 <p>Foundation-Year 4</p>	<p>This book introduces readers to 20 Australian creatures, with lyrical text and bright and fascinating artworks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Bugs (honey bee, moth, leopard slug, Christmas beetle, ant, butterfly, centipede, cicada, termite, witchetty grub, spiny leaf insect, fly, jewel beetle, redback spider, emperor dragonfly, grasshopper, lady beetle, snail, paper wasp, feather-horned beetle) – Poetry/rhyme

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<u>Our Birds</u> Picture book 2023	Bronwyn Bancroft	 Foundation-Year 4	This book introduces readers to 20 Australian birds, with lyrical text and bright and fascinating artworks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Native birds – Poetry/rhyme
<u>The Broken Rainbow</u> <u>(Nerra: Deep Time Traveller)</u> Junior fiction novel 2023	Tasma Walton Samantha Campbell	 Years 3-6	<p><i>“Nerra, you are the next Deep Time Traveller, as your great-grandmother was before you.”</i></p> <p>When Nerra’s great-grandmother passes away, she leaves a box of artefacts to Nerra. Nerra is drawn to the clapsticks which glow red hot, and when she picks them up, she is transported back in time. Creation is out of balance and a hero needs to help. Bineal and Pirnbial, husband and wife of the rainbow, have been split apart. Can Nerra reunite the rainbow and bring Dreaming back into balance?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fantasy – Time travel – Aboriginal artefacts (e.g. clapsticks) – Creation beliefs – The Dreaming – Balance – Rainbow – Ceremony – Customs and traditions – Family – Country – Elders – Wisdom – Spirituality – Animals – “Draws on the stories of the Boonwurrung people of coastal Melbourne” – Boonwurrung language