

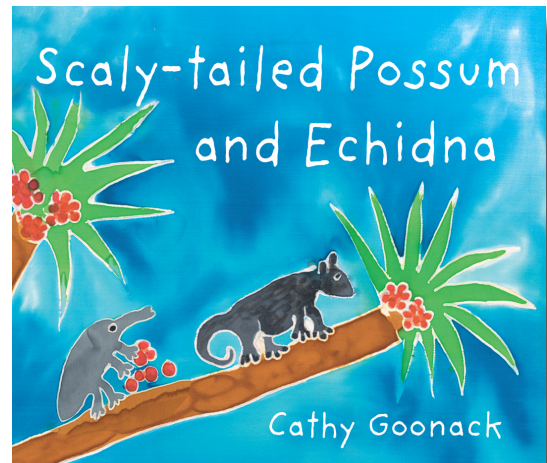
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Dreamtime tale of the possum and echidna

Scaly-tailed Possum and Echidna is an engaging story that tells how the possum got its scaly tail and the echidna got its spikes. Passed down from generation to generation, this is a traditional Dreamtime story.

The book features two iconic Australian animals — the scaly-tailed possum, found only in a remote part of the Kimberley, and the echidna, one of Australia's most unusual mammals.

Vividly illustrated with paintings on silk, the story also tells of the Wandjina, the Creator and Great Spirit, an important part of Aboriginal Dreamtime stories from the Kimberley. Underlying this charming children's story is a moral about the perils of dishonesty.



Scaly-tailed Possum and Echidna also features photographs and detailed information about the animals featured in the story and the Wunambal people from whom the story originates.

Author **Cathy Goonack** is a descendant of the Wunambal people and part of the Kandiwal tribe from Ngauwudu land, near the Mitchell Plateau. She has six children and lives on her grandfather's country, at Kandiwal Community, near the Mitchell Falls. Cathy's grandfather passed this story down to her.

Illustrators **Marlene, Myron and Katrina Goonack** all attended Kimberley School of the Air at Kandiwal for their primary and secondary education. They have worked together to produce art for many of their family's stories and believe it is important to learn about their culture and pass it on to people all over Australia.

Scaly-tailed Possum and Echidna is available in bookshops and online at www.magabala.com for \$12.95.

Launched in 1987, **Magabala Books** is a not-for-profit Aboriginal Corporation, based in Broome, that aims to promote, preserve and publish Indigenous Australian culture.

For author interviews, extracts or cover images please contact:

Simon Penn **Magabala Books** Ph: (08) 9192 1991

Email: marketing2@magabala.com Web: www.magabala.com