

Climate and Landscapes



Reading Recovery level: 19

Word count: 350

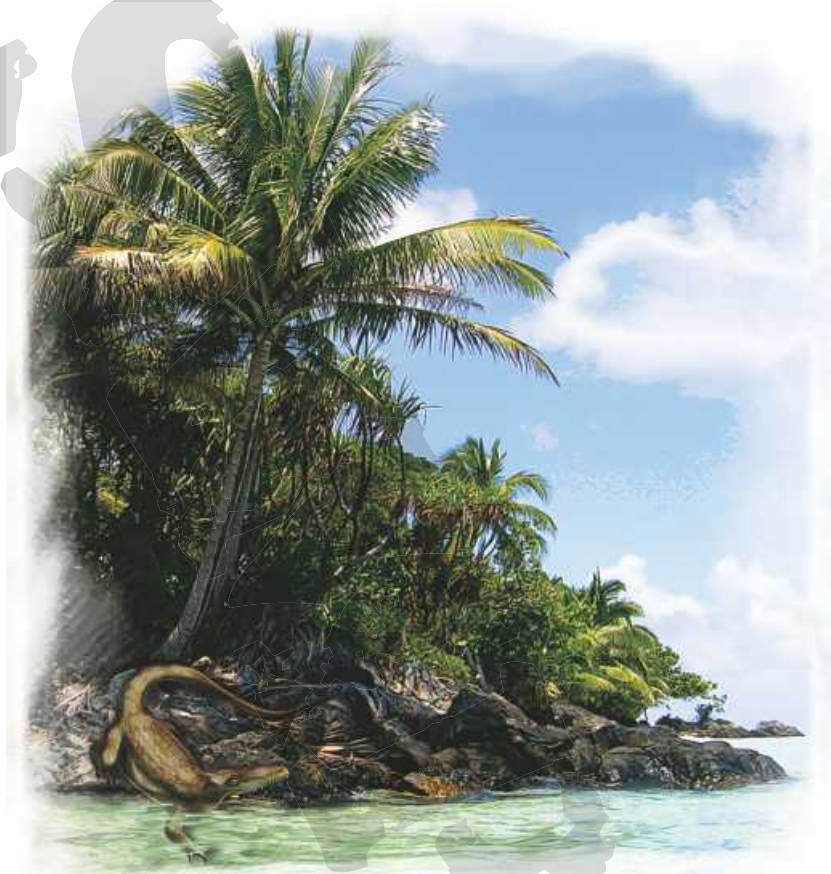
Text type: narrative

Content: non-fiction

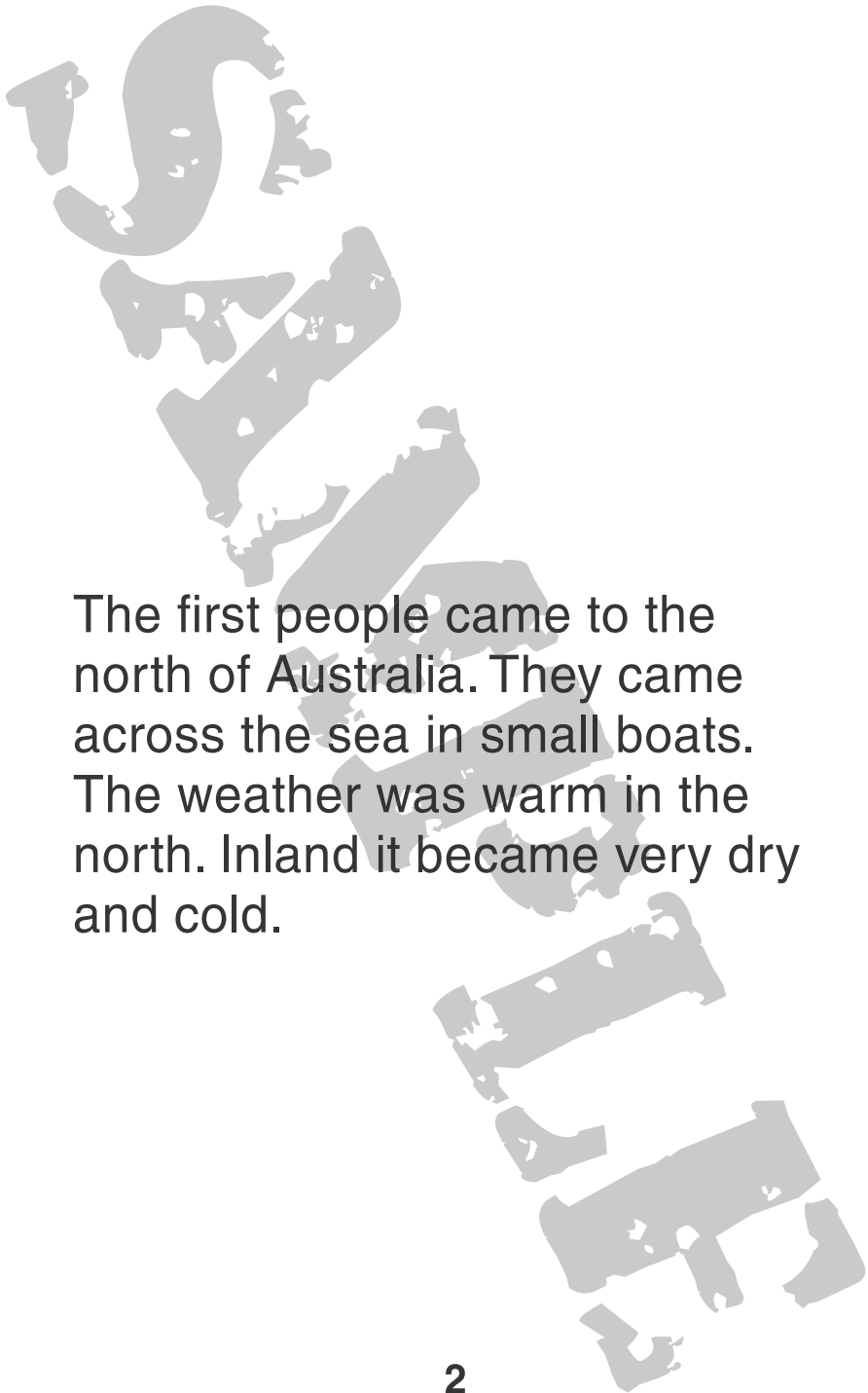
ACARA reference: Cross-curriculum priority is given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Histories and Culture. This can be discussed as an integrated unit of work in relation to weather and climate. The effect of changing climate on the First Peoples of Australia is outlined in this story. ACARA however, clearly states that the Early Years' priority is literacy not content and knowledge.

Teacher notes: The First People of Australia arrived possibly 50-60,000 years ago during the last major Ice Age. The climate was very different to today. The southern part of Australia had large glaciers and the mountains were permanently snow-covered. The sea level was a lot lower by about 100 meters. This means Australia had a land link to Papua New Guinea and Tasmania. Students will find this map information fascinating when displayed and explained by using a current atlas. Aboriginal legends refer to the cold period and also the ensuing warming with massive land flooding.

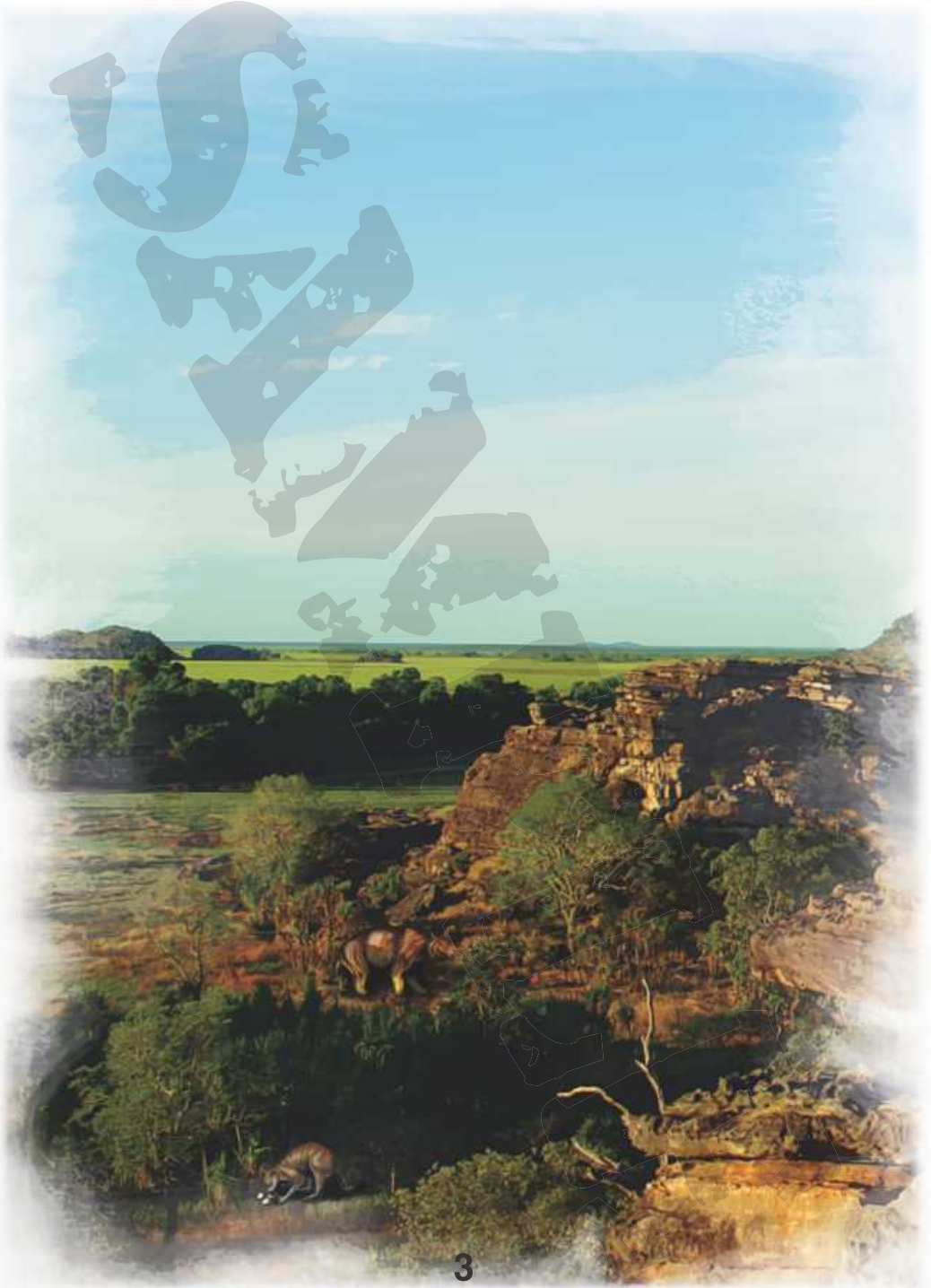
Difficult words: animals, different, Australia, weather, people, canoes, turtles, forests, shelter, dangerous, lizard, swamp, grasses, mangroves, together, mountains, rainforest, covered.




The animals and the weather were different a long time ago. The First Peoples in Australia saw many big animals. The weather was colder than today. It was called the Ice Age when the First People came to Australia.



The first people came to the north of Australia. They came across the sea in small boats. The weather was warm in the north. Inland it became very dry and cold.



3



Australia had rivers going inland.
Canoes were used to collect
river plants and hunt for food.
The rivers had fish, turtles, birds,
eels and plant foods.

