

How the Crocodile Got Its Teeth

Trevor Fourmile

KNOWLEDGE
BOOKS AND SOFTWARE



Knowledge Books and Software

PO Box 50, Sandgate, Queensland 4017 Australia

p. +617-5568 0288 f. +617-5568 0277 email: sales@kbs.com.au

First published 2020

ISBN 9781925714739

Illustrations and prepress: Dean Maynard

Text/editor and producer: Sharlene Coombs

Publisher: Robert Watts

Series information: **History of the First Australians**

Reproduction and Communication for educational purposes

Fair Go! Make sure you record any copying of this book so we may get some benefit please.

The Australian Copyright Act 1968 (the Act) allows a maximum of one chapter or 10% of the pages of this work, whichever is the greater, to be reproduced and/or communicated by any educational institution for its educational purposes provided that the educational institution (or the body that administers it) has given a remuneration notice to the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) under the Act.

For details of the CAL licence for educational institutions contact:

Copyright Agency Limited

Level 15, 233 Castlereagh Street,

SYDNEY, NSW 2000

Telephone: +61 2 93947600 Fax: +61 2 93947601 Email: info@copyright.com.au

Reproduction and Communication for other purposes

Except as permitted under the Act (for example for the services of the Crown or in reliance on one of the fair dealing exceptions ie. a fair dealing for the purposes of research or study) no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, communicated or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior written permission.

Acknowledgements: Dean Maynard illustrations and cover, 2020.



Back in the land of our stories, the Yidinji people had many creation stories and legends. Some of them told of great warriors who left footprints in the ground. One legend told of two brothers, Guyulla and Damari, who both had powers.

SAMPLE



Guyalla was the sensible brother who would always make everything good again. However, Damari made everything hard. He would do silly things like pushing yams deep under the ground so that the people would have to dig them out to eat them.

SAMPLE



One day, the two brothers were walking along the bank of the Barron River when they came across a crocodile that was crying. Damari asked him why he was crying and the crocodile responded with, “Well, I have no teeth and I’m very hungry! I need teeth to help me chew!”

SAMPLE



Word bank

Yidinji

crocodile

warriors

Guyulla

Damari

sensible

Barron River

responded

wondering

pondering

gratefully

gummy

patiently

announced

injured

gecko

Cairns

Queensland

Reading Recovery Level: 23

Word count: 532

Content: Creation Story.

ACARA F-10 references:

Learning Areas: English; Science; Humanities and Social Sciences; The Arts; Languages.

General Capabilities: Literacy; Critical and Creative Thinking; Personal and Social Capability; Intercultural Understanding.

Cross Curriculum Priorities: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures; Sustainability.

Teacher Notes:

How the Crocodile Got its Teeth is a Yidinji Creation Story which helps to explain the history and some of the traditional beliefs held by the Yidinji First Nations' People of Far North Queensland. This story has been told orally by many generations over thousands of years and is intrinsic to the Yidinji culture, both past and present.

Discussion points for consideration:

1. Why was storytelling so important for the Yidinji People?
2. What messages can be taken from the story?
3. Talk about the imaginative quality of the story with your partner.

Difficult words to be introduced and practised before reading this book:

Yidinji, crocodile, warriors, Guyulla, Damari, sensible, Barron River, responded, wondering, pondering, gratefully, gummy, patiently, announced, injured, gecko, Cairns, Queensland.

Acknowledgement of the First Nations' People: We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We particularly acknowledge the Yidinji people of Far North Queensland as the true custodians of this story.

Sensitivity Notice: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are **warned** that the following series may contain images - photographs and illustrations and text about deceased persons.

How the Crocodile Got its Teeth

How the Crocodile Got its Teeth is a Yidinji Creation Story which helps to explain the history and some of the traditional beliefs held by the Yidinji First Nations' People of Far North Queensland. This story has been told orally by many generations over thousands of years and is intrinsic to the Yidinji culture, both past and present.

Author's Bio:

Trevor Fourmile is from the Yidinji people of the Cairns area in Far North Queensland. He is the author of two childrens' books; *How the Cassowary Got It's Helmet* and *Bajirriga the Turtle*. Both stories are based on the coastal rainforest and told in traditional style with illustrations by his mother, Lillian Fourmile. Trevor's Yidinji name is Bumi which means "lightning flash". He is a Community Engagement Officer at the Hymba Yumba Independence School in Brisbane. He is interested in teaching the younger generation his culture through traditional dancing, story telling and writing children's books.

ISBN 9781925714739



KNOWLEDGE
BOOKS AND SOFTWARE

