

History of the First Australians 48

# Growing Up in Pipeclay

Gloria Phillips

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First published 2020

ISBN 9781925714722

Illustrations and prepress: Dean Maynard

Text/editor and producer: Sharlene Coombs

Publisher: Robert Watts

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

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**Acknowledgements:** Gloria Phillips for photograph on back cover. Dean Maynard - illustrations and cover design.



My name is Gloria Phillips. I am a proud Gumbaynggirr Elder from Coffs Harbour, on the Mid-North Coast of New South Wales. When I was a young girl, I lived with my parents and eight siblings. I also had an older brother, Tony who had to leave home to find work in Sydney where he joined the army.



We lived at Pipeclay which is now known as Corindi. Corindi is named for the clay found in the area. It was used in traditional ceremonies for men and women.

SAMPLE



Dad and Mum moved to Corindi because of family and cultural connections. The community was settled on Crown Land. Other families lived nearby and they were also close kin.

SAMPLE



## Word bank

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Gumbaynggirr	tripod
siblings	endowment
Corindi	cheque
traditional	luxuries
ceremonies	extended
cultural	oysters
connections	worrying
community	adventure
Crown Land	
employed	
mattresses	
chaff	
hessian	
electricity	

**Reading Recovery Level:** 26

**Word count:** 519

**Content:** Non Fiction Recount

**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:**

Growing Up in Pipeclay is a non-fiction recount of the author, Gloria Phillips' childhood, living in the small coastal village of Pipeclay (now known as Corindi) on the NSW Mid-North Coast. Through her recount, Gloria explains the importance of family, community, place, culture and the practice of living sustainably off the land during these times.

**Discussion points for consideration:**

1. Discuss some of the differences between the way Gloria's family lived and the way in which families live today?
2. Give some examples of how Gloria's family practised sustainable living.
3. Many place names have First Nations' historical significance. Can you think of others in your local area and their meanings?

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

Gumbaynggir, siblings, Corindi, traditional, ceremonies, Cultural, connections, community, Crown Land, employed, mattresses, chaff, hessian, electricity, tripod, endowment, cheque, luxuries, extended, oysters, worrying, adventure.

**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.

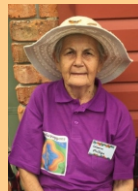
**Sensitivity Notice:** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that the following series may contain images - photographs and illustrations and text about deceased persons.

## Growing Up in Pipeclay

*Growing Up in Pipeclay* is a non-fiction recount of the author, Gloria Phillips' childhood, living in the small coastal village of Pipeclay (now known as Corindi) on the NSW, Mid-North Coast. Through her recount, Gloria explains the importance of family, community, place, culture and the practice of living sustainably off the land during these times.

### Author's Bio:

Gloria Phillips is a proud Gumbaynggirr Elder who was born in Bowraville, NSW. Gloria grew up in nearby Valla, Macksville, and then Corindi, which was her favourite place. Gloria has 9 children, 28 grandchildren, and 29 great grandchildren. She enjoys attending Elders Club once a week, and has even attended the Elders Olympics. She also enjoys reading, gardening, fishing and cooking for her large family and sharing culture and stories within her community.



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