

Our Little Yuin

A Writing Project by Children of Little
Yuin Aboriginal Preschool



**ILF Book
BUZZ**



**Reading
Opens
Doors**

Outcome:

To enhance the literacy experience and development of beginning writing for the indigenous children in their transition from home/family to school. We hope to engage in creative, fun workshops where they use language, story, illustrating and publishing to produce a picture book they can be proud to share. The aim is for this book to reflect who they are and their local indigenous identity.

Making a Picture Book

2013



Umbarra Community Totem The Pacific Black Duck

A dreamtime story is that kind of story for educating the aboriginal children in their first years of life. Stories help to explain how the land came to be shaped and inhabited; how to behave and why. These stories are a big part of the aboriginal culture. Moreover these stories are explaining the sacred nature and how to behave in this. These stories have been handed down through the generations, some of them got lost.

Umbarra, the black duck, is the totem of the Yuin nation. There is a young boy, Merriman, who called his totem Umbarra the black duck. Umbarra warns him always when danger is coming by jumping into the water and by doing splashes. One time the duck jumps in the water and ruffles his feathers up, that Merriman knows there are evil people coming.

He warns people to go on the canoes to paddle to the island and the warriors are waiting on the lakeside for the fellas. The fellas come to get the women and when they get closer to the island, the black duck warns the warriors.

They successfully keep them from invading, that's why they think that they still live there.

Duc-Huy , Moritz , Hendrik

Source: <http://australianmuseum.net.au/Stories-of-the-Dreaming-General-Information>

<http://www.designerscarvesbymarlina.com/ER-Little-Black-Duck.jpg>

<http://australianmuseum.net.au/movie/Umbarra>



Local Pacific Black Duck as children would see it.

Cited Mogo .

koogarty

umbarra

janan-Gabatch

djunga

gurrie

wanggali

mara

koogoonyaroo

frog

black duck

echidna

octopus

snake

long-nosed potoroo

fish

kookaburra

Familiar animal totems chosen
from Little Yuin Dreaming Path.
Each author chose one and they
knew their Yuin language names





























**Book Launch at Little Yuin March 3rd 2015.
Photo by Laurelle Pacey, Pacey Media.**