

DA MINYNEY WAALITJ

Sever



Medina Primary School

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Acknowledgements:

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Glenys Collard; Professor Ian Malcolm; Jacqueline Williams.

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FOREWORD

Medina Primary School, in the metropolitan area of Perth, is located in the Town of Kwinana, on traditional Wadjak Noongar Boodja country.

Medina Primary School is a small school with a rich culturally diverse student population including approximately 40% Aboriginal students. At Medina Primary School, family and community are valued.

The students at Medina Primary School produced two separate books: *Da Miytey Waalitj* was produced by the year 4, 5 and 6 boys; and *Goin Bush* was produced by the year 4, 5 and 6 girls of the school. The Aboriginal students involved in the project were Noongar, Wongi and Yamaji students. They collectively created the stories. Because of the diverse backgrounds the Aboriginal words used in the stories are from Noongar, Wangkatja and Wajarri languages, a part of the Aboriginal English used in the books.

Da Miytey Waalitj tells the story of a young Aboriginal football team travelling to the bush to play a footy match against another Aboriginal team. This is a fictitious account however, the authors were inspired by tales of footy games from older brothers and cousins participating in the Clontarf Football Academy.

Goin Bush tells the collective yarn of going into the bush and re-connecting with home country, culture and relations. Although a work of fiction it is inspired by a combination of true events.

Medina Primary School thanks Vivienne Little and Jade Hilzinger for their assistance in helping the students and staff members to further develop their understanding of Aboriginal English.

Fiona Blundell
Principal
Medina Primary School

DA MINYINBY WAALINJ



Thank you to all the Medina children who helped make this book.



Jackson Reidy
James Hill
Jeven Hilzinger-Smith
Lachlan Wallam
Russell Comrie
Tama Oakley
Tyrone Bailey



It's really early in da mornin... still dark.



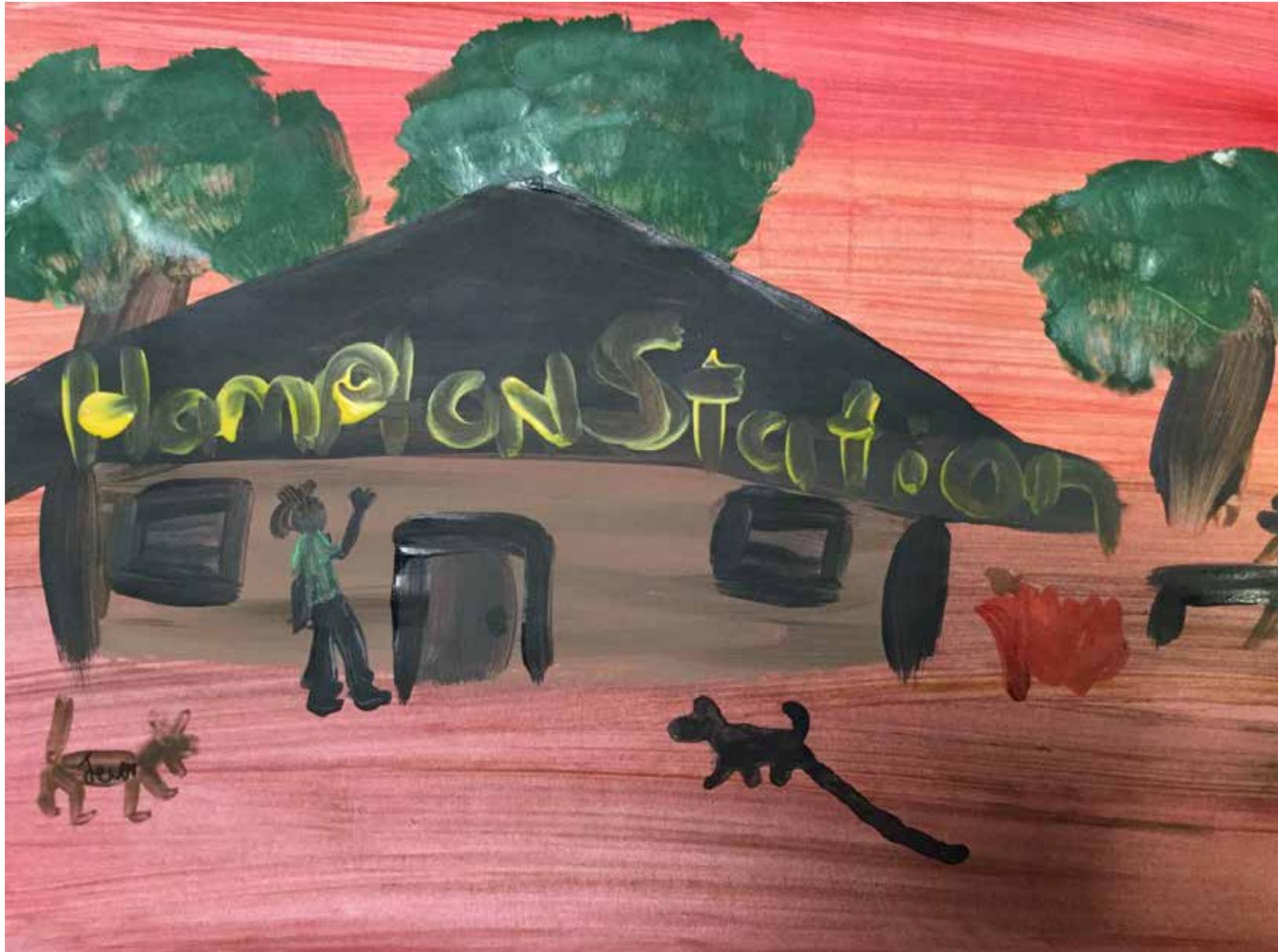
We got two busloads of gear.

We takin jerseys, footies, warda boddles, boots, socks, shorts, mouth guards an a firs aid kit.

Las on da bus is our footy team "Da Miytey Waalitj" wid Captain Lachy, Vice Captain Tama, Grant, Jev, Josh, Jacko, James an Russ.



After a long borin dribe we stop fa lunch at Merredin.
We 'ad chicken an salad rolls amburgers an lotsa warda.
We also got fuel for da buses.
Den we 'it da road again...
straight for Kal.



We went through Kal an 'eaded fa Hampton Station
our team's night camp.



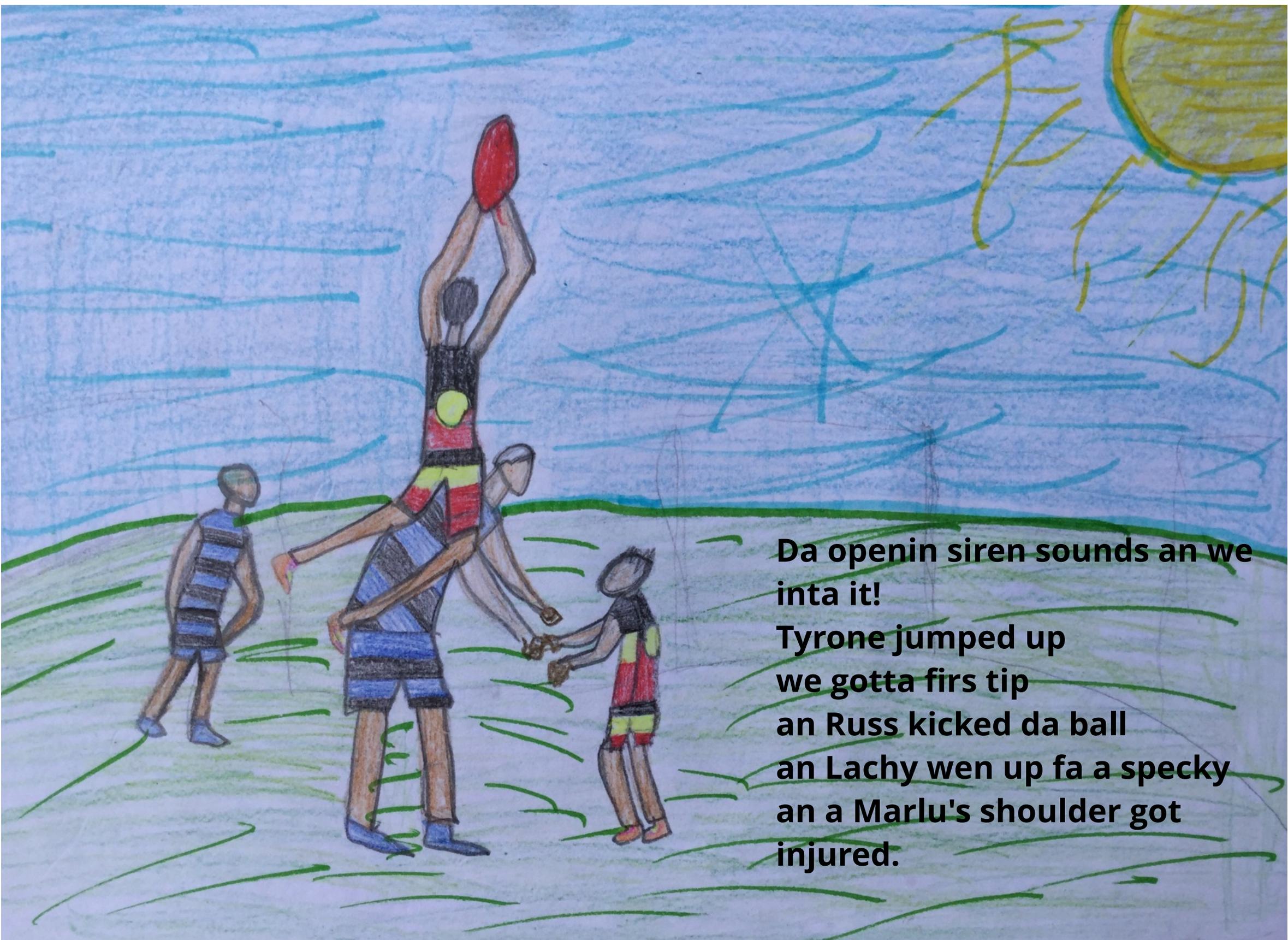
We get to da station in da night an set up camp
got some wood
an gedda fire crankin...
roll out our swags.



In da mornin we ab yonga an dampa fa breaky



den we jumpin back on da bus an 'ead back in ta Kal
fa our game against da Marlus.



**Da openin siren sounds an we
inta it!
Tyrone jumped up
we gotta firs tip
an Russ kicked da ball
an Lachy wen up fa a specky
an a Marlu's shoulder got
injured.**



Den Jacko kicked da ball into da goals!

Nex Josh an Grant steal da footy an sneak anuder goal through.

James goes for an 'orse tackle an 'andballs ta Jev who boots it straight down for anuder goal.

Jev



Seven

By da las quarter
scores forty ta fifty wid us Miytey Waalitj behin
an two minutes ta go when Russ 'andballs ta Josh...
'e boots it ta Grant.
Grant sends da ball flyin' down da obal
an James takes da mark right in fronta goal.
E kicks straight an deadly
an da Miytey Waalitj on forty six
Marlus on fifty.
Ump chucked it up in da middle
Lachy 'its it,
Ty picks up da ball.... scrambles...
'andballs it ta Jev
who kicks it ta Russ.

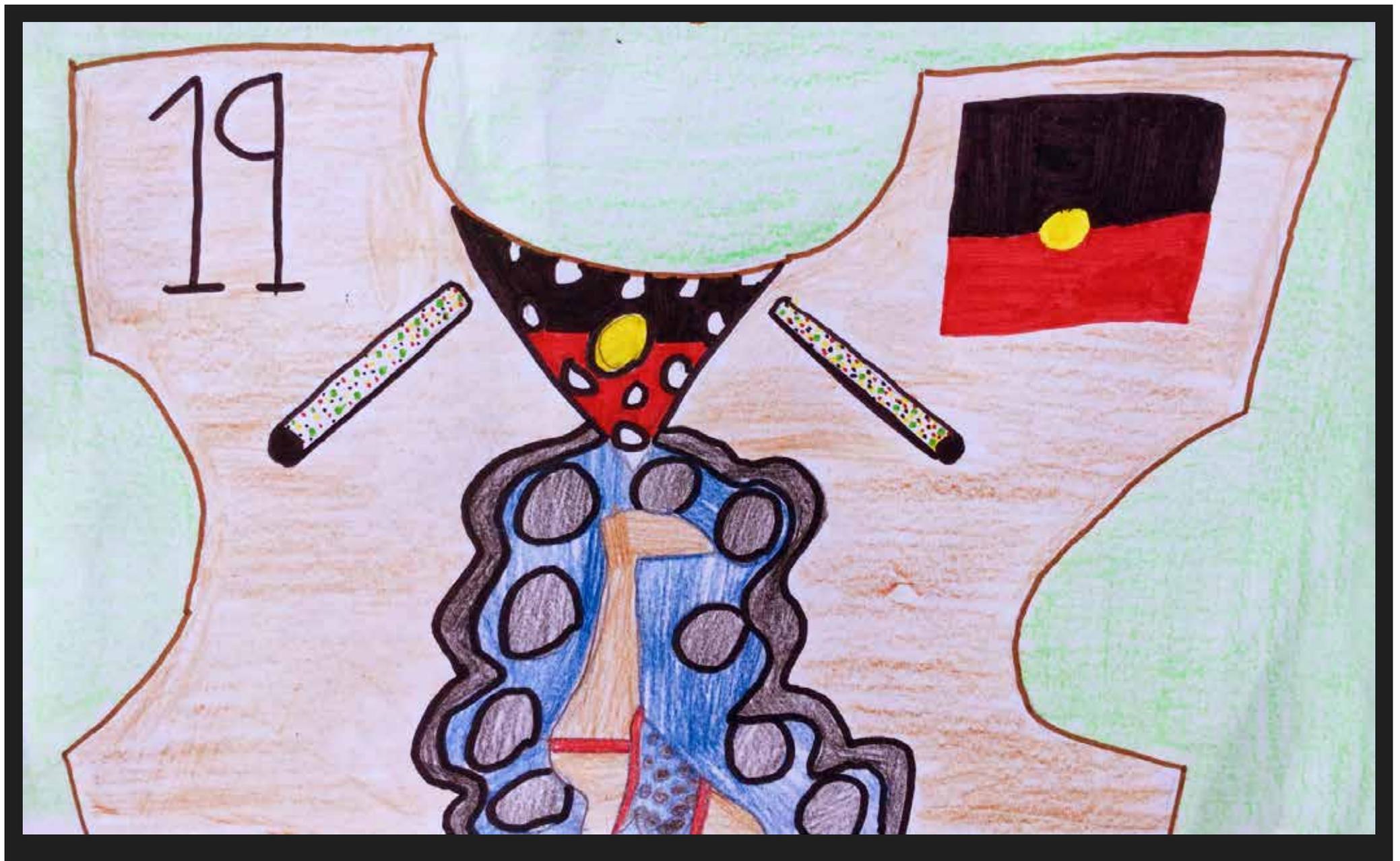
Russ runs wid da ball
e passes it ta Grant who kicks it ta Jacko.
Jacko kicks da footy srait ta Josh
e 'andballs ta James.
James gets da ball ta Tama
it's a mark...
but 'e plays on!



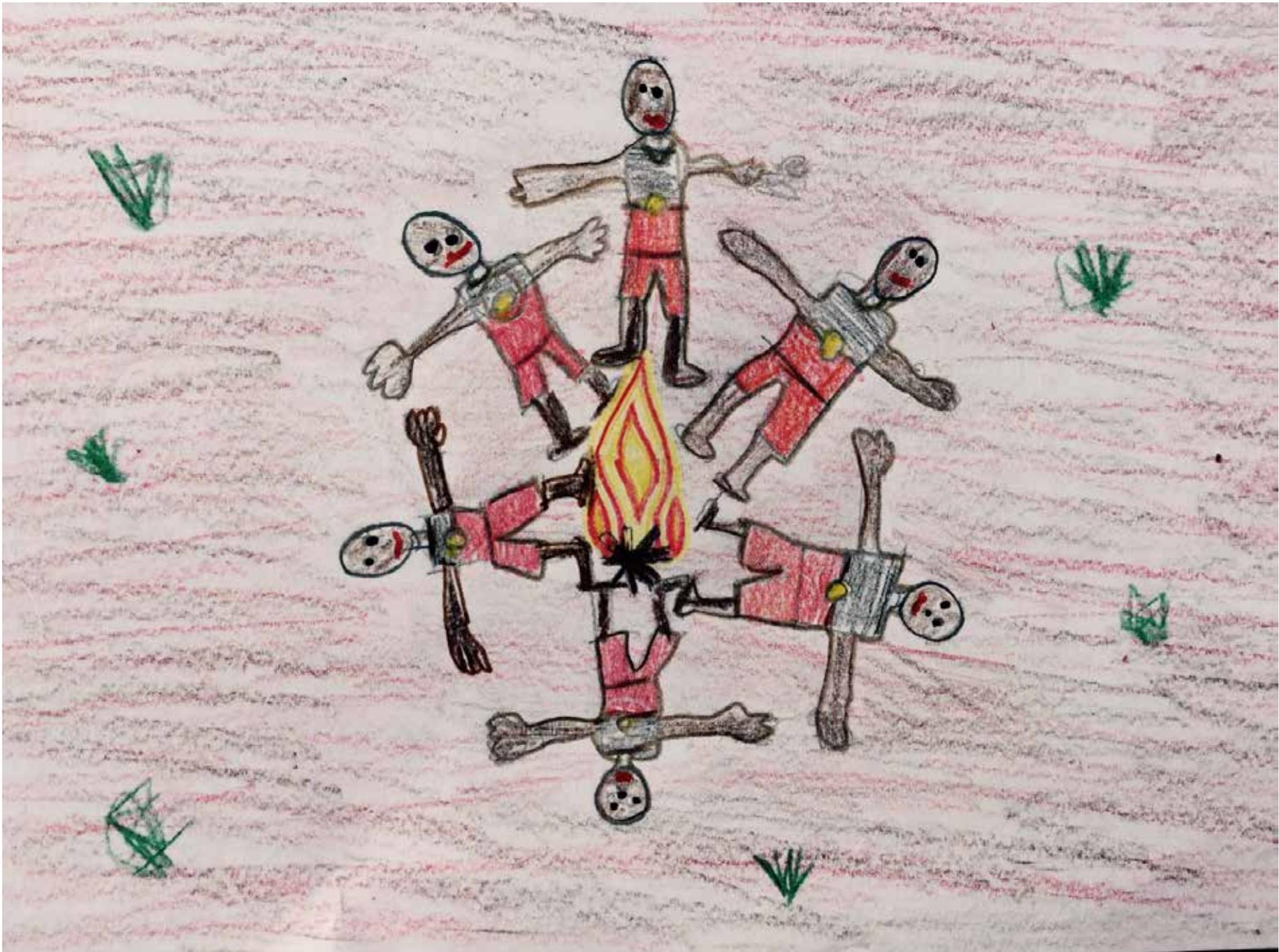
Seven



It's a goal!



Da Miytey Waalitj win!



After da game we was so tired we laid round da fire.

Glossary

deadly - great

marlu - kangaroo (Wangkatja and/ or Wajarri)

moorditj - good, great

'orse - great, good

waalitj - eagle

yonga - kangaroo (Noongar)

In preparing this story for publication, every effort has been made to preserve as many of the spoken qualities of Aboriginal story-telling as possible. The spelling sometimes deviates from that of Standard Australian English to follow the sounds that are typical of Aboriginal English, and the sentence breaks and punctuation are based on the structure and rhythm of spoken language. The line length is also a device that is used to emphasise rhythm, and the line breaks sometimes serve as visual signals (punctuation marks) separating grammatical (and conceptual) units. Full stops and capital letters are used less often than in Standard Australian English because of the preference in Aboriginal discourses to link (often visual) details to build an uninterrupted composite image or impression. The spelling and punctuation conventions used in this book are derived from a set of principles for the spelling and punctuation of Aboriginal English writing developed as part of the Two-Way Tracks to Learning project for the Department of Education. (Tracks to Two-Way Learning, Focus Area 8, Module 8.6.2 pages 50-51, Department of Education, 2012).