

Yirramagardu Yarns



Roebourne District High School

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Acknowledgements:

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FOREWORD

Wayiba wanthiwa. Tharnaaru

Roebourne District High School is located on Ngarluma country 40 km from Karratha. The school caters to students from Kindergarten to Year 12, with approximately 99% of its cohort being Aboriginal. Although there are a number of language groups in Roebourne, the students generally come from three main language groups: the Ngarluma people who are the traditional owners of the land; the Yindjibarndi people; and the Banyjima people. The students speak a range of languages as well as Aboriginal English which, for most students, is their first language. Roebourne is culturally enhanced due to the rich culture that still values its traditions. The school is respected by the community and of its deep understanding of Aboriginal learning strategies.

The book, Yirramungardu Yarns, written and illustrated by a range of students from year 4, 5 and 6 represents a wonderful selection of experiences about "going bush" with families. One of the yarns, Camping out Millstream was collaboratively created by the class and, although fictitious, was inspired by students' real life experiences of going bush with families.

I would like to acknowledge the following people for their contributions to the book making process, Jane and Marion Cheedy, Yindjibarndi elders, for using their extensive, knowledge of language and culture in supporting the students throughout this project to produce wonderfully, rich stories.

David Paine
Principal
Roebourne District High School

Thank you to all the Roebourne District High
School children who helped make this book.

Iverson Cedar
Chloe Cooyou
Ciara Coppin
Deesha Coppin
Cassandra Hicks
Jahmal Jumburra
Ruben Mills
Noah Mourambine
Sharliya Mowarm
Shelley-Anne Munda
Jamie Newland

Marshailyn Ozzies
Latisha Parker
Amieriya Samson
Matilda Samson
Mitchell Saunders
Jasminda Stevens
Bianca Wally
Elias Warrie
Alieka Woodley
Drew Woodley

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Goin Bush Song

Campin Out Millstream




Campin Out Millstream

A hand-drawn scene featuring a red and yellow truck with several figures inside. In the foreground, there are three stylized figures: one on the left holding a black object, and two on the right. The background consists of a brown, rocky wall. The ground is dark brown with some green plants and three small, light-colored objects with spiral patterns.

Ayh! Come on you kids
git over ere
we goin Millstream...

Git da swag!

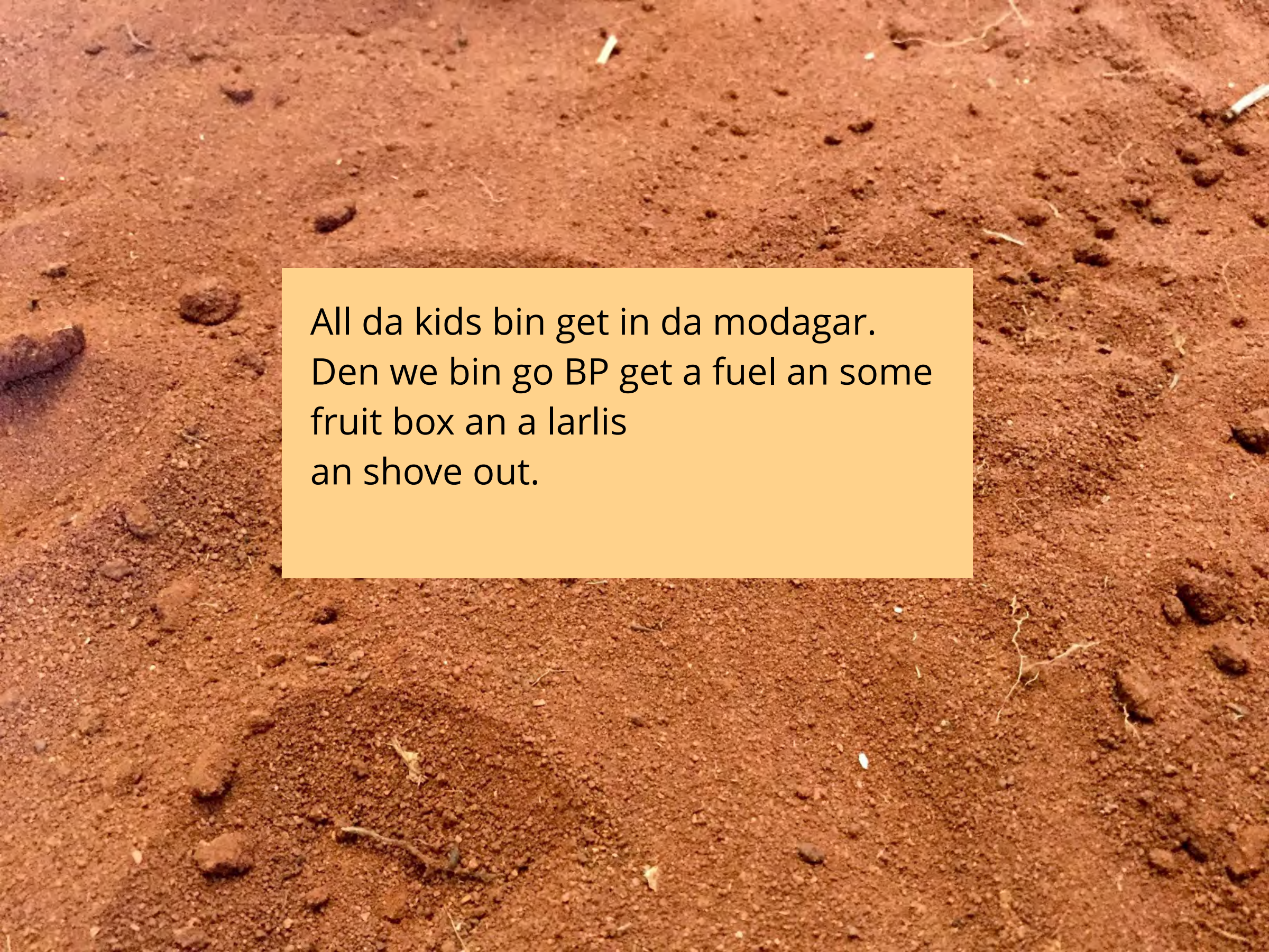
The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, likely from a tropical or subtropical region. The soil is uneven, with small clumps, roots, and some dried plant matter visible. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered on the image, containing two lines of text.

Ayh! Come on you kids
git over ere
we goin Millstream ...campin.

Git da swag and da feed
pudim in da modagar.



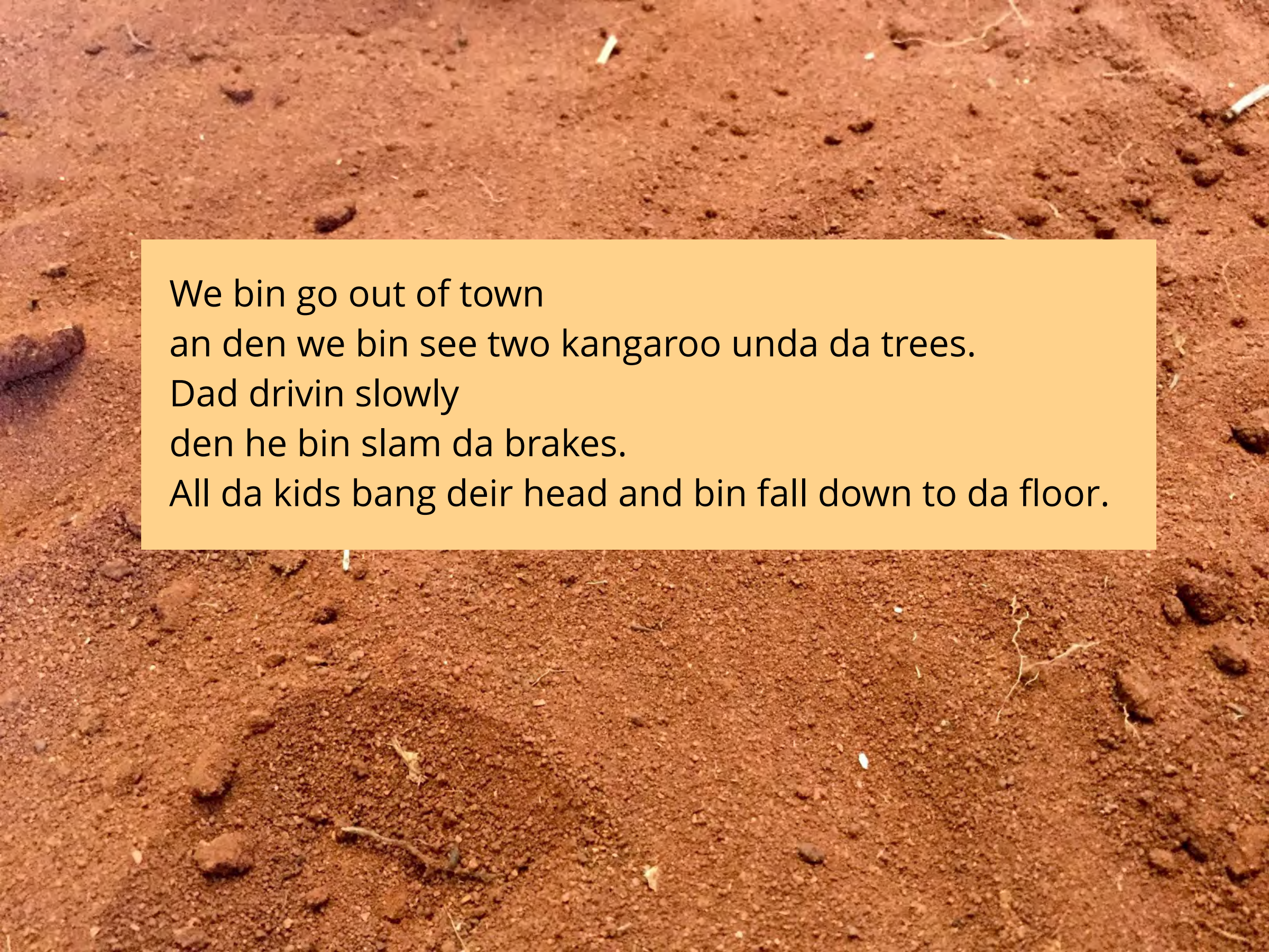
Zak hurry up!
Git your larlis
and drink!

The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing small clumps and some dry roots. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered in the middle of the image, containing text.

All da kids bin get in da modagar.
Den we bin go BP get a fuel an some
fruit box an a larlis
an shove out.



Ay look ova dere two
badtjarri!

The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing small clumps and some dry plant matter.

We bin go out of town
an den we bin see two kangaroo unda da trees.
Dad drivin slowly
den he bin slam da brakes.
All da kids bang deir head and bin fall down to da floor.

Hey dis a fat one!
Chuck im on da



Den uncle he bin grab da gun out
BANG!

An e bin shoot da kangaroo in da head... right ere.
Den uncle bin get is sharp knife out
an gut da kangaroo.

Den he carried im back to da modagar
an chuck im on da roof.

Come on you mob git
outta da modagar. We
inna bush now!



The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing small clumps and some dry roots. A semi-transparent yellow rectangle is centered on the image, containing text.

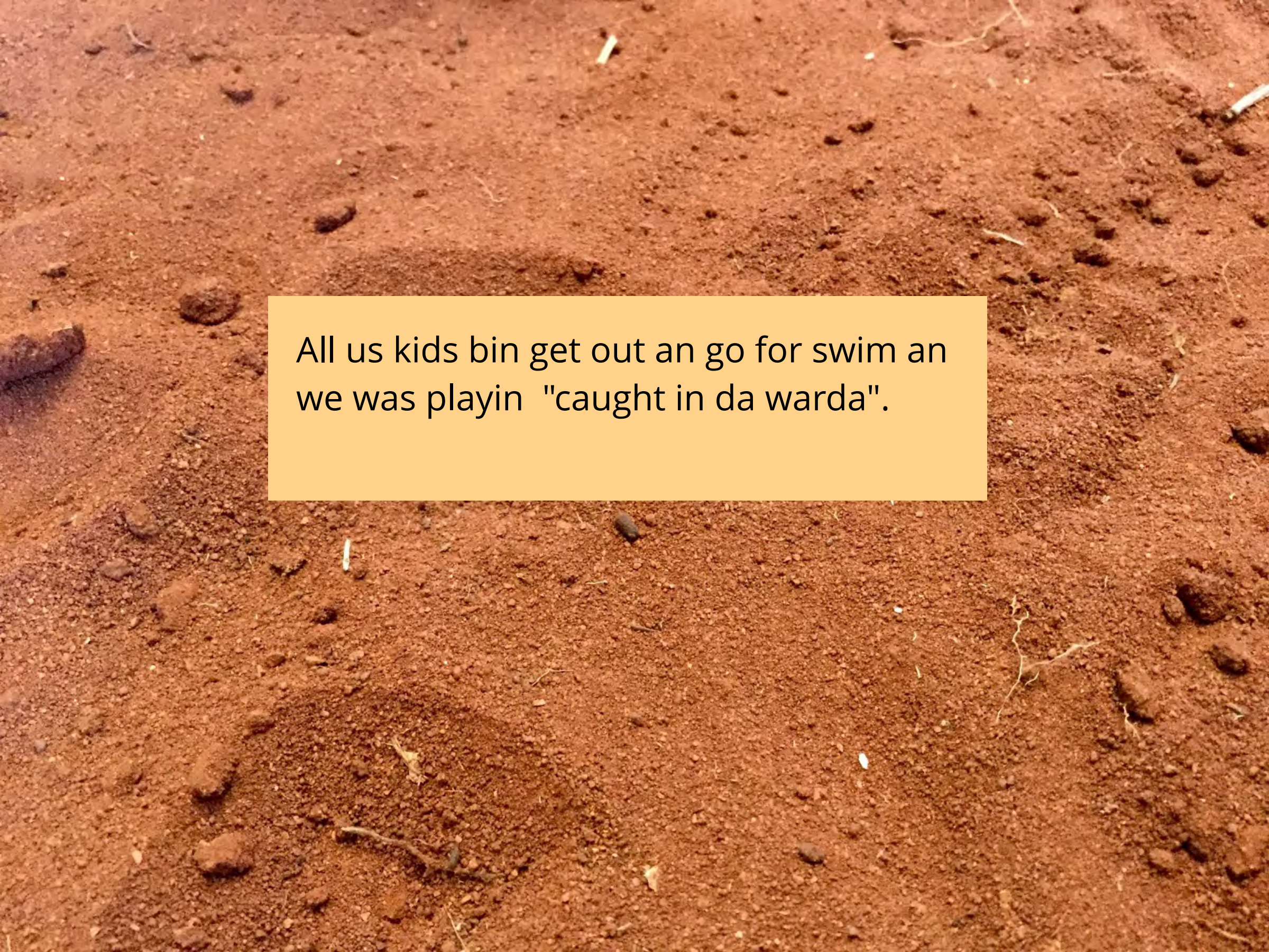
Den we bin bin keep on drivin
an drivin Millstream.

Den we bin take all da stuff out of da modagar
make da camp
make da fire.


Uncle bin skin im up... da kangaroo.



Yo! You bin git caught!
You da chasey now!!

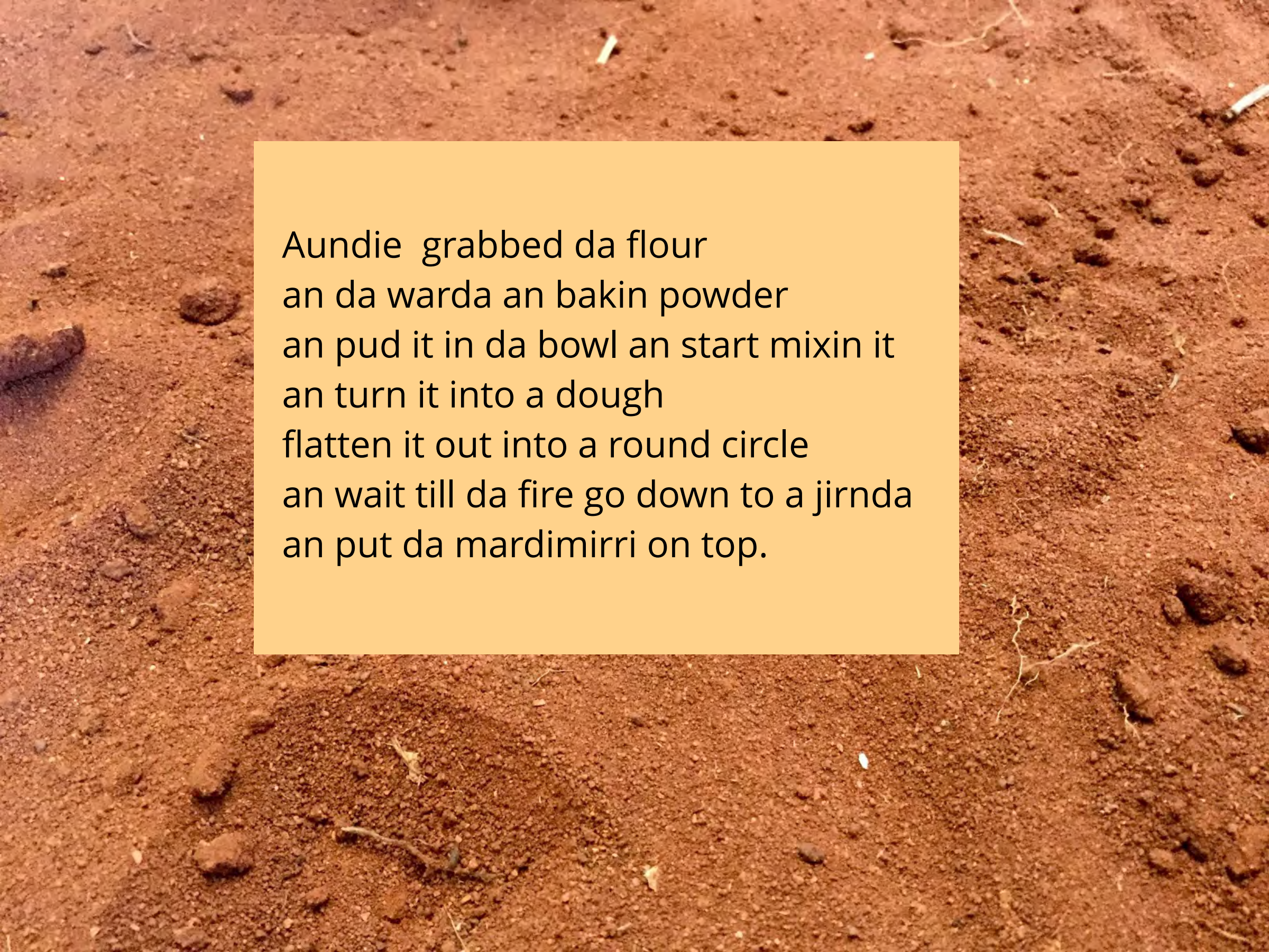
The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing its granular texture and some small clumps. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered in the middle of the image, containing two lines of text.

All us kids bin get out an go for swim an
we was playin "caught in da warda".



Mangurlarra I'm gonna make a mardimirri.

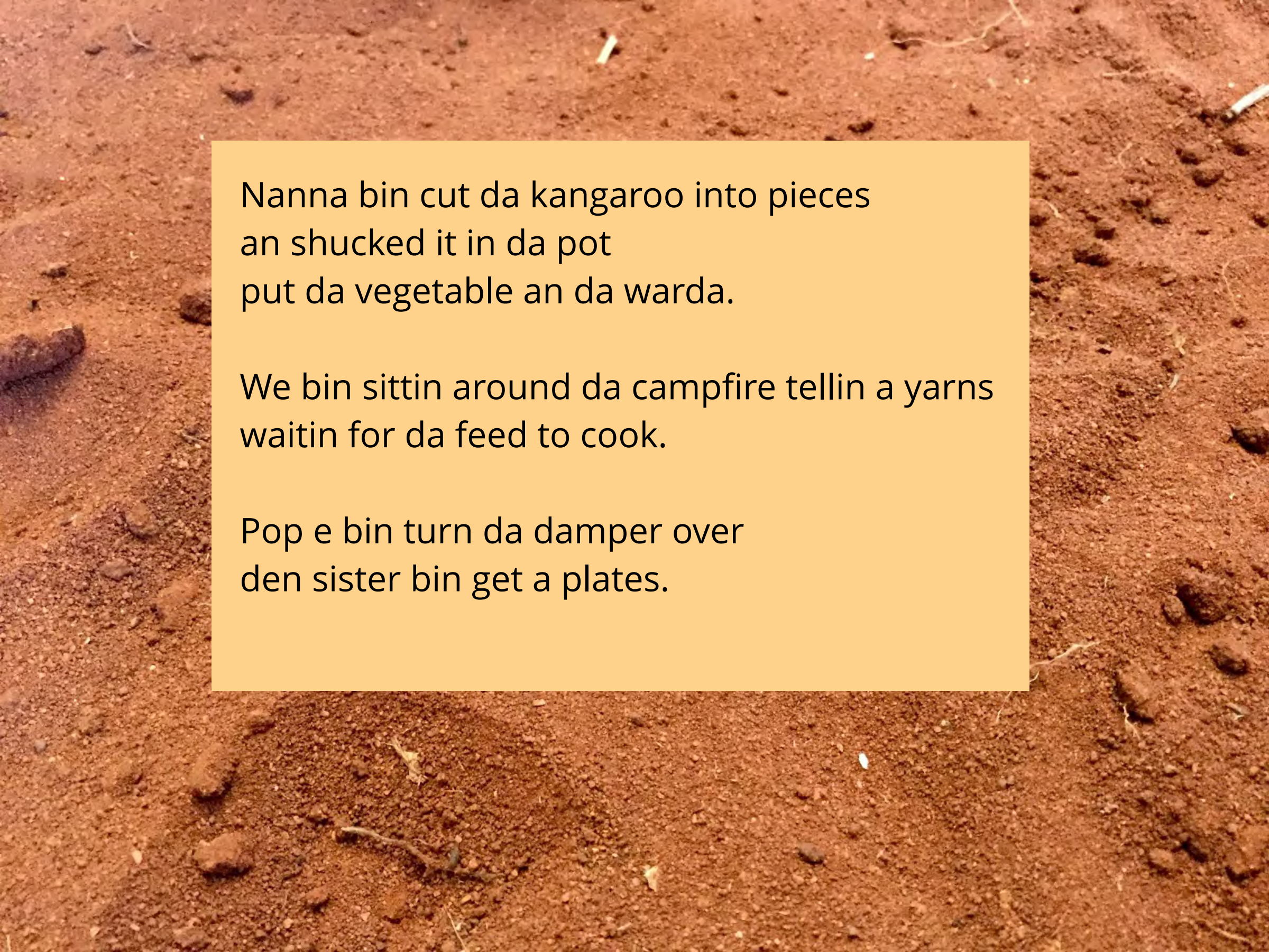
Yum! Deadly mardimirri aundie!



Aundie grabbed da flour
an da warda an bakin powder
an pud it in da bowl an start mixin it
an turn it into a dough
flatten it out into a round circle
an wait till da fire go down to a jirnda
an put da mardimirri on top.

Feed nearly
cooked!




The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing its granular texture and some small clumps. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered on the image, containing three lines of text.

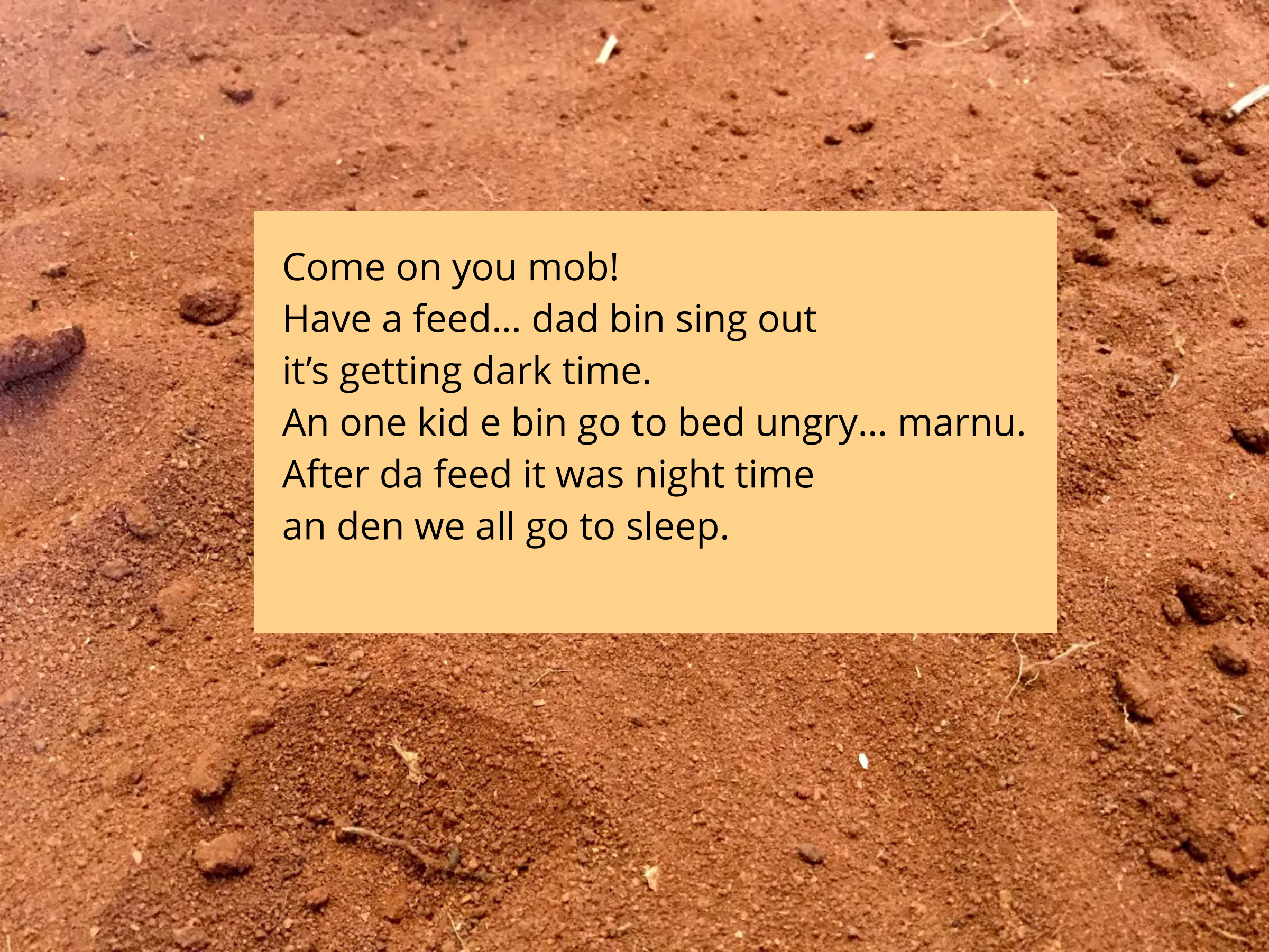
Nanna bin cut da kangaroo into pieces
an shucked it in da pot
put da vegetable an da warda.

We bin sittin around da campfire tellin a yarns
waitin for da feed to cook.

Pop e bin turn da damper over
den sister bin get a plates.



Come on you mob!
Have a feed. It's
giding darktime!

The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing small clumps and some dry roots. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered on the image, containing text.

Come on you mob!
Have a feed... dad bin sing out
it's getting dark time.
An one kid e bin go to bed ungry... marnu.
After da feed it was night time
an den we all go to sleep.



Look out!
Warlu!

Den it was morning time.

We bin have a swim

dat's when we bin see a warlu in da warda.

We bin run out.

Warlu! Warlu!

Den dad e bin pick da snake by da tail an put it in
da bushes.


A hand-drawn scene on a textured brown background. In the center is a car with a red roof, yellow body, and green base. Inside the car are four people: a driver and three passengers. To the left of the car is a person with a leopard-print head and a purple shirt. To the right of the car is a tall, thin figure with a large head and a wide smile. Further right is another figure with a large head and a wide smile, and two children. The background features two trees with green foliage and brown trunks. The ground is brown and uneven.

Come on!

Stop
winging you

Come on kids
listen to your
mother!

Awww! We
don't wanna
go home !

The background of the image is a close-up of reddish-brown soil, showing small clumps and some dry plant matter. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is centered in the upper half of the image, containing two lines of text.

an we bin pack up an go home
an we was appy.



Glossary

jirnda

coals

mardimirri

damper

marnu

poor fella

badtjarri

kangaroo

warlu

snake

Kids Bush Yarnin

Kids Bush Yarnin



Roebourne District High School

Makin Mardimirri

By Deesha Coppin and
Latisha Parker



We bin go Millstream
we bin go da longway roun
we bin git dere
nearly lunch time.

We made a mardimirri
we use plain flour
an self raising flour
an bakin powder
an warda
we mixed it up.
It was yucky on our mara.

We put powder...
powder in dere ...
normal flour
an den we roll it up
roll it up
we put a flour.



We bin jus chuck it onda fire
chuck it in da hole we bin
put da damper in da fire.
Den we bin wait for it
we bin put da hand on da
mardimirri.

We was waitin
and it was cooked.
So we bin grab it out
we bin check it
cut a liddle bit open
to see if it was ready.
That was too deadly.....muck
inside
but it was cooked.
Then we bin eat it with da
badtjarri.

We was cooking da badtjarri
first inda jirnda
we got a liddle bit hungry
waiting for it.



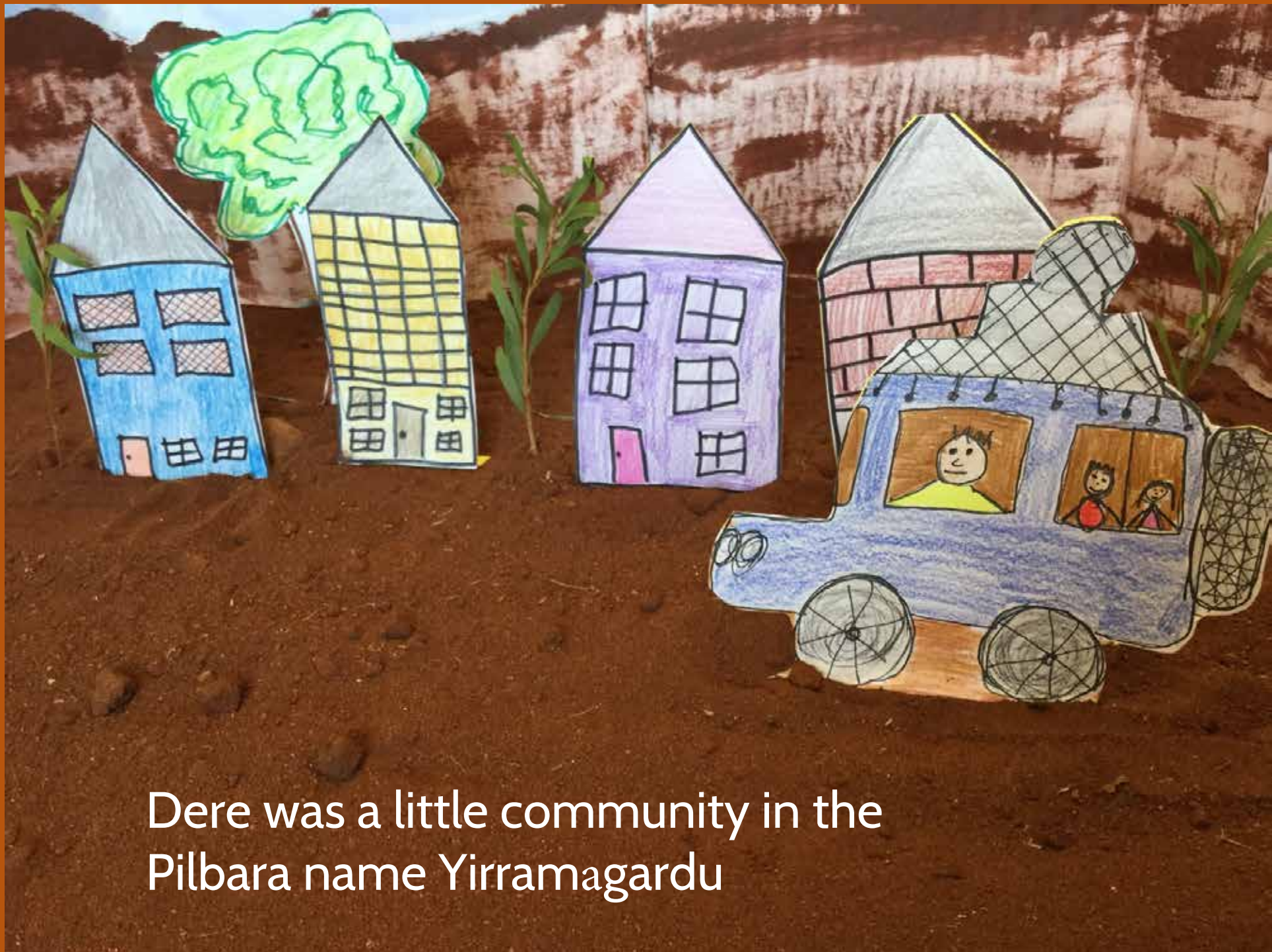
Badtjarri

We went an shoot it an
we skinned it up.
First we bin like cut a
hole in his leg an hang it
up on a tree
den we skin it up.
Tisha's dad bin shoot im
dem shoot it
an even like cut the guts
open an clean it out
an den get the guna.
Get da guts out an clean
it out wid fresh water.

Yeah den we bin cook it up
We bin finish an have a big feed
Den we bin avin yarns.

Cookin Mardimirri Badtjarri

by Deesha Coppin and
Latisha Parker



Dere was a little community in the
Pilbara name Yirramagardu



One family went shootin for badtjarri
and they saw im...
BANG!!!!
Him was jumpin then he drop.
Dey bin grab him and drag him to da modagar.

Dey bin cut him up and make a fire in the sand with the dry sticks.
Den dey bin get a bowl, warda and flour and bakin powder.
Dey bin mix it up.
It turn to sticky and yucky.
Dey bin put the sticky mardimirri in the ground
dey bin wait for a while.



Dey bin put the
badtjarri in the ground
til it was cook.
Dey bin pull it out
an eat him all up.



Dey bin go home.

Kangaroo Stew

By Matilda Samson

Couple of days...
no ...
longer den dis...
we went
shoothing.

My mum
my old mum Janneil
we bin go bush
an I went in my own mum's car
an Cliffy with us
bin hangin out of da window.



We sawn a goanna den we kill dat one
an pudim back of mum Janneil's car.
After dat we sawn kangaroo
den we bin kill im.
Den we bin go where we stay for a little spot
an den we bin make a fire
shuck da kangaroo tail on first
den we had some of da body
den da goanna.



Den we went walkin
and den we had a shot of da gun
an Noah and Noah's mum
an dey put a glass on dat liddle hill
an den mum Jinneil and Noah bin like hit both of dem
Dem two bin hit it
I bin miss it.
An den it was getting liddle bit dark
an den we stay for liddle while
an den we bin go back home.



Goin Bush

By Sharliya Mowarm



When we huntin
we bin bring da swags an a gun.
Den we saw a big fat kangaroo in da bush
den we shot im.
An after dat we bin go look for a place to sleep
we bin makeup our swags.
We bin go to sleep.

Den da next morning for breakfast
some mans went spearing
an catch some fish.... big catfish.
Den e bin bring da fish back
for his family an himself... to eat it
E got da fish... catfish.



Den e go back to da camp
an cook it...
cooked dat...
Dey was eatin da fish with
salt an onion.
Den it was getting dark.

Den da next morning dey bin relaxed
an bin pack their swags up
an bin go for an early drive
an dey found deir bush gardungu...
big juicy one.

Dey was lookin for jar...big tin or jar
an dey stopped at one spot an dey
have packs... big mobba bush larli ...
gardungu

Then when they was done dey pull up
one spot again.

They bin melt da bush larli an eat it
Den dey bin drive back home.

It bin take a long time.

Den dey bin go to sleep in da car.

Da driver e bin getting tired
den dey bin pull up da side an bin go
to sleep.



Next morning dey had emu
for breakfast
an some salt onion.

Red Rock

By Shelley-Anne Munda
and Chloe Cooyou



We bin go bush...
we went shooting... night time
all da family went shootin.
Wen we saw da turkey
emu an a kangaroo... Shelley-Anne
dad bin shoot im.
An we bin have alla bush food...
bush larli.





An we bin go fishin da next day... we bin fishin an swimmin
an after swimming... we went huntin again.
We go Red Rock-way... we bin bring our swag
we campted dere... one night.

Mardimirri

By Ciara Coppin



We go bush sometimes wit my pop
driving along.

Sometimes we talk or fall asleep
sometimes we get dere night-time
set up da camp or wait for morning-time.
We go shootin
all of us gets to go.

We bin go bush and we bin cook a
mardimirri
we bin cook it wit poppy an put it on a fire
an let it cook.

Git da water an flour an salt
We bin mix it... make it into a dough.
Put it on da fire an wait til it cook.
At bush... we bin sit down and we bin eat it...
pud a butter an a jam.

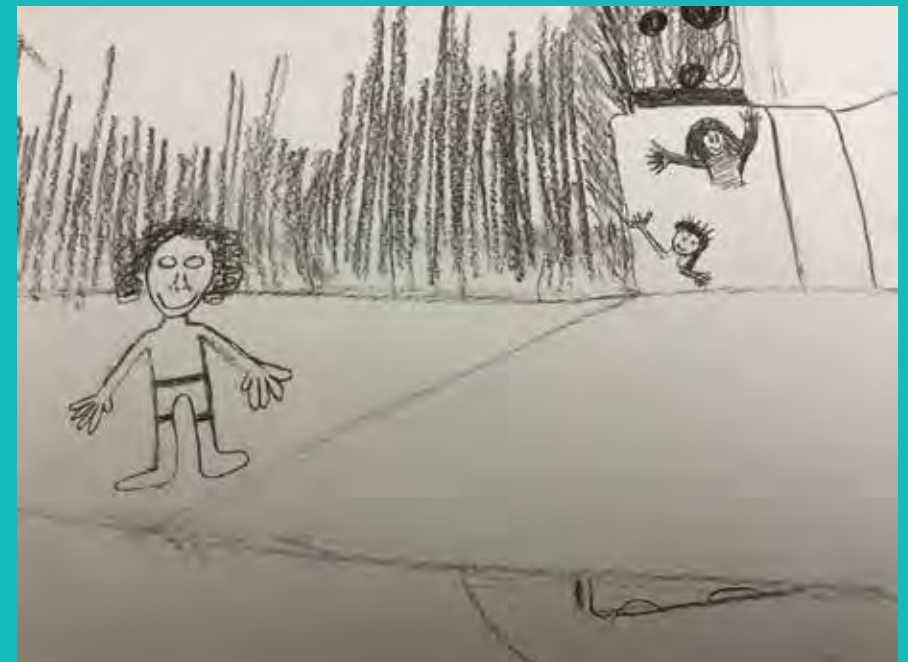
We bin go Millstream

By Bianca
Wally

Millstream...

when we bin take da boys dere...

Claude bin runnin in da slippery part
an he think he was deadly dere runnin
an e bin slip
an when e bin get up
e start laughin
an we bin laughin.



My liddle brother e run away from da ting
an we ave to go chase im...
e was iding behind a tree.



Cause we was playin
I bin mistake push im
thas when e bin say
Bye! Bianca you not my sister.
An e say
I'm gorn!
Bye I'm gorn now.
E bin runnin away from us mob.

Den mum an dad bin jus say
Let im run...
e'll come back... e'll get scared.

E bin come back.
E was getting scared of dat eagle...
dat bird was sittin in da big tree.

Goin Bush Song



Goin bush...
with my family.
Gonna look for big fat kangaroo...
yes... big fat kangaroo.
An we gonna look for some emiyu...
yeah... emiyu.
An don't forget da toilet paper...
yeah... don't forget da toilet paper.
Den we gonna look for gardungu...
cause I love gardungu...
yes... gonna look for gardungu...
out in da bush...
Yeah!
Gonna melt it in hot water...
melt da gardungu in da hot water.
Cos we goin bush...
we goin out bush...
doing my favourite things...
huntin for kangaroo...
fishin...
and lookin for gardungu...
Yeah!!

Glossary

mardimirri

damper

jirnda

coals

badtjarri

kangaroo

mara

hands

guna

faeces

Wanthiwa

Hello

gardungu
or
bush larli

sweet sap found on the
branches of the Ganyji tree



Wanthiwa

We enjoyed this project, making an e- book with some of the students from Roebourne District High School. The first is the hardest but the end product is worthwhile.

Ms Jane Cheedy and Ms Marion Cheedy

In preparing this story for publication, every effort has been made to preserve as many of the spoken qualities of Aboriginal storytelling 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).

