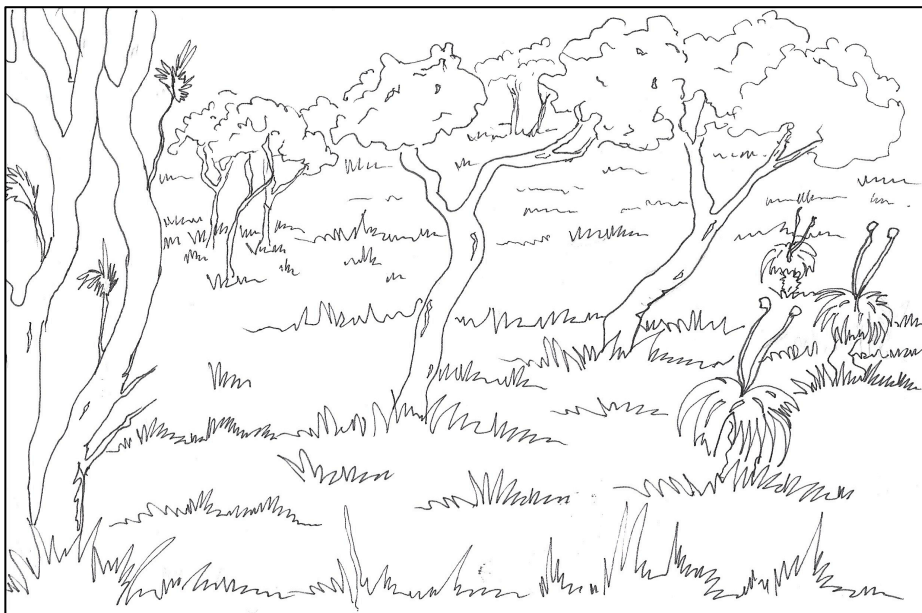


Noongar Marlak Bush Activity pack



Keeping Noongar Language alive

Teacher's Background Information

Like many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups, family relationships are very important. Noongar people have large extended family connections that impacts on a child's upbringing. Noongar people use the same relationships terms like brother, sister aunty and uncle when greeting other Noongar people who are not related which is also commonly used by other Aboriginal groups across Australia.

It is a form of acknowledgement and respect to each other from one person to another.

Noongar Language

Noongar was spoken in a traditional grammatical form prior to European settlement of WA. policies of the 19th century impacted significantly on the use of **traditional Noongar** grammar, consequently the grammar changed. It is now evolved into what is termed **contemporary Noongar**.

Contemporary Noongar is heavily influenced by contact with English grammar.

Contemporary and traditional Noongar language both are valid and used appropriately.

Languages must be dynamic and evolved to survive. Research is being undertaken on both traditional and contemporary forms of Noongar language.

This package uses the contemporary Noongar Language.

Lesson overview

These activities will provide students the opportunity to engage in a step by step Noongar language learning program about family.

Key learning/ Purpose

- Identify and discuss the relevance of the bush for the Noongar people;
- Identify key words in the Noongar language;
- To learn to read and write the Noongar keywords using the Noongar grammatical system.

Resources

- Bush keyword cards
- Work book
- Song



Greeting circle

Steps:

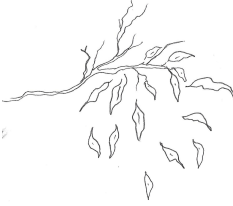
1. First you need a **Message stick** (talking stick). To make one of these, simply take a tapping stick or a stick from the garden and decorate any way you like.
2. Once you have made your stick, gather your students into a circle.
3. Explain to the students you cannot speak unless you have the message stick. This allows everyone to have the opportunity to share.
4. To begin each student will pass around the message stick saying **Kaya' (ki-ya)** (*meaning hello in Noongar language*) and then pass it on until everyone has had a turn.
5. As you work through this program you can use other words. This can also be done by introducing new words from the **Ocean** word list on page 3



Marlak *bush* Keywords



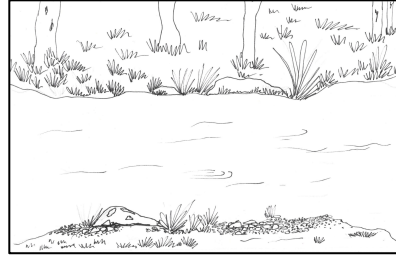
balka



bilara



boorn



bilya



dilbi



djet



djidi djidi



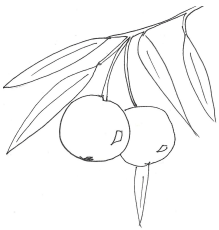
kaal



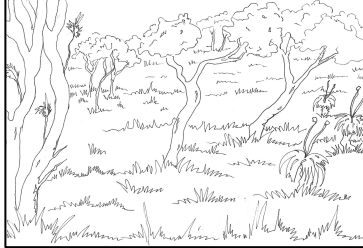
karda



kaart



kwondong



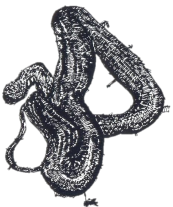
marlak



moodjar



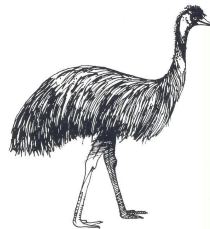
moort



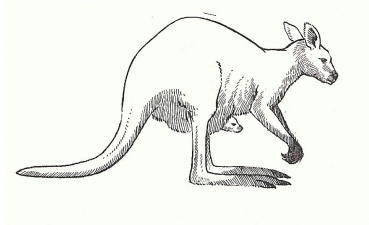
noorn



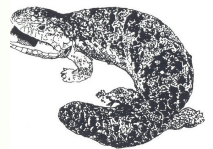
nyingarn



wetj



yongka



yoorn

Nidja marlak

(This is the Bush)

Draw a picture of you in the marlak.

marlak *bush*

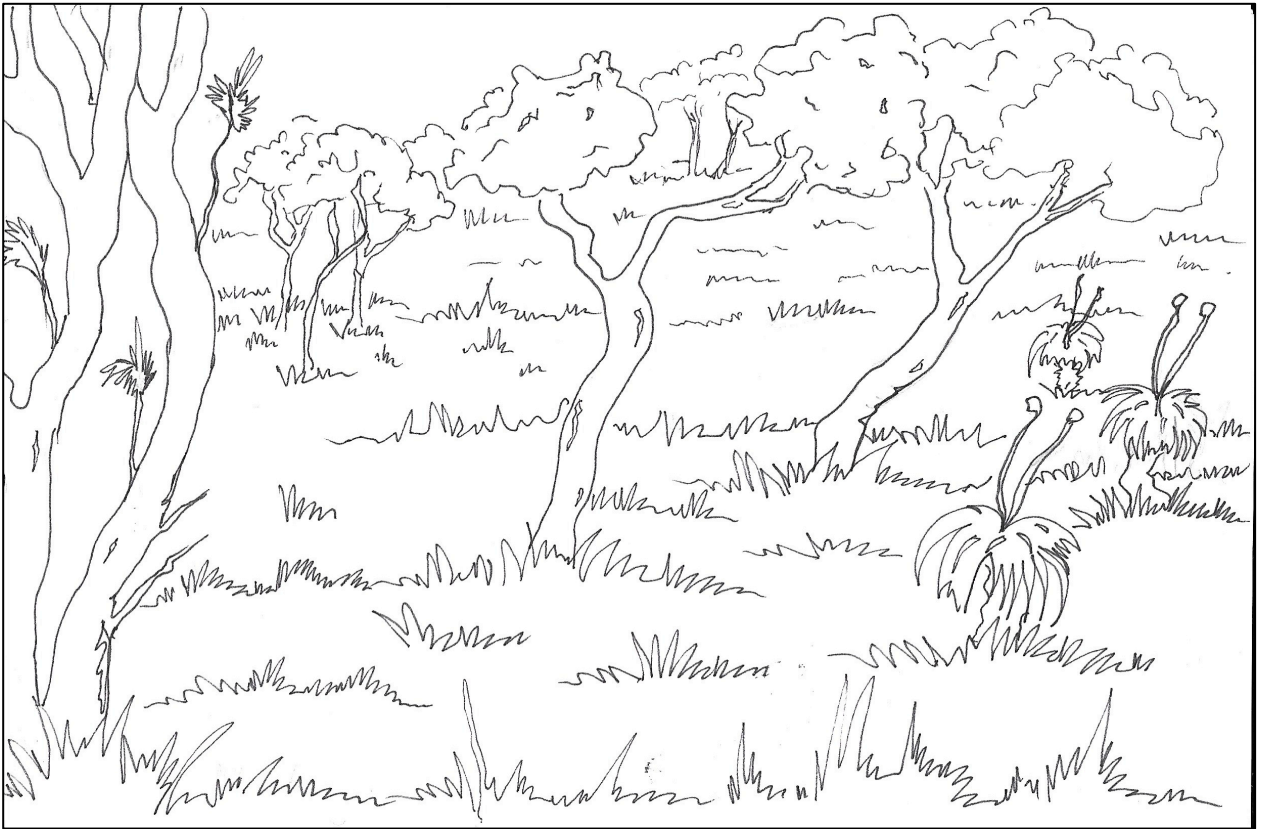
Marlak (Bush) word List	
balka	grass tree
bilara	dead leaves
boorn	tree
bilya	river
dilbi	fresh leaf
djet	flower
djidi djidi	willy wagtail
kaal	fire
karda	goanna
kaart	hill
kwondong	quandong bush fruit
marlak	bush
moodjar	christmas tree
moort	family
noorn	snake
nyingarn	echidna
wetj	emu
yongka	kangaroo
yoorn	bobtail

Ngiyan marlak nyininy?

Who lives in the bush?

Activity:

1. Choose 4 bush animals from your **marlak** word list and draw them in the picture below.
2. Write their names on the spaces below.

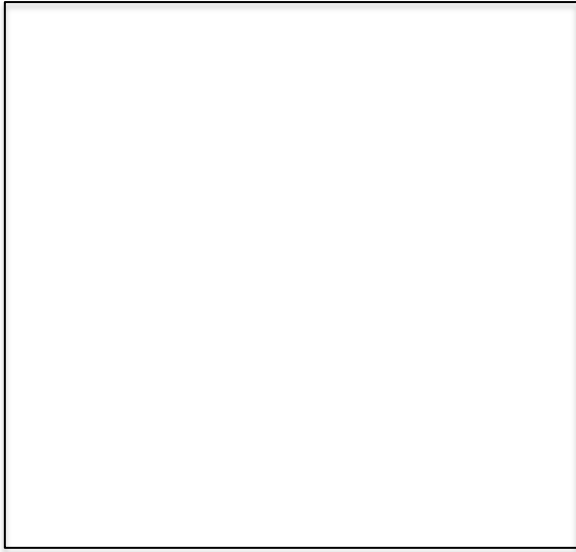


1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

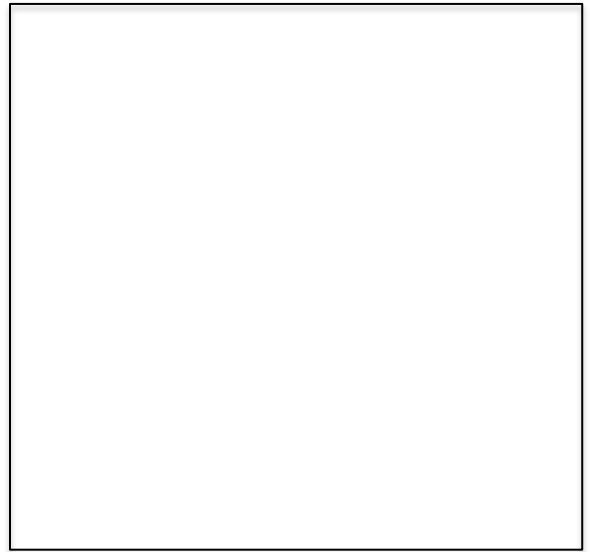
1. Complete the sentences by choosing family members you have from the **Bush** word list on page 5.

2. Then draw a picture matching your sentences in the boxes below.

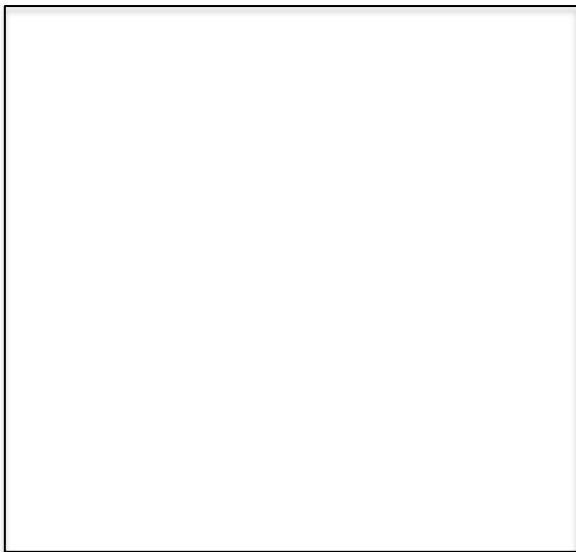
Example: Nidja **wetj** - This is a wetj



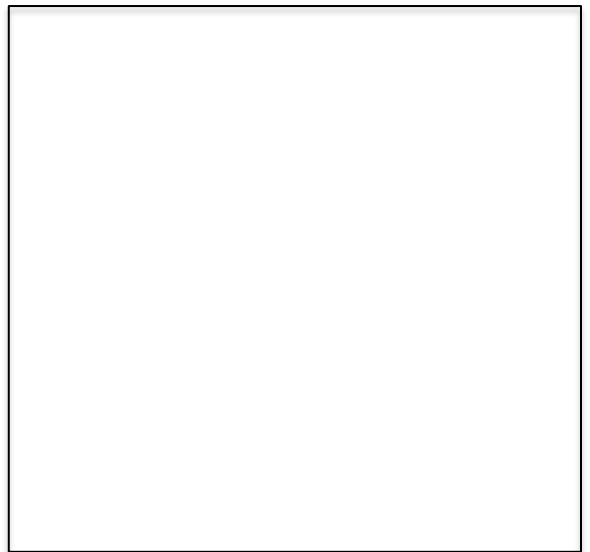
Nidja _____



Nidja _____



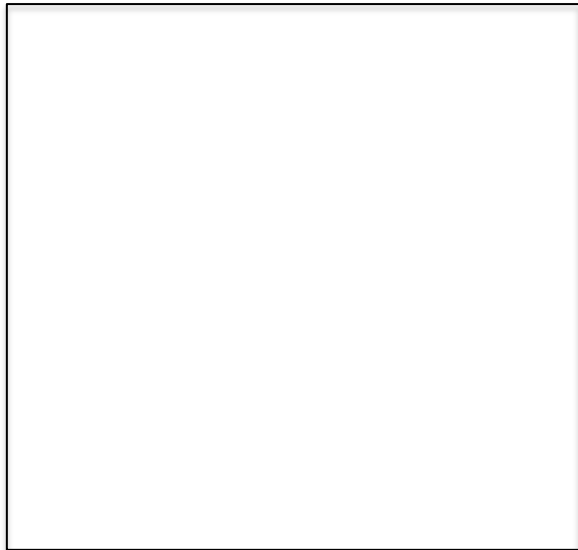
Nidja _____



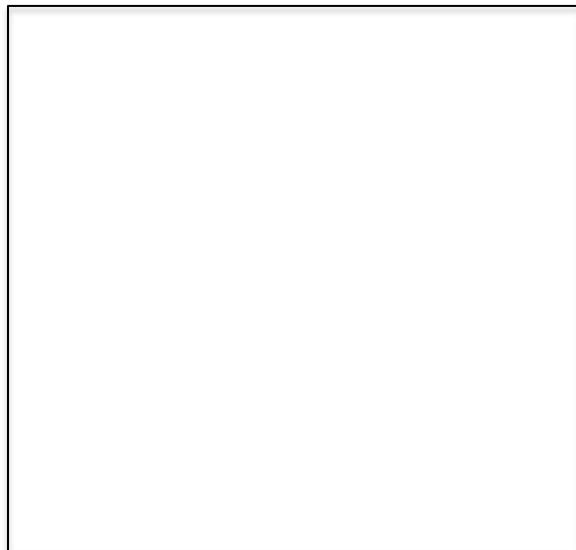
Nidja _____

1. Complete the sentences by choosing family members you have from the **Bush** word list on page 5.
2. Then draw a picture matching your sentences in the boxes below.

Example: Nidja **wetj** - This is a emu



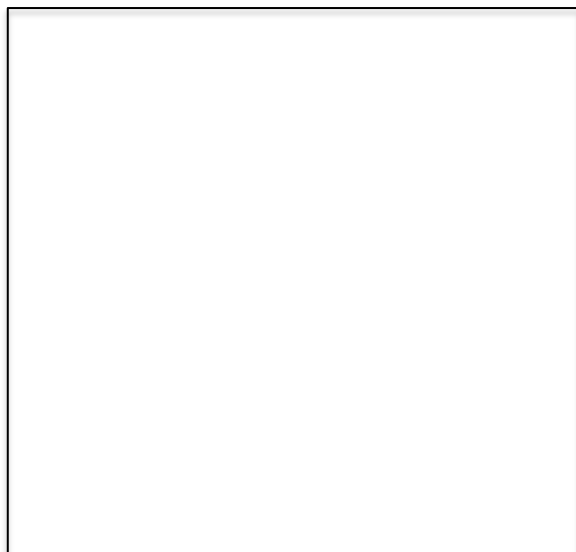
Nidja _____



Nidja _____



Nidja _____



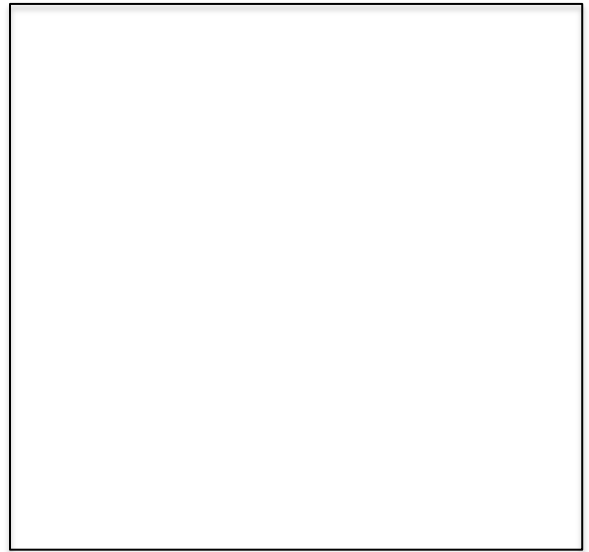
Nidja _____

1. Complete the sentences by choosing family members you have from the **Bush** word list on page 3.
2. Then draw a picture matching your sentences in the boxes below.

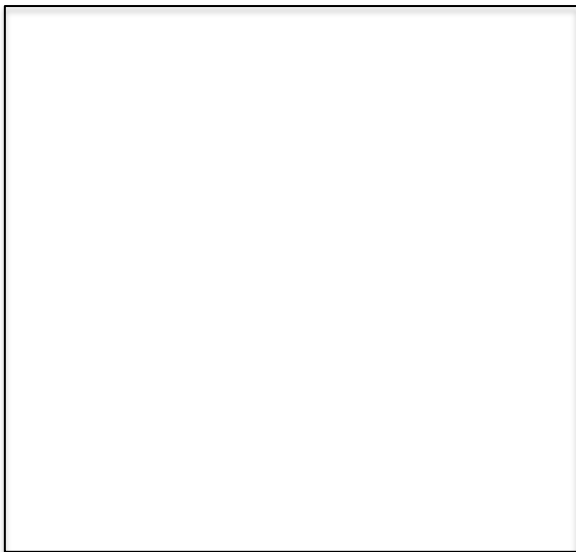
Example: Nidja **wetj** - This is a wetj.



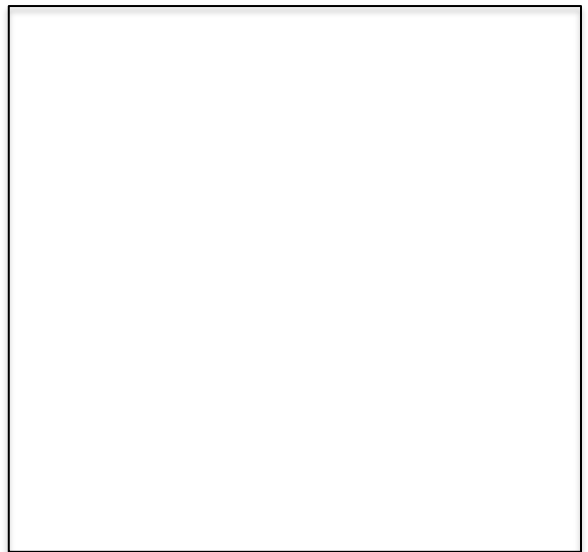
Nidja nganyang _____.



Nidja nganyang _____.



Nidja nganyang _____.

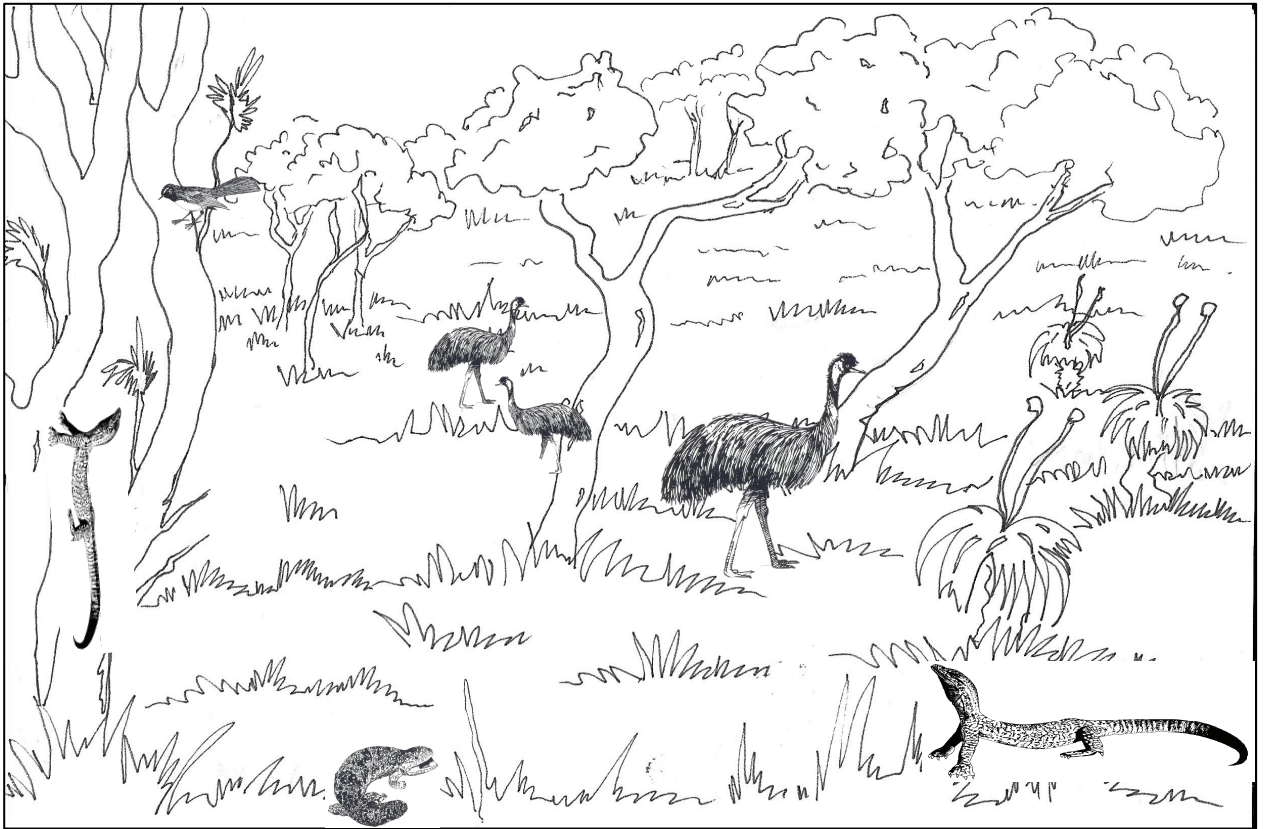


Nidja nganyang _____.

Ngiyan marlak nyininy?

Who is living in the bush?

Use your **marlak** word list to help you.



1. How many **wetj** can you see? _____
2. How many **karda** can you see? _____
3. How many **balka** can you see? _____
4. How many **boorn** can you see? _____

Maar Koorliny



Key word: Nidja – This is

Instructions: Using the your keyword 'Nidja' complete these sentences below. Choose a family member from your **Bush** wordlist on page 5. The first one is done for you.

1. Nidja wetj (this is a emu)

2. Nidja _____

3. Nidja _____

4. Nidja _____

5. N_____

6. N_____

7. _____

8. _____

Maar Koorliny



Missing letters: Fill in the missing letters of the Ocean keywords. Look at your Ocean word list to help you.

1. b _ _ r _
2. k _ _ l
3. m _ r _ a _
4. d _ l _
5. b _ l _ r _ a
6. m _ _ dj _ r
7. n _ _ _ n
8. w _ _ _
9. dj _ _ i dj _ d _
10. ny _ ng _ _ n

Matching words

wetj

yongka

marlak

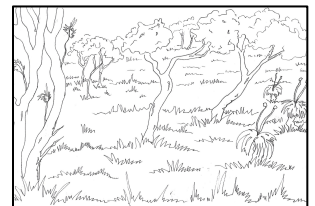
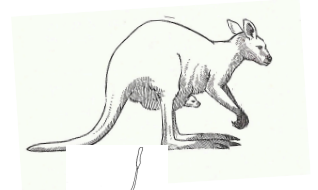
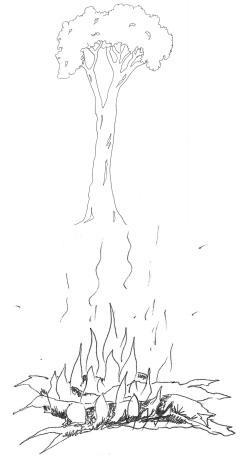
balka

karda

boorn

kaal

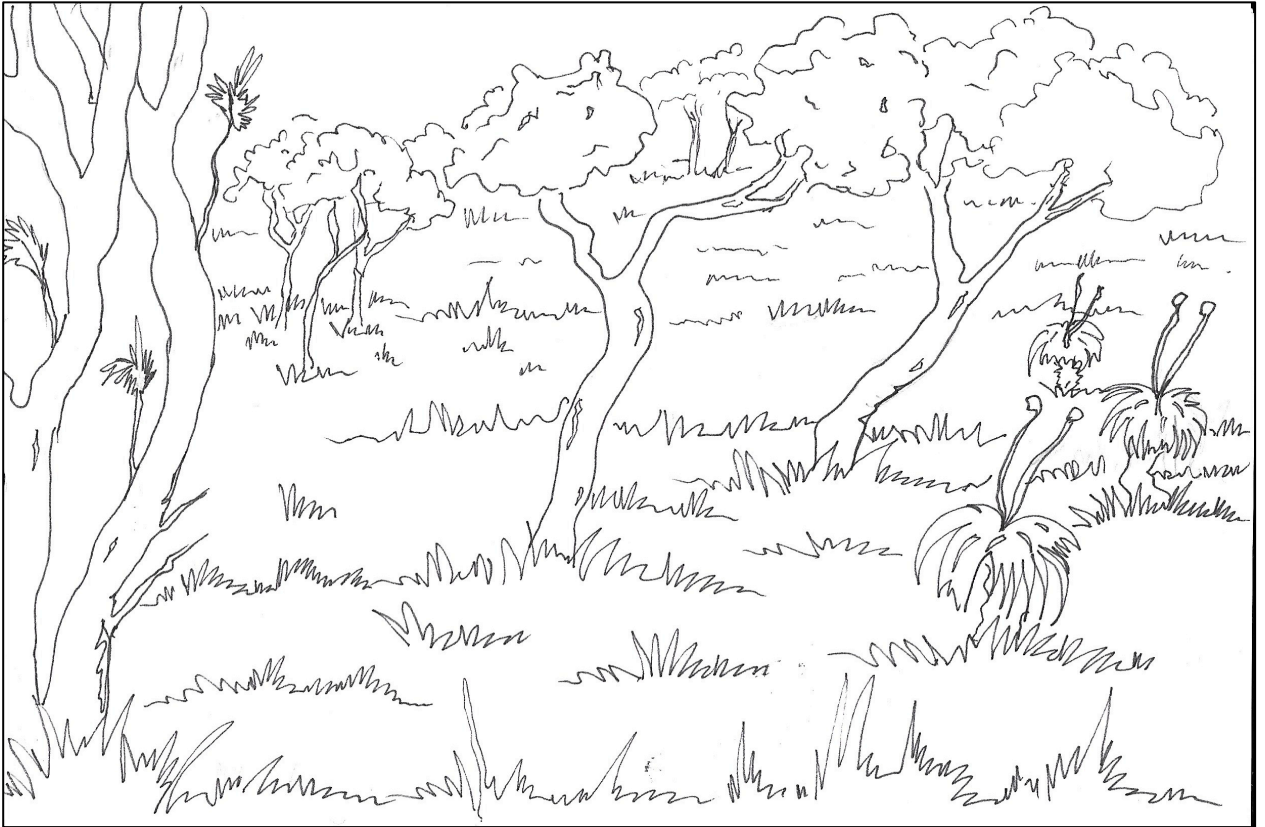
djet



marlak

(Bush)

Read the sentence below and draw



Moort marlak-ngat nyininy.

Learn how to speak Noongar

Noongar Vowel Sounds

a	as in up
aa	as in car
e	as in ten
i	as in bin
o	as in pot or sometimes for
oo	as in book or sometimes boot. (Note: if oo is followed by a r the sound is oo r and in born) example moort-family

Let's try our first words

k a y a - welcome, hello and yes

m a a r - hand

m e n - lips

b i d i t - ant

y o k - girl

k o o m b a - big



Noongar consonants Sounds

b	as in bin or spin
bw	as in bwana (Swahili name for boss)
d	as in dark or string
dj	as in judge
dw	as in twitch
k	as in skill (between English g and k)
kw	as in quiet
-l, -l-	as in lamp or nil
-ly	as in million
m	as in man
n	as in nil
ng	as in sing
ny	as in onion, nuisance
-p	as in cob, spin
-r	as in carol
-rd-	as in card (like an American would say it)
-rt	as in cart (like an American would say it)
-rl	as in whirl (like an American would say it)
-rn	as in torn (like an American would say it)
-t	as in sting (between English d and t)
-tj	as in chair
w	as in wet
y	as in yell

Here are some examples of words using the Noongar consonants:

bamba- stingray

bwoka - kangaroo cloak

darp - knife

djen - foot

dwert - dog

kar - spider

kwila - shark

dilbi,- fresh leaf, kwilena- dolphin

bilya- river

maaman- father

noort - fly

ngany - I/myself

nyingarn

nop - boy

maar - hand

ward - find

moort - family

worl -sky

yoorn - bobtail

kaat - head

wetj - emu

waabiny - playing

yongka - kangaroo

Teacher notes

Sentences

Create your own sentences.

Noongar language word order is very different from that in English and object S,V,O (subject verb and object) . The Noongar word order consists of S,O,V (subject object and verb.) Below is an example of the word order.

1. yongka marlak-ngat nyininy.
kangaroo bush – in, near sitting.
subject object/location-suffix verb
- **ngat** – meaning near or in this case in or near.

2. The next exercise will give students the opportunity to use the Noongar word order. Let's start by introducing the key word **marlak** with added suffix **-ngat** (**bush –in, near**)

Marlak *bush* (an object and location) –ngat is the suffix added to describe *in the bush or near the bush*.

Generally location words, have the suffix **-ak or -k** attached to describe where a subject is located : e.g. **miya-k- in** the house; **on** the house. In this case the word **marlak** is an exception due to it already has – ak in it. To make pronunciation easier, the suffix – ngat is then used resulting in marlak-ngat *in the bush*.

Note: -k : if a word ends in a vowel such as **a, aa, i, o, oo** then the suffix will only be – **k** as in miya-**k** shown above.

-ak : if the word ends in a consonant then the suffix will be **-ak**.

Here are two some examples:

1. marlak-ngat *bush-in or near*

2. boorn-ak *tree-in*

Please refer to the Vowels and Consonants sounds on pages 15, 16 and 17.

So let's have a go in the exercise on next page.

Noongar Suffixes

Rules:

- **k**: if a word ends in a vowel such as **a, aa, i, o, oo** then the suffix will only be - **k** as in bily-**ak** river- *in, on, at*.

-**ak** : if the word does not end with one of the vowels below then the suffix will be -**ak** as in boorn-**ak** tree -*in*.

-**ngat** : *near, in*

Vowels: a, aa, i, o, oo

Look at the last letter of each word, this will help you decide which suffix to use.

Below is a list of locations

1. boorn - _____
tree
2. bilya - _____
river
3. boodja - _____
ground
4. boya - _____
rock
5. marlak - _____
bush
6. worl - _____
sky

Sentences

Create your own sentences.

Your keyword is **marlak -ngat** *bush-in*

Use this keyword to make your own sentences.

E.g. **Yongka marlak -ngat kangaroo bush-near, in**

1. Yongka marlak-ngat.
2. _____ marlak-ngat.
3. _____ marlak-ngat.
4. _____ marlak-ngat.
5. _____ marlak-ngat.

Choose words from this list:

nyingarn *echidna*
moort *family*
boorn *tree*
moodjar *hill*
kwondong *quandong bush fruit*

Sentences

Adding a verb (present tense)

Your phrase is **marlak-ngat nyinyin** *bush-in living*.

Use this phrase to make your own sentences.

E.g. Yongka **marlak-ngat** - *Kangaroo in the bush*.

1. Yongka marlak-ngat nyinyin..

2. _____marlak-ngat nyinyin.

3. _____ marlak-ngat _____.

4. _____

5. _____

Choose words from this list:

wetj *emu*

moort *family*

noorn *snake*

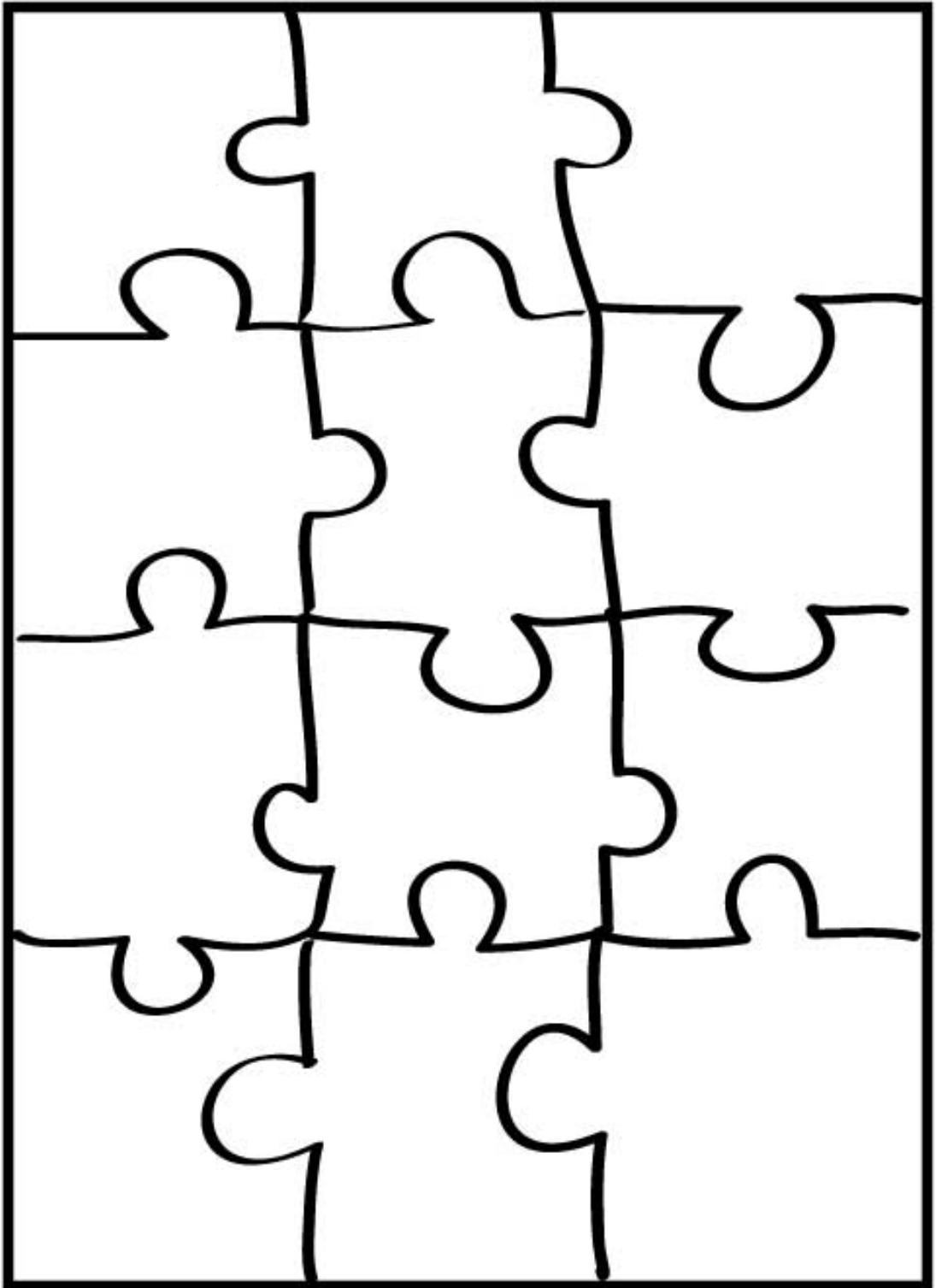
djidi djidi *willy wagtail*

yoorn *bobtail*

Create your very own family jigsaw puzzle.

Instructions: Draw and colour a picture of your family on the puzzle, then cut out the pieces.

Have fun!







NOTES:

Evaluation of your learning Package

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Rate what you thought of the Noongar lessons, circle or colour in the stars that match what you think.

 I didn't like them  It was ok  I liked them a lot
 It was so much fun. Can I do more?

What is something new you learnt?

What did you like about the Lessons and activities?

What didn't you like about the lessons and activities?

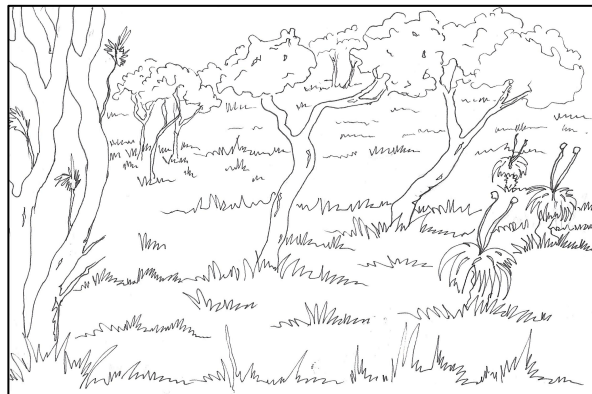
What would you like to do more of?

What would you like to do less of?

Is there anything else you would like to say about what you have learnt so far?



Noongar Marlak bush Activity pack



Further Information

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