ENVIRO stories

Bush Buddies

Dapin, Gawul, Bikan & Banggu



By Gloucester Pre School &
Early Years Learning Centre

Acknowledgement of Country

We stand on Country that always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work.

Hunter Local Land Services

Hunter Local Land Services works with land managers and the community to improve primary production within healthy landscapes. We help people make better decisions about the land they manage and assist communities and agricultural industries to be productive and sustainable into the future.

The Hunter Local Land Services region covers an area of approximately 33,000 square kilometres, extending from Mid Coast Council in the north to Lake Macquarie City Council in the south and Upper Hunter Shire Council in the west.

The landscape ranges from estuarine wetlands and mangroves, rainforests and freshwater wetlands to open grasslands, woodlands, eucalypt forests, lakes and foreshores.

The region supports a wide range of industries, including agriculture, forestry, fishing, oyster farming, tourism, power-generation, and nature-based recreation.

nsw.gov.au/departments-and-agencies/local-land-services

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Design by PeeKdesigns.

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Bush Buddies:

Dapin, Gawul, Bikan & Banggu

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Gloucester Pre School & Early Years Learning Centre Welcomes You

Here is the land
Here is the sky
Here are my friends
And here am I
We thank the Worimi and the Biripi People
For the land on which we play
And we promise to look after it every single day.

This collection of songs are to the tune of "If you're happy and you know it" and includes Gathang language identified in brackets.
Use the QR code to listen to the song, sung by Amie Jacobs.

Enviro-Stories

Enviro-Stories is a literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area.

This publication has been prepared in conjunction with the Enviro-Stories Education Program, a PeeKdesigns initiative.

envirostories.com.au

For thousands and thousands of years, Aboriginal people have lived on and cared for the land around Gloucester.

The Gloucester region is Worimi/Biripi country. The Gathang language is spoken by the Worimi, Biripi and Guringay people.

The Aboriginal people have their own stories, languages, traditions, and connections to Country.

Country is much more than just the land. It includes the mountains, rivers, creeks, plants, animals, sky and waterways. Aboriginal people have a deep connection to Country and have cared for it for generations.



The people of this area know the land very well. They travelled through the valleys, forests and mountains and used the plants, animals and waterways around them for food, medicine and other important things. They followed the seasons and understood that caring for Country was important for everyone.

—Gloucester Worimi First Peoples Aboriginal Corporation



Dingo (Dapin)



When the dingo (dapin) runs around
among the bush (wirray) – howl, howl.

When the dingo (dapin) runs around
among the bush (wirray) – howl, howl.



Sing to the tune of...
“If you’re happy and you know it”.

He sniffs along the ground
Till he thinks that he has found.

A quiet stump
To sit and have a rest – howl, howl.



Dingo (Dapin)

The dingo is a wild dog that has lived in Australia for thousands of years. Most have sandy-gold fur, and some are black and tan or white. Dingoes eat animals such as kangaroos, rabbits, rodents and birds. Dingoes often howl to communicate across long distances.





Eagle (Gawul)

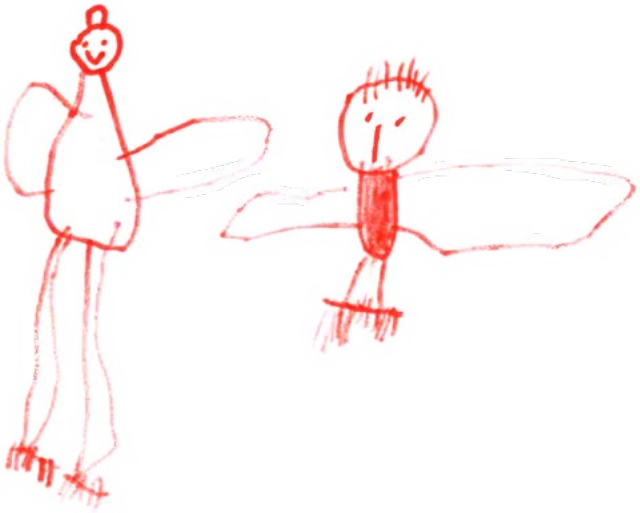


When the eagle (Gawul) flies up high
Into the sky (yurra) – yee ha.

When the eagle (Gawul) flies up high
Into the sky (yurra) – yee ha.



Sing to the tune of...
“If you’re happy and you know it”.



He flaps his wings as he climbs
Then spots a tree with his eyes.

He swoops back down
And lands to have a rest – yee ha.





Eagle (Gawul)

There are several species of eagle including the wedge-tailed eagle. The wedge-tailed eagle is Australia's largest bird of prey. Its broad wings can stretch more than two metres across! Named for its wedge-shaped tail, its sharp eyesight helps it spot food from far away.



Wedge-tailed eagle

Platypus (Bikan)





When the platypus (bikan) spies a river (bila)
He jumps in – plop, plop.

When the platypus (bikan) spies a river (bila)
He jumps in – plop, plop.





Sing to the tune of...
“If you’re happy and you know it”.



He jumps in but starts to shiver
So he gives his tail a quiver.

Then he swims and swims
Until he finds the land – plop, plop.



Platypus (Bikan)

The platypus lives in freshwater rivers and creeks in eastern Australia, including Tasmania. Underwater, it closes its eyes, ears and nostrils, using its sensitive bill to find insect larvae, worms and small crustaceans. The platypus is a mammal and it lays eggs!





Glider possum (Banggu)



When the glider possum (Banggu)
Flys up in the trees (wati) – clap, clap.

When the glider possum (Banggu)
Flys up in the trees (wati) – clap, clap.

Sing to the tune of...
“If you’re happy and you know it”.

He hides among the leaves
Where he meets his friends the bees.

Then sleeps all day
High up in the trees – clap, clap.



Glider possum (Banggu)

There are several species of gliding possums that glide through the air from tree to tree using a stretchy flap of skin between their front and back legs. They are active at night, feeding on insects, nectar and tree sap. During the day, they sleep together in leafy nests inside tree hollows.



Squirrel glider







Kayla Jory – Educator and Aboriginal Artist and Judy Ingram – song writer and music teacher.

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