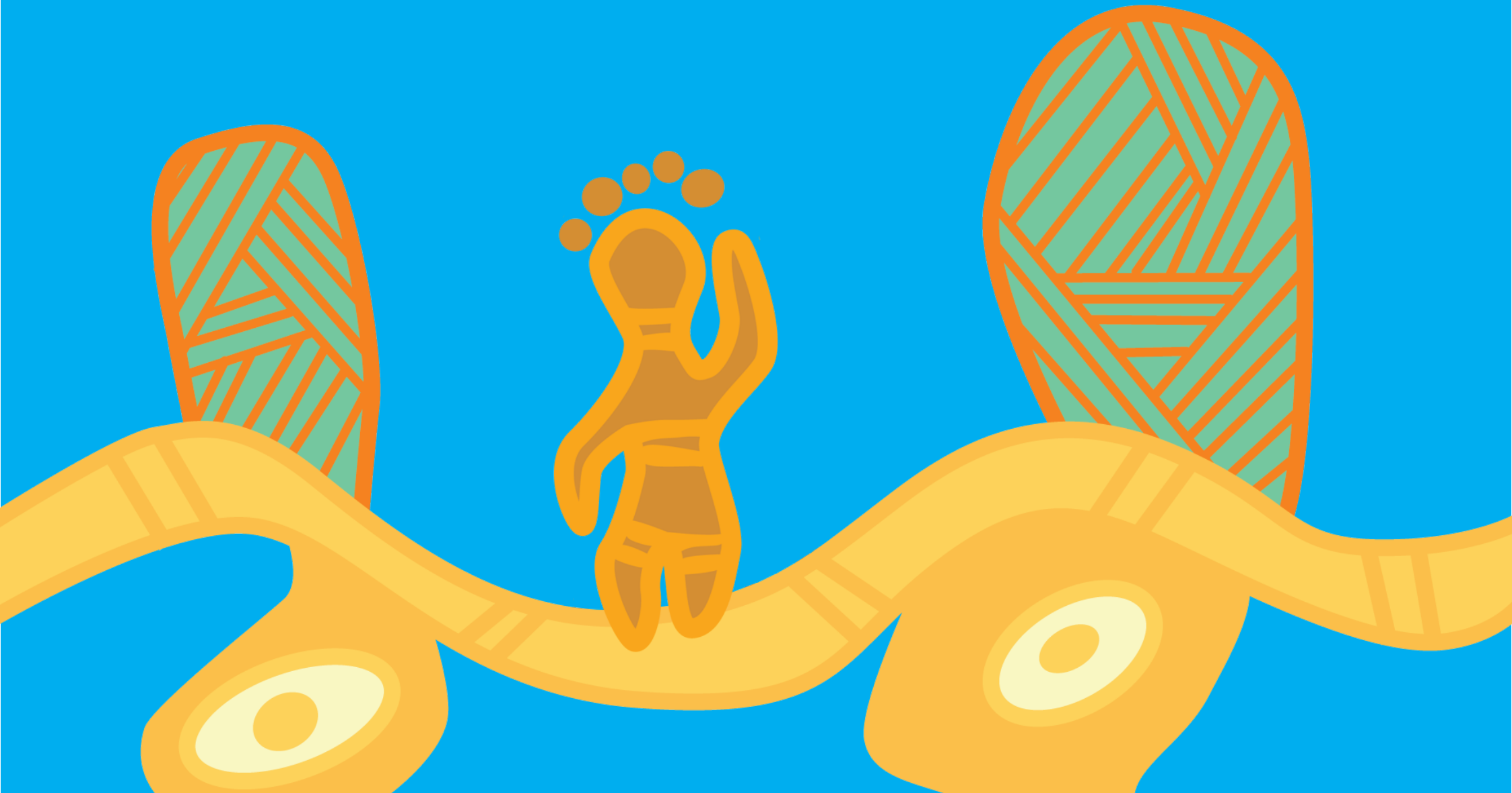


I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...



WRITTEN BY
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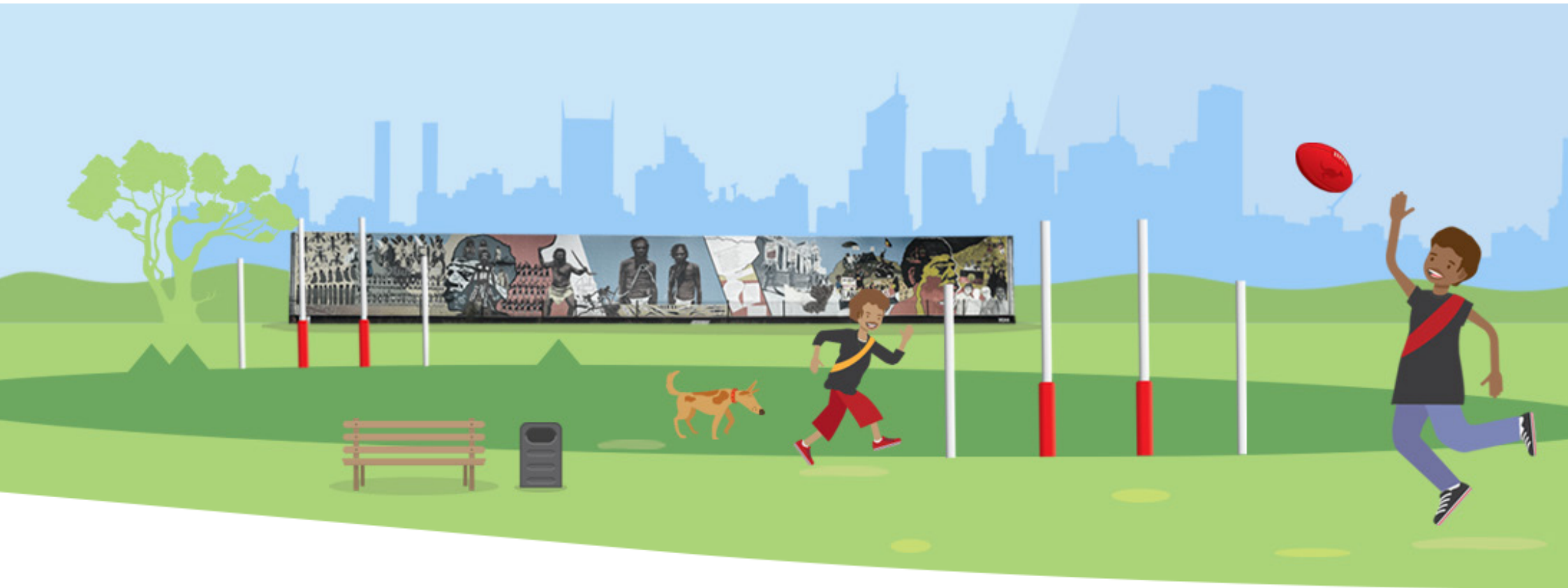
I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

A Koorie Kid is a member of a family, a clan and a first Australian with a connection to Country and responsibilities to those who have come before and those to follow.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

We have the opportunity to learn, practice and pass on our culture. We do this by knowing who we are and where we come from. This is special because of the strong beliefs that live in the hearts of all Koorie kids living in Victoria.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

I have a huge family who make me laugh until my belly aches, and a whole community of Uncles, Aunties and Cousins to help raise me. Koorie people live for their Kinship group. We are taught from birth to know all our family connections in the Communities.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...



My family's ancestors have lived in Victoria for thousands of years.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

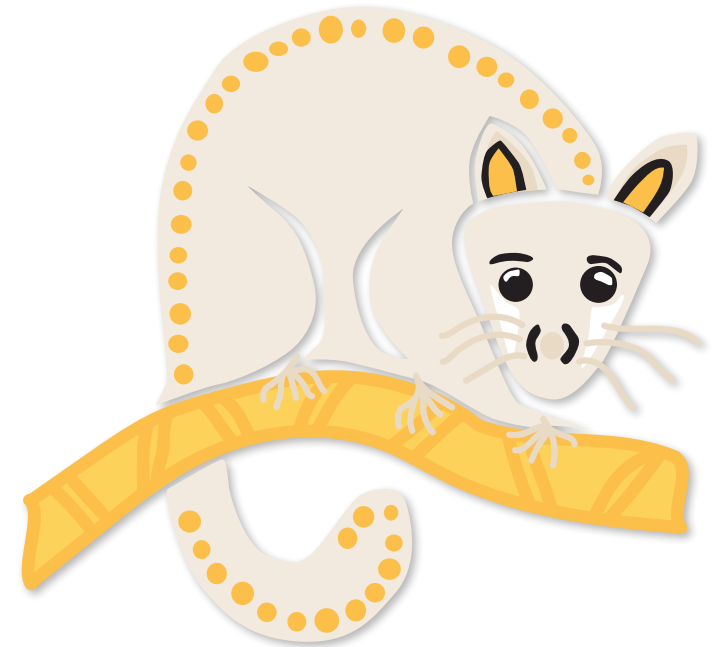
When my ancestors were born, they were given a totem. A totem can be a local place, animal, plant or even a star or planet.



Black Cockatoo



Snake



Possum

I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

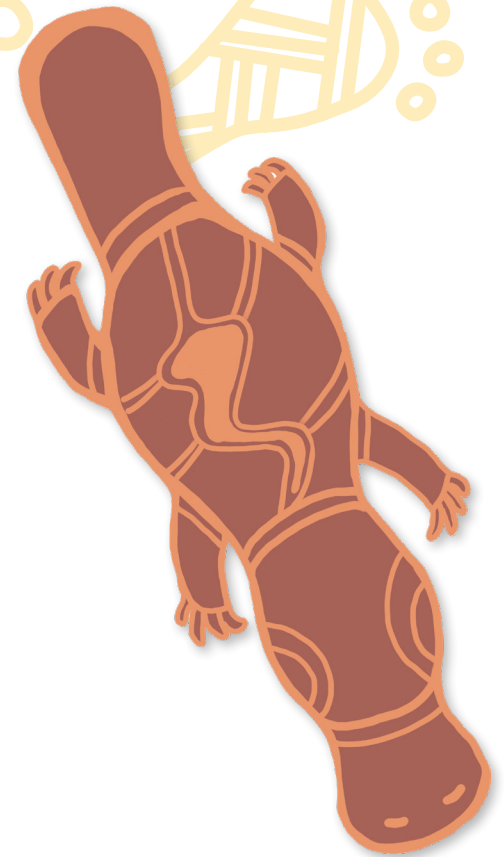
A totem makes sure each Koorie child has a special connection to Mother earth and their Kinship Family group.



Nightjar Owl



Willy Wag Tail



Platypus

I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

7

At night my family can turn the planets & stars of the night sky into a story land of adventures about the animals & places of Victoria. Neilloan (Nay-e-lo-en) the Malley Fowl is one such animal. It appears in the night sky in Autumn at the same time the Mallee Fowl is starting to build their nests. Aboriginal people believe that when the stars are blinking they are our ancestors watching us and talking.

I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

My family look to the local native animals, plants, wind and the skyworld to tell us the time of the year. We have many weather seasons—some Victorian Kinship groups have up to 6 seasons.



gwangal moronn
Season of the Honey Bees
Autumn (Late March to June)



chinnup
Season of cockatoos
Winter (June to late July)



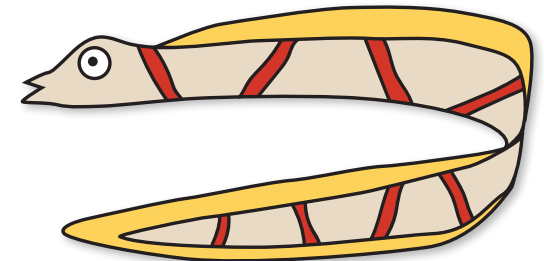
larneuk
Season of nesting birds
Early Spring (Late July to late August)



petyan
Season of wildflowers
Late Spring (Late August to mid November)



ballambar
Season of butterflies
Early Summer (mid November to late January)



kooyang
Season of eels
Late Summer (Late January to late March)

I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

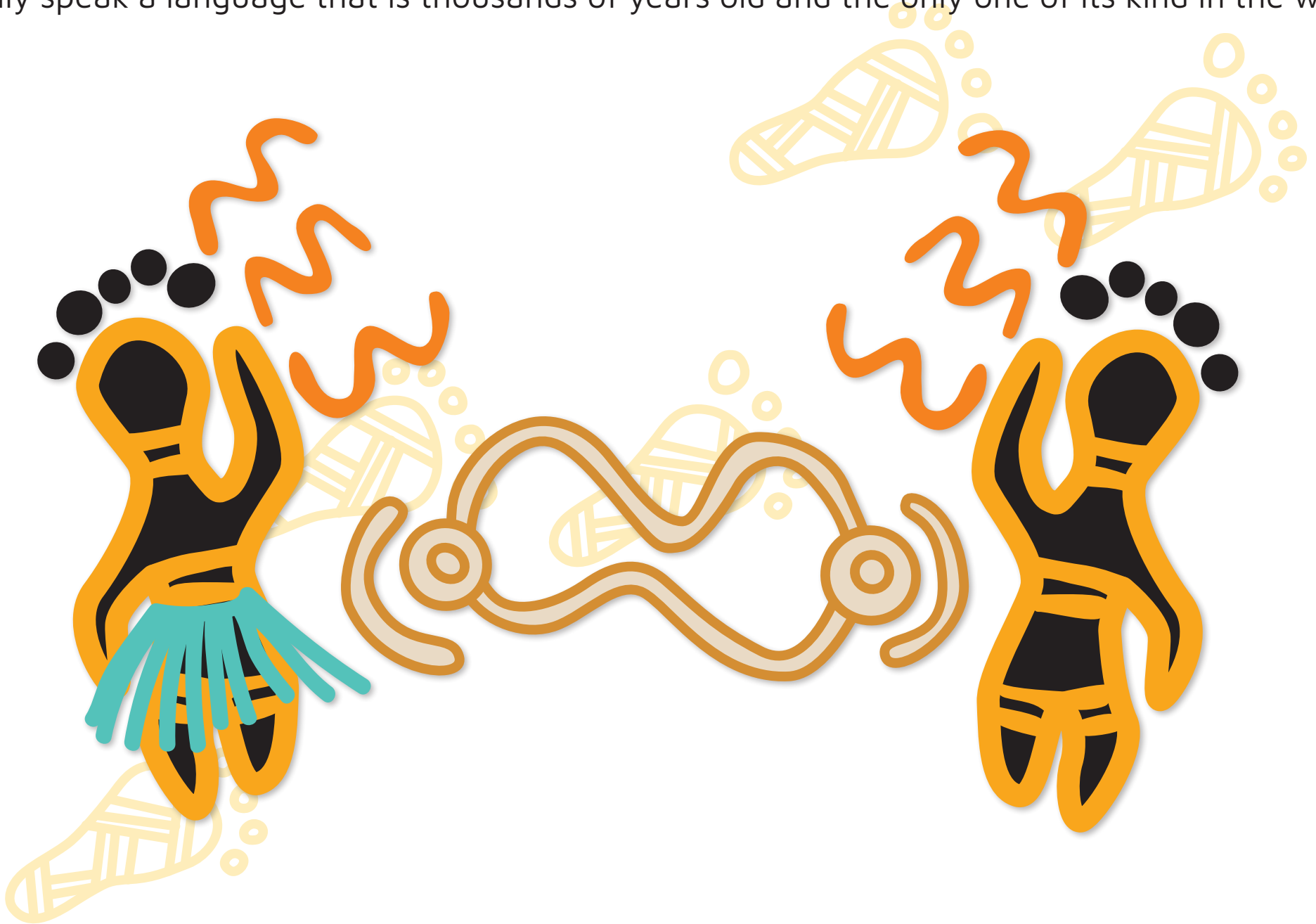


We have been celebrating the Victorian landscapes for thousands of years through dance, rituals and ceremonies.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...

My family speak a language that is thousands of years old and the only one of its kind in the whole world.



I Love Being A Koorie Kid Because...



For thousands of years my family have honoured the animals and plants of Victoria. Local Koorie communities have thrived by listening carefully to the shifting patterns of nature. Koorie people know that food is at its most useful and plentiful when it is cultivated in harmony with the laws of nature, in its peak season.

What is a Koorie?

The word Koorie or Koori is a word used by most Aboriginal people of New South Wales and Victoria to describe themselves. The word generally means 'man' or 'people' and originates from the Awabakal language around the Hawkesbury River and as far north as Newcastle.

NOTE: The use of 'Aboriginal' and 'Indigenous' throughout the e-book relates to Australian Indigenous people, which includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Museum Victoria - Stories in the Stars

<https://museumsvictoria.com.au/media/1860/stories-in-the-stars.pdf>

Brambuk - Gariwerd Six Seasons

<http://www.brambuk.com.au/gariwerdsixseasons.htm>

Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages

<http://vaclang.org.au/>

Culture Victoria - Ponponpoorramook

<https://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/aboriginal-culture/meerreeng-an-here-is-my-country/ponponpoorramook/>

Culture Victoria - Snake and Water-lilies

<https://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/aboriginal-culture/meerreeng-an-here-is-my-country/snake-and-water-lilies/>

Culture Victoria - Winanggual (to listen)

<https://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/aboriginal-culture/meerreeng-an-here-is-my-country/winanggual-to-listen/>

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Check out the new website deadlystory.com

For Aboriginal children and young people,
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