

# THE BUNYIP'S BILLABONG

*The Bunyip and the Stars* is part Sky Country creation story and part exciting adventure tale written by Adam Duncan, Biripi man, and illustrated by Paul Lalo. It is associated with the National Museum of Australia's immersive play space for children, the Tim and Gina Fairfax Discovery Centre.

The book is for children aged birth–6 years but students up to age 12 (Year 6) can use the book to springboard to studies across most areas of the curriculum. In this activity, children will create an artwork inspired by *The Bunyip and the Stars*.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Early Years Learning Framework

### **OUTCOME 1 Children have a strong sense of identity**

- Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect

### **OUTCOME 3 Children have a strong sense of wellbeing**

- Children become strong in their social, emotional and mental wellbeing

### **OUTCOME 5 Children are effective communicators**

- Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts
- Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media
- Children begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work

## KEY LEARNING STRATEGIES

Visual resources, collaboration, shared construction of ideas, hands-on activity.

## DIFFERENTIATION + INCLUSION

Catering for difference: existing knowledge, learning abilities, learning styles, interests, learning needs and requirements, cultural acknowledgement, self-esteem, gender, intro/extroversion.

## MATERIALS REQUIRED

- Book: *The Bunyip and the Stars*, Adam Duncan and Paul Lalo
- Large canvas or paper
- Paint (consider using a palette of natural colours from your local area)
- Paint brushes
- Other materials (sticks, strings, felt balls, etc.)

## RISKS

- Ingestion of paint: ensure paint is non-toxic
- Allergens

# THE BUNYIP'S BILLABONG CONT;

## INSTRUCTIONS + PROVOCATIONS

1. Read *Bunyip and the Stars*
2. Introduce painting materials immediately after finishing the story and paint while discussing the book
  - a. What places did we see in the story? What was in each place? Think about billabongs, caves, stars, trees, campfires, etc.
  - b. Think about the shapes and colours that make up these things. What shape are the leaves in the playground or the garden at home? What shape are the ripples, waves or currents in the local waterways, and how do we see them? What colour are the stars, and what colour is the sky that they are in?
  - c. The book mentions the special places of Ngariin and Wumbirr's mob. What special places do we have? What's around them? How do we find our way to our special places?
3. Encourage children to explore these ideas by working together, painting with their fingers and pasting different materials onto the large canvas. The subject of their painting may be very different from the discussion, and that's okay
  - a. Depending on the size of your group, this may work better with several small groups. Feel free to use the same canvas with multiple groups so they can grow and expand on each other's ideas.

