



Book title: **Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot**

About the book:

'Chunyart had dreamed of this day since he was a little boy. He was finally old enough to go hunting with his dad.'

A young Nyoongar boy called Chunyart is taking his first journey towards becoming a man. He has much to learn from his family about the land and its useful plants. But with a cheeky parrot for a friend, there is plenty of mischief along the way.

Please note:

Chunyart and the Cheeky Parrot has been written using both Nyoongar and SAE words. Nyoongar words and definitions can be found on pages 4 and 5.

Interesting words and phrases

beginning of time
spied
foraging
high as a bird
long, long time ago
journey
sticky gum

long strappy leaves
juicy
cliff
28 parrot
mob
creamy, egg-yolky grub
buzz off

splat
butterflies in his tummy
pooped
ouch
Dreamtime story

About the author:

Alton Walley is a Whadjuk, Wilman, Kaneang Nyoongar man from the South-West of Western Australia. Alton has been heavily immersed in his culture since he was a young boy, being fortunate enough to have access to, and engage with, a wealth of knowledgeable cultural figures. He has been dancing and playing music with the Middar dance group since he could walk, performing locally, nationally and internationally.

Alton's true passions are embedded in his culture and the Arts. This led to him to a Tourism and Australian Indigenous Studies major at Murdoch University whilst working a Cadetship with Kings Park and Botanical Gardens. Alton aims to continue to develop his skills in an array of fields, consulting and penning various projects in the film, television, theatre and creative arts industries. He believes that his strong Nyoongar identity, alongside his passion for cultural representation and education, has guided his journey and aided in his achievements to date.

About the illustrators

The book was co-illustrated by Sandy, Rosalie and Richard in an independent freelance project for the King Park Botanical Gardens.

Sandy Fordham has been involved in illustrating a range of Nyoongar books.

Rosalie Okely is a graphic designer, co-authored and illustrated a range of botanical books especially relating to Kings Park and the Botanic Gardens

Dr Richard Walley OAM is a Nyoongar man of the South-West of Western Australia, with family connections throughout the Wadjuck, Ballardong, Wardan, Yuet and Pinjareb regions. In 1978 Richard co-founded the Middar Aboriginal Theatre Group, which over its lifetime took Nyoongar culture to 32 countries around the world. He has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal and two honorary doctorates for his contribution to the promotion of Nyoongar culture and the arts. In 2010 Richard received the Citizen of the Year Award in the Indigenous Leadership category of the Celebrate WA Awards. A fluent speaker of the Nyoongar language, Richard continues to push boundaries, while always focusing on the bigger community picture of culture, arts and environment.

Links across the learning areas (where applicable):

Year 3

Learning area	Content descriptor	Links to text
English	Discuss how language is used to describe the settings in texts, and explore how the settings shape the events and influence the mood of the narrative	Aboriginal storytelling, use of Wadjuk Nyoongar words (definitions in the glossary) are used throughout the story
HaSS	One important example of change and one important example of continuity over time in the local community, region or state/territory (e.g. in relation to the areas of transport, work, education, natural and built environments, entertainment, daily life)	Landscape – comparison of pictures to current landscape
Science	Biological Sciences • Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things	Australian landscape Illustration of plants – where do they belong?
Health and Physical Education	Factors that strengthen personal identities, such as the influence of: <input type="checkbox"/> family <input type="checkbox"/> friends <input type="checkbox"/> school Behaviours that show empathy and respect for others	Influence of family values Parrot – is it a good friend or not? Personal identity – totems, culture
Personal and Social capabilities	compare their emotional responses with those of their peers	Listening to the story – compare, contrast different feelings,

		empathy, understanding of not knowing everything, learning new things.
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Year 4

Learning area	Content descriptor	Links to text
English	Discuss how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing and hold readers' interest by using various techniques, for example character development and plot tension	Aboriginal storytelling, use of Wadjuk Nyoongar words (definitions in the glossary) are used throughout the story
HaSS	<p><u>Government and Society</u> The differences between 'rules' and 'laws' □ The importance and purpose of laws (e.g. to maintain social cohesion, to reflect society's values) □ People belong to diverse groups, such as cultural, religious and/or social groups, and this can shape identity</p> <p><u>First contacts</u> □ The diversity and longevity of Australia's first peoples and the ways they are connected to Country/Place (e.g. land, sea, waterways, skies) and their pre-contact ways of life</p> <p>The nature of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and others (e.g. the Macassans, Europeans) and the impact that these interactions and colonisation had on the environment and people's lives (e.g. dispossession, dislocation, the loss of lives through conflict, disease, loss of food sources and medicines)</p>	<p>Ceremony</p> <p>Land use pre-contact</p>
Science	<u>Biological Sciences</u> • Living things have life cycles • Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive	Life cycle of a witchetty grub
The Arts	Exploration of artwork from varying times and cultures that represent different styles, such as realistic, narrative and abstract	<p>How animals are represented</p> <p>The styling of the background – using indigenous art styles and forms</p> <p>Mixture or illustration styles</p> <p>How people who aren't the main characters are represented as silhouettes – what does this mean?</p>

Health and Physical Education	<p><u>Being healthy, safe and active</u> Use of persistence and resilience as tools to respond positively to challenges and failure, such as: □ using self-talk □ seeking help □ thinking optimistically • Strategies that help individuals to manage the impact of physical, social and emotional changes, such as: □ positive self-talk □ assertiveness □ seeking help □ sharing responsibilities</p> <p><u>Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing</u> • The positive influence of respect, empathy and valuing of differences in relationships • Strategies to identify and manage emotions before reacting • Strategies to cope with adverse situations and the demands of others</p>	What does Chunyart learn about being with his family, within his culture, the expectations of his choices?
Personal and Social capabilities	describe the influence that people, situations and events have on their emotions	How did Chunyart feel in relation to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Father • Parrot • Family

Year 5

Learning area	Content descriptor	Links to text
English	Identify aspects of literary texts that convey details or information about particular social, cultural and historical contexts	Aboriginal storytelling, use of Wadjuk Nyoongar words (definitions in the glossary) are used throughout the story
HaSS	Factors that shape the environmental characteristics of places □ The way people alter the environmental characteristics of Australian places (e.g. vegetation clearance, fencing, urban development, drainage, irrigation, farming, forest plantations, mining) □ Features within environments (e.g. climate, landforms, vegetation) influence human activities and the built features of places	What has changed in the landscape? What does Kings Park (Kaarta Koomba) look like now?
Science	Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.	How does Kings Park (Kaarta Koomba) support flora and fauna
The Arts	Exploration of artwork from various artists and different approaches used to communicate ideas, beliefs and opinions.	Viewing Aboriginal artworks from regions in West Australia and Australia
Health and Physical Education	<u>Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing</u>	

	<p>Skills and strategies to establish and manage relationships over time, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ exploring reasons why relationships change □ assessing the impact of changing relationships on health and wellbeing □ building new friendships □ dealing with bullying and harassment <p>Ways in which inappropriate emotional responses impact on relationships, such as: □ loss of trust □ fear □ loss of respect</p>	
Personal and Social capabilities	explain how the appropriateness of emotional responses influences behaviour	Perspective of different characters in the story – why did they react/ respond in the ways they did. What choices were admirable?

Year 6

Learning area	Content descriptor	Links to text
English	Make connections between students' own experiences and those of characters and events represented in texts drawn from different historical, social and cultural contexts	Aboriginal storytelling, use of Wadjuk Nyoongar words (definitions in the glossary) are used throughout the story
HaSS	<u>Australia as a nation</u> Experiences of Australia's democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples, migrants, women, and children	
Science	Biological Sciences □ The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment	Plants in Kings Park – why have they survived there?
The Arts	Exploration of artwork inspired by observation or imagination from various artists and cultures that use materials and techniques to enhance the artist's belief or viewpoint	Viewing Aboriginal artworks from regions in West Australia and Australia
Health and Physical Education	<p><u>Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing</u> Skills to establish and manage positive relationships, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ showing respect and empathy □ being cooperative □ actively listening □ being trustworthy □ accepting differences <p>Situations in which emotions can influence decision-making: □ in peer group □ with friends □ with family □ during sporting or physical activities</p>	Family impacts/ values Dealing with friends leading them astray

Personal and Social capabilities	explain how the appropriateness of emotional responses influences behaviour	Perspective of different characters in the story – why did they react/respond in the ways they did.
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