

Nykina Community

IMPACT REPORT 2006, 2012-2020





Introduction

SharingStories Foundation has worked with senior knowledge holders, Nyikina Mangala Cultural Custodians and the broader Jarlmadangah Community in the West Kimberley region for many years to help record and creatively interpret the story and knowledge of 'Woonyoomboo' – The Night Heron.

The Woonyoomboo Project began in 2006 when SharingStories Founder Liz Thompson and Annie Nayina Milgin, a Senior Nyikina Cultural Custodian, collaborated on a print version of the story.

Annie shared the story as it was passed to her by her father Darby Nangkiriny. It tells of how Woonyoomboo brought the Nyikina world into being and where he lived and travelled.

Woonyoomboo named and created all things for the Nyikina people, including the mighty Fitzroy River. He left language, law, ceremonies, dance, kin and skin relationships and vast libraries of knowledge in an epic Songline as he travelled.

The Woonyoomboo Project continued to evolve.

Since 2013, participants in SharingStories Digital Storytelling Program on Nyikina Country have brought the story to life using a wide range of digital arts media skills transferred during programs.

A vibrant, engaging community-produced multi-touch book interpretation of the story has been created under the guidance of Senior Knowledge Authorities. Filled with important Nyikina teachings about Country, Law, and Ceremony, the book contains original artwork, animations, soundscapes, songs, language and spoken word versions of the story of Woonyoomboo in both English and Nyikina.

It includes a dynamic interactive map with drone footage, songs, photographs and drawings relating to 26 important sites. More than 50 songs were recorded, some of them collectively recalled and remembered as senior community members travelled on Country together.

100 Nyikina senior custodians, young people and community members have joined together with the SharingStories Foundation to produce and distribute this unique insight into Nyikina Country, culture and language.



Best EducationalApp/eBook, ATOM Awards. *Winner*



Best Non-FictionDigital World Book Award *Finalist*



Best Language/Cultural ProductionFirst Nations Media Awards **Finalist**

Over 11 Years

SharingStories offered 589

hours of programs for the Woonyoomboo project

30

young people contributed



hours towards the production.

Elders were involved for a tot



hours in the creation of Woonyoomboo.

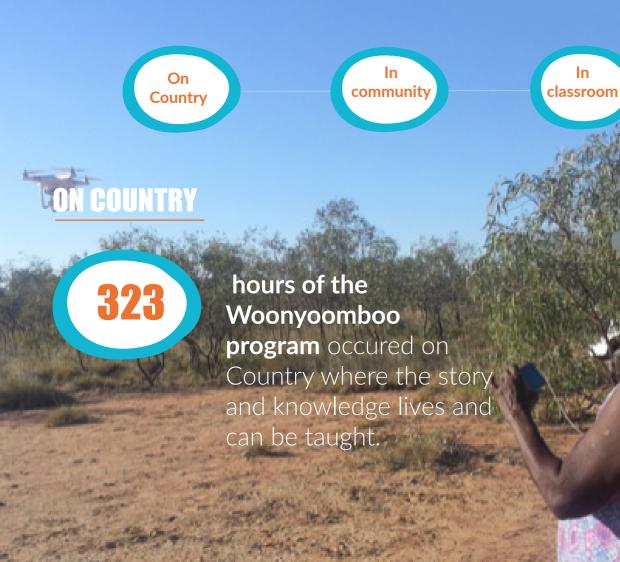


COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The **program led by community elders** supported the passing of knowledge to community members.

All of the community participants embraced the opportunity to impart knowledge, learn from their elders and work with technology.

The mapping of the story of Woonyoomboo occured on Nyikina Country, and was further explored within the community and in the classroom.



IN COMMUNITY



IN THE CLASSROOM





MENTORING

The community's aspirations to nurture the learning of traditional knowledge in young people, created opportunities for young mentees to deeply engage in learning from elders. Mentees gained skills in media, arts, and a significant amount of time speaking and learning language.

Mentees

204 spent hours of learning from elders

165

of those hours encomopassed speaking and learning language



USE OF TECHNOLOGY

To draw upon cutting edge technologies to hold and transmit some of the world's oldest stories (stories that have been passed on by senior people through oral traditions, song, dance and time on country). This way of working also acknowledges Aboriginal knowledge systems, brings Elders into the classroom to take up their role as teachers and returns children to Country with their Elders for the purpose of intergenerational transmission and media production.

Dave Palmer Independent Evaluator, Murdoch University

COMMUNITY OUTCOMES





