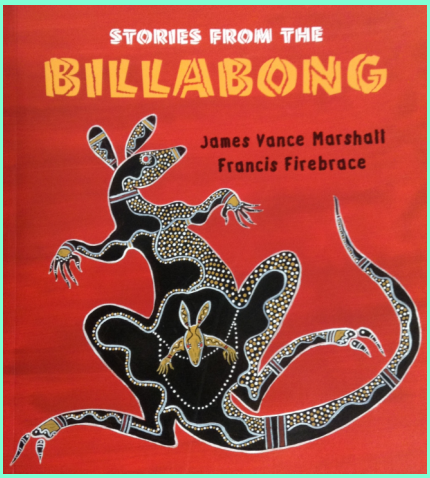
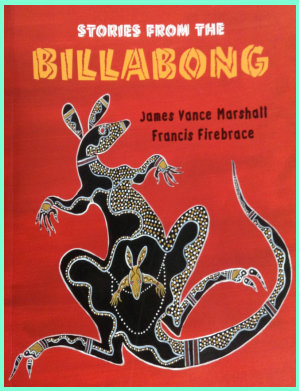
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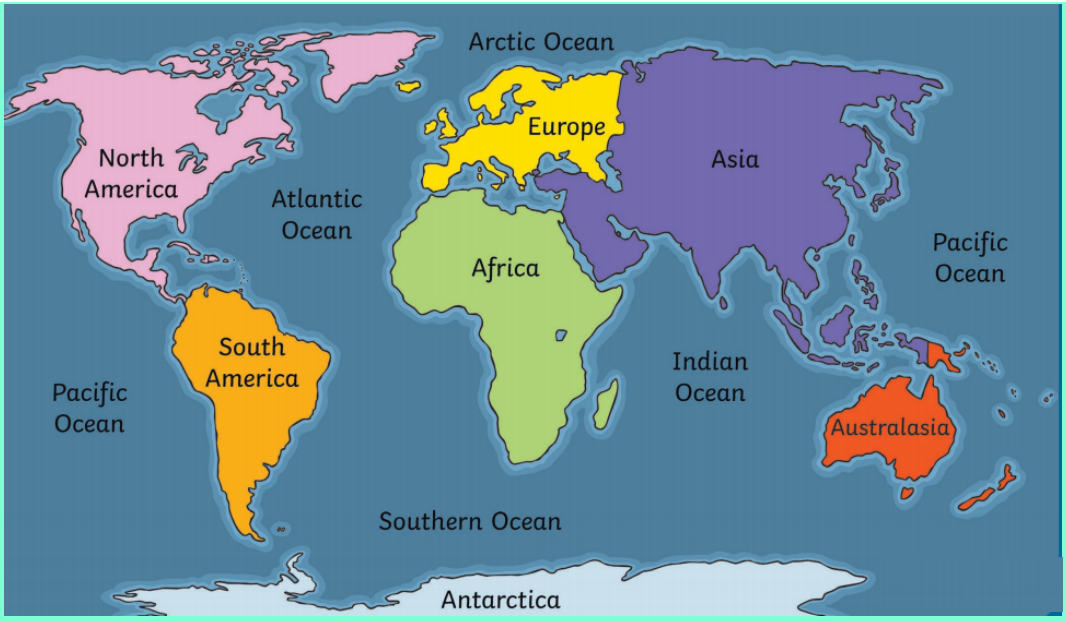
LO: To find information in the story to answer questions



In Stories from the Billabong, a renowned author elegantly retells ten of Australia's ancient aboriginal legends. Here readers discover what makes frogs croak, why kangaroos have pouches, and just what it is that makes platypuses so special.

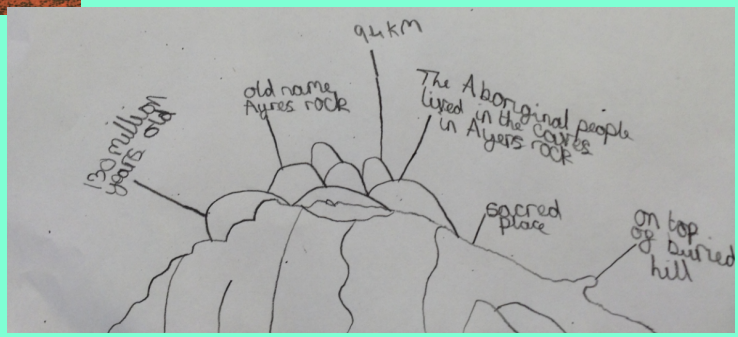


The illustrations are by the aboriginal artist and storyteller Francis Firebrace, whose distinctive, colourful work is known throughout Australia and beyond. He uses the four traditional colours of aboriginal art (black, white, red, and yellow), as well as his experiences as a member of the Yorta-Yorta, to make these stories live on the page.

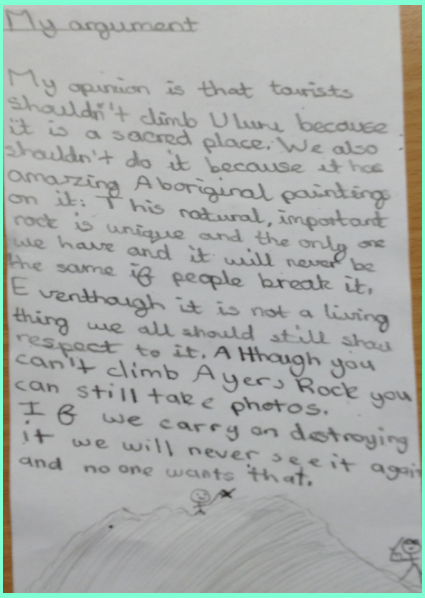

Arctic Ocean
Europe
Asia
North America
Atlantic Ocean
Africa
Pacific Ocean
South America
Indian Ocean
Pacific Ocean
Australasia
Southern Ocean
Antarctica



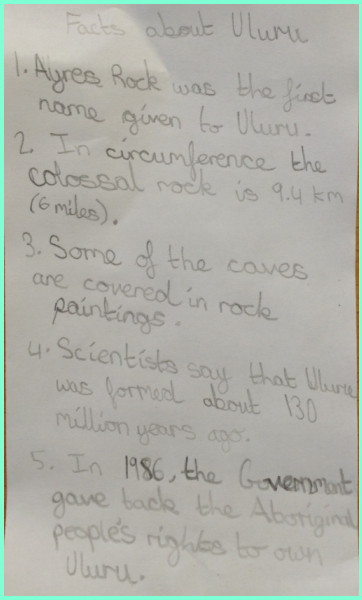
Uluru


9.4KM
old name Ayres rock
The Aboriginal people lived in the caves in Ayers rock
sacred place
on top of sacred hill

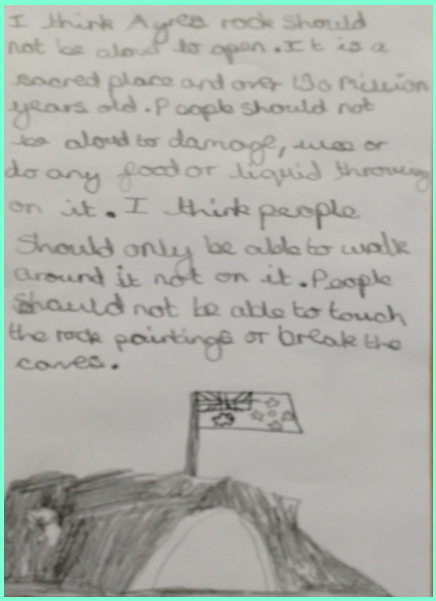
Uluru


My argument

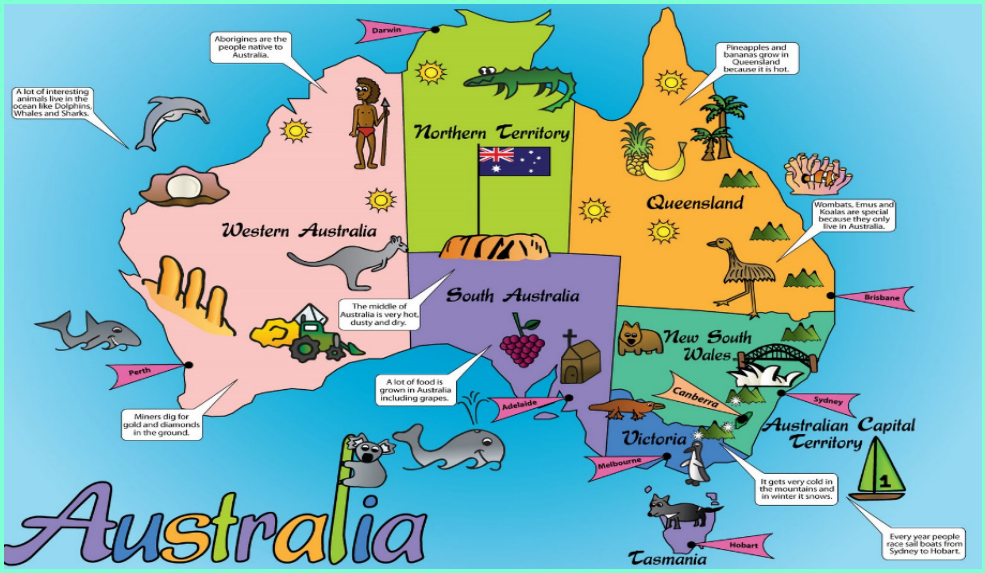
My opinion is that tourists shouldn't climb Uluru because it is a sacred place. We also shouldn't do it because it has amazing Aboriginal paintings on it. This natural, important rock is unique and the only one we have and it will never be the same if people break it. Even though it is not a living thing we all should still show respect to it. Although you can't climb Ayers Rock you can still take photos. If we carry on destroying it we will never see it again and no one wants that.


Facts about Uluru

1. Ayres Rock was the first name given to Uluru.
2. In circumference the colossal rock is 9.4 km (6 miles).
3. Some of the caves are covered in rock paintings.
4. Scientists say that Uluru was formed about 130 million years ago.
5. In 1986, the Government gave back the Aboriginal people's rights to own Uluru.


I think Ayres rock should not be aloud to open. It is a sacred place and over 130 million years old. People should not be aloud to damage, wee or do any food or liquid throwing on it. I think people should only be able to walk around it not on it. People should not be able to touch the rock paintings or break the caves.

Can you spot **Uluru** (Ayres Rock) on this map of Australia?





Boomerang

A flat, curved, wooden, hand-thrown weapon, originally used by Aboriginal people for hunting, nowadays used for recreation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfeC35l4EOI

	Glossary
boulder	A large rounded rock.
sinew	A piece of tough fibrous tissue uniting muscle to bone; a tendon or ligament.
billabong	A waterhole, pond, or any place where a fair amount of water collects and lies undisturbed.
dingoes	Wild dog believed to be descended from the domestic dogs brought to Australia by Aboriginal people tens of thousands years ago.
outback	Remote and usually uninhabited inland districts of Australia.
cockatoos	A species of parrot-like birds. They have a decorative crest/growth of feathers.
Spinifex	A short, tough, spiny grass found in Australia's deserts and plains. It can exist in sand, drought and unbelievably harsh conditions, putting down roots 9 metres long in search of water.



Bunyips

Mythical, big, hairy, scary monster that lives in waterholes and shallow rivers. Eats small animals and unwary children!

Dingoes



A wild dog (dingo) believed to be descended from the domestic dogs brought to Australia by Aboriginal people tens of thousands years ago.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMYLXcHI0Sk

Finding answers on the first read:-

LO: To find information in the story to answer questions.

1. What was Alinga's (the Lizard-Man) favourite weapon?

2. Name four things which Alinga used to make his special boomerang.

3. Which simile is used to describe the boomerang flying through the air?

4. Why do you think the onamatopoeia *whrrrrr* is in italics?

5. Why did the Lizard-Man go looking for the boomerang?

6. What can be found today where the Lizard-Man made his camp fires?

7. What did Alinga's boomerang turned into?

Alinga, the Lizard-Man, was one of the beings of the Dreamtime – the time when Aboriginal people believe the world was created. He was a mighty warrior. His favourite weapon was the boomerang. He could throw a boomerang so far, it sometimes took days to return.

One day, Alinga decided to make a special boomerang, throw it as far as he could, and see how long it took to come back.

He gathered together the branches of eucalypt trees, and laid them out in a great half circle. Then, with the sinews of kangaroos' tails, he tied the branches together. He collected the seeds of spinifex grass. Then he made fire, and melted the seeds until they turned into a sort of sticky glue. With this glue he sealed up the cracks and crevices in the boomerang he was creating. Finally, he polished it with the wax of wild bees.

At last the great boomerang was ready. Alinga flexed his muscles. He drew back his arm, and with all his strength flung the boomerang high into the sky. With a great *whrrrrrrr*, like a flight of cockatoos, it disappeared over the mountains.

Alinga waited for it to return. He waited patiently, hour after hour. The hours turned into days. The days turned into weeks. The weeks turned into months. The months turned into years. And still there was no sign of the boomerang.

Alinga decided to go and look for it.

He climbed the mountains, and set out across the desert. Whenever he met anyone he asked them if they had seen his boomerang. But no-one had.

One day, he met a family who didn't know what a boomerang was. He showed them how to make one, and how to throw it. Then he set off once again on his journey.

He journeyed across great deserts, over high mountains, and through dark rainforests. He journeyed on and on and on, year after year after year. But he couldn't find his boomerang.

He had many adventures.

Sometimes at night, when he felt cold, he made a camp fire. Today, at these places, you will find coal.

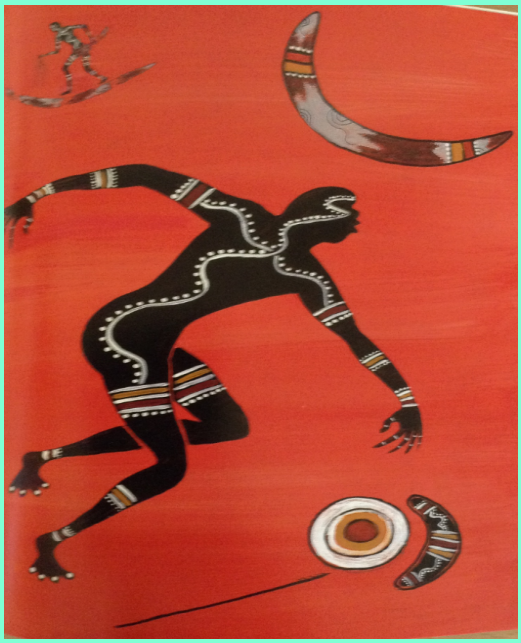
More than once, as he passed by a billabong, he was attacked by evil bunyips. They fought. And today, at these places, you will find the bodies of the bunyips turned into great boulders lying on the beds of the billabongs.

More than once, as he crossed the plains, he was attacked by giant wild dingoes. They fought. And today, at these places, you will find the bodies of the dingoes turned into the huge rock formations that lie scattered across the outback.

He was not far from Kata Tjuta (the great rocks known sometimes as the Olgas) when he saw in the distance a huge red dome, rising out of the desert. It was shaped like an enormous boomerang.

As he neared it, Alinga saw it really *was* a boomerang: his special boomerang, which had crashed into the desert, and, over the years, had been covered with layer after layer of dust and sand, until it turned into a huge, red block of rock.

Alinga was delighted to see his boomerang again. He took hold of it and tried to lift it. But it was too heavy. For days, he struggled to raise it. Where his fingers dug into the rock, gulleys and caves were formed – you can see them to this day. But the boomerang



was embedded too deep. Not even the mighty Lizard-Man could move it.

Alinga didn't want to be parted from his boomerang, so he settled down to live beside it. It is said that he performed many great feats while living beside his boomerang in the desert.

It is also said that the great numbers of lizards now living in the caves at the foot of the big red rock known as Uluru are the spiritual descendants of Alinga the Lizard-Man.



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