

Knowledge area:



Dreaming

TEACHING NOTES





Loongie the Greedy Crocodile (Video)

Text type: narrative, written, online, multimodal

VISUAL STIMULUS FOCUS

Loongie the Greedy Crocodile is a descriptive story from the Kimberley region of Western Australia that explores tone and morals through simple text and colourful pictures.

PRIOR TO VIEWING

-  Introduce the *Loongie the Greedy Crocodile* video to students.
-  Start the video on the website.
-  Ask the students:
 - What does the title suggest the story is about?
 - What type of animal might Loongie be?
 - What do you think a mangrove is? (Show them images or explanations of mangroves in your local area or state.)
-  View the *Aboriginal Tribal Language Map* to show who the traditional owners are of the area where the story takes place (see the *Additional Resources* section).

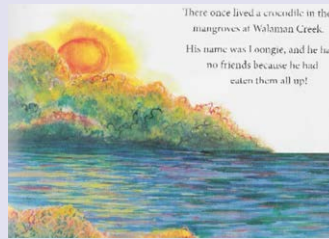
Background

- *Today, storytelling in Indigenous Australia is still a very important way of passing on information to people. For thousands of years information has been passed on through stories and songs. Today you can also see and hear it in many types of music, plays, poetry, books, artwork, on television and on the Web, and you can now read in books the traditional stories that were once only spoken.¹*
- *These stories keep alive the traditions and heritage of Indigenous Australia, not only within Indigenous communities but also within the wider community. This helps to increase understanding and awareness between people.²*

SHARED VIEWING

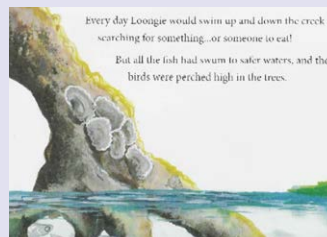
Loongie the Greedy Crocodile is a narrative told in the third person, through a combination of brightly coloured mixed media illustrations by artist Bronwyn Houston, and simplified text by Lucy and Kiefer Dann that reflects a familiar place of their childhood.

28 SEC



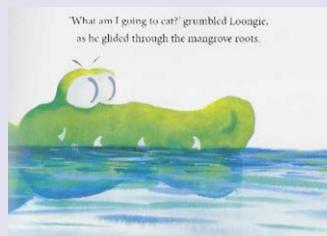
Loongie is a saltwater crocodile who lives among the mangroves at Walaman Creek in the remote Kimberley region of Western Australia. He has no friends because he has eaten them all up.

45 SEC



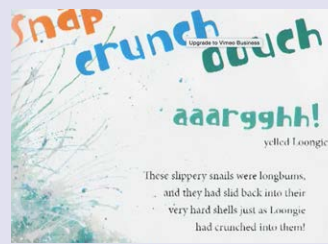
Loongie can't find anything to eat, as all the fish have swum away and the birds are high in the trees. No-one will come near the creek while he's around

1 MIN 1 SEC



Loongie sees some strange-looking shellfish at the water's edge.

1 MIN 25 SEC



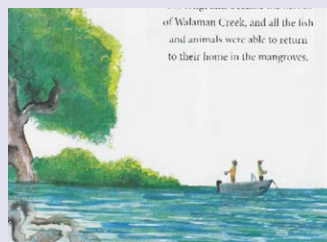
Loongie creeps up on the creatures and tries to eat them. The creatures are longbums, and they slide back into their hard shells as Loongie is trying to eat them.

1 MIN 45 SEC



All of Loongie's teeth are broken by the hard shells and he can't chomp food anymore, so he swims out to sea.

2 MIN 3 SEC



The longbums become the heroes of the creek and all of the animals return to the mangroves.

Loongie learns why being greedy has its consequences. The reader is given an insight to a region of Australia and introduced to new words and places.

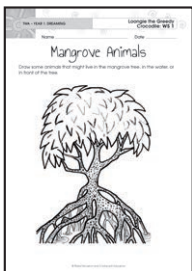
The narration explores the emotions of anger, sadness and empathy. It portrays the moral that being greedy has consequences in such a way that allows readers to form their own opinions and judgements. The main themes of the story are described on the next page.

THEME	DESCRIPTION
<p>Aboriginal culture</p>	<p>Dreaming stories are handed down to children from their parents and Elders to show the location of sacred places, how to stay safe, and to teach the difference between good and bad behaviour. The majority of the stories even in today’s contemporary world contain a message or moral.</p>
<p>Greed <i>Definition: a desire to have more than one needs or deserves</i></p>	<p>Loongie has used his hunting skills and size to alienate and scare all the animals away from their natural habitat because of greed. As with most greedy people, he learned too late that his behaviour has dire consequences.</p>
<p>Survival <i>Definition: living and continuing longer than a certain event or person</i></p>	<p>The animals Loongie was hunting left their habitat (homes) to escape being eaten. It was left up to the little longbums and their survival instincts of sliding back in their shells for protection to make the creek safe again.</p>
<p>Empathy <i>Definition: an understanding of another person or animal’s situations and/or feelings</i></p>	<p>Students will understand and empathise with the emotions and viewpoints of the animals in the story.</p>

AFTER VIEWING DISCUSSION

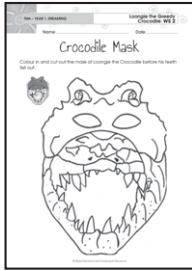
- Discuss with the students the moral lessons of the story.
- Ask the students:
 - What do you think greed is?
 - Is being greedy a good thing?
 - Why would Aboriginal parents or Elders warn children about being greedy?
 - Can you share a story about when someone was greedy towards you?
- How have you felt when someone has been greedy to you or someone you know?
- Do you feel sorry for Loongie? Why or why not?
- Do you feel happy for the animals when they get to come back to the mangrove? Why or why not?

SUPPORTING WORKSHEETS



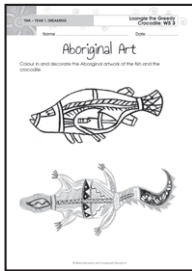
Worksheet 1: Mangrove Animals

A drawing activity where students draw animals that might live in a mangrove tree and the water around it.



Worksheet 2: Crocodile Mask

A colour-in activity where students colour and cut out Loongie's the Crocodile's head to make a mask.



Worksheet 3: Aboriginal Art

A colour-in activity where students colour and decorate the fish and crocodile Aboriginal artwork.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE



Aboriginal Tribal Language Map

<http://www.crackerjackeducation.com.au/resources/aboriginal-tribal-language-map>

CURRICULUM

ENGLISH	
Content description	Elaboration
Respond to texts drawn from a range of cultures and experiences (ACELY1655)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exploring some of the meanings and teachings embedded in Dreaming stories

KNOWLEDGE AREAS AND THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM

English

Dreaming stories are handed down to children from their parents and Elders to show the location of sacred places, how to stay safe, and to teach the difference between good and bad behaviour. (ACELY1655)

REFERENCES

1. Australian Museum. "Family: Storytelling today." Accessed May 23, 2017. <https://australianmuseum.net.au/indigenous-australia-family>.
2. Ibid.