

## Moorambilla Literacy Modules

### 2. Walgett

Kass and Billie saw the ocean, and a steep rocky ridge,  
looked down on the harbour and that famous arched bridge;  
crazy traffic on roads busy people in the streets,  
the pace of the city made Billie feel weak!

Their flight path continued, they flew to the west,  
flying into the sunset, they thought it was best,  
to camp for the evening, watch the sun going down,  
"Tomorrow," said Billie "we'll go the 'Gate, Walgett town!"

They made themselves comfy, snuggled in from the cold,  
they were gob smacked and speechless, at blues, pinks and golds;  
the colours unbelievable, so vibrant, so deep,  
a sunset spectacular, before the sun went to sleep!

Kass Kookaburra gazed at our evening star,  
saying "hello" to the moon, distance seemed not that far;  
suddenly she said "Billie, we'll never be lost,"  
as she spotted above them our great guiding Southern Cross!

Now Billie well knew how to look up and star gaze,  
but these big western skies! He was truly amazed!  
To think of the people from so long ago,  
Gamlaroy gazing The stories they know!

Stars twinkled so boldly, the dark and the dance,  
the emu in the sky, pleiades enhanced,  
our knowledge and hope for a future so bright,  
we'd share it together on this great western night.

Peeping over the horizon, the sun brought a new day,  
their exploring adventure, again underway;  
spotting dhinawan emu, and bush kangaroos,  
flying over our scrubland, Kass called out "kookoo!"

They were stunned at the vastness, of the great open plains,  
rivers Barwon and Namoi, meeting up after rain  
Billie's excitement now growing, Kass could feel it in her bones,  
that town of Walgett would just feel like home!

The news in the city told of drought so severe,  
and out here at Walgett, it had dragged on for years;  
but rains had now fallen and had turned things around,  
chickpeas, wheat, canola, jumping out of the ground!

They flew straight into Fox St pulled up at Stones Throw,  
they ordered a coffee, 'cause that was 'the go,'  
Kass' bright coloured lycra, Billie's suave sounding call,  
made them welcomed by locals, not one, but them all!

IGA sold them bird seed; they lunched at the sporto,  
dropped mail at the P.O., popped in to Blend & Co;  
they bought sushi for dinner, ordered fruit juice made fresh,  
'cause Billie and Kass knew fresh was healthy and best!

They threw traps in the river, and fished from a hand line,  
Yellow Belly and yabbies, tasted oh, so divine!  
Frank Wright taught them painting, in his own Xray style,  
after expert instruction they left with a smile.

They walked around the levee, and duckdived off the weir,  
saw sentinel scar trees, there for many a year;  
Kass led them in exercise on oval number one,  
while getting their ViteD, from the warm golden sun!

At St Joey's the Primary, Distance Ed and High School,  
Kass and Billie both promised they'd not break any rules;  
they taught kids to bootscoot with Moorambilla tunes,  
and tweet with a twinkle, they'd smashed it by noon!

They took off from the levee, waved Walgett goodbye,

next part of the adventure was Collarenebri;  
Billie said to Kass smiling, "First stop is Midgery,  
to visit Annie Berrell, with hair crazily curly!"

Annie showed them 'tough love', in her usual style,  
they LOVED her loud laugh, it makes everyone smile;  
as they set off again, Annie said "you be good,  
when you stop and spend time in my Colly neighbourhood!"

Now kids heard that two birds were cruisin' around,  
and hoped Billie and Kass would land in their playground,  
Alison Hynch got them ready they stood in a bunch,  
'cause Billie bought them sausages, from the butcher for lunch.

At the river, the locals took them on a boat ride,  
showed them best spots for fishing, Yellow Belly their pride;  
admiring the old river gums standing tall,  
both Billie and Kass thought this was the be all!

Then suddenly through the gum's trunks by the bank,  
an emu they spotted he was tall, he was lank;  
he looked at them squarely, then took turn to run,  
till our lycra clad kooka thought she'd join in the fun!

And quick as a flash, Kass, charming and game,  
flew down to the emu and asked him his name;  
"I'm called Dhinawan Dan," came his strong, proud reply,  
"Well, come join our adventure," said Kass. "Don't be shy!"

***Cathie Colless***

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