



Ngana Waguna Woori Mumba
(We grow children together)
Iningai people's first language
Principal Artist Suzanne Thompson
www.qld.gov.au/letsyarn

The elements of Ngana Waguna Woori Mumba

This poster is a representation of Ngana Waguna Woori Mumba, which is an artwork that was created by community members and artists around Queensland to represent the early learning journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children.

The title Ngana Waguna Woori Mumba is in the Alice River language of the Iningai country, which is the birth place of principal artist Suzanne Thompson, and translates to: We grow our children together.



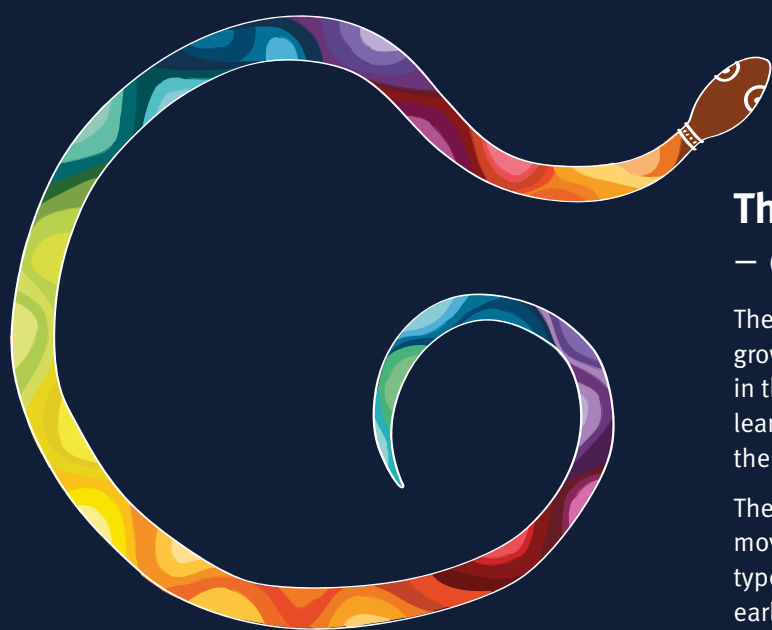
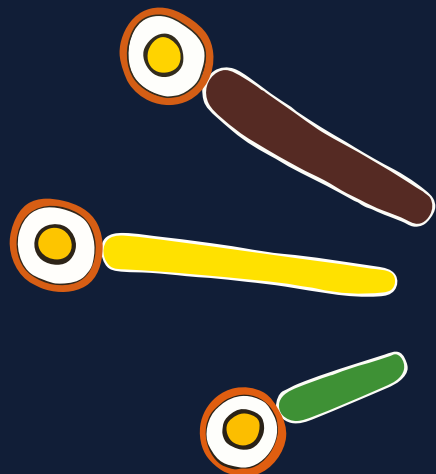
The central symbol – our children and those who support them

Ngana Waguna Woori Mumba is focused around these central circular symbols, with the circle in the middle representing the child and all the elements of a child's life that are affected by learning and growth.

This child is surrounded by the many people who support their learning, including parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters, aunties, uncles and cousins, together with teachers at playgroup and kindy.

The broad lines and circles – our Elders, culture and ancestors

These circles and the long broad lines represent the ancestors, Elders and culture that watch over our children and community and all of us. They represent the history, knowledge and understanding that supports our children's development.



The Rainbow Serpent – our children's journey through life

The Rainbow Serpent represents the journey of a child's growth and development. Our children are depicted in the tail of the serpent, and are guided through their learning journey by the Elders and the senior members of the community at the serpent's head.

The fluid colours that make up the serpent show the movement and energy of learning, as well as the many types of learning that our children engage in during their early years.



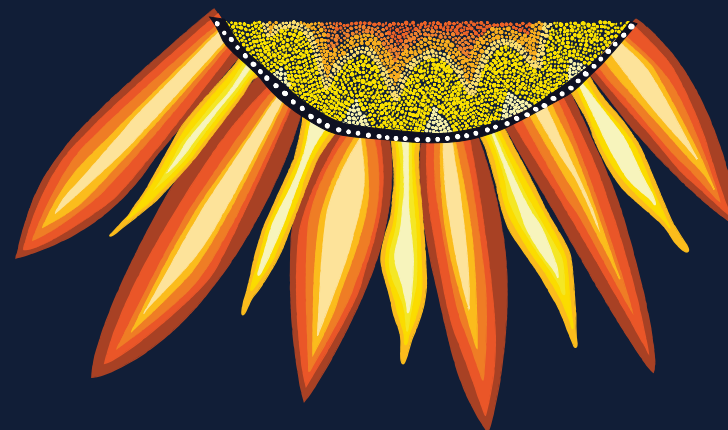
The footsteps – the learning partnerships that nurture our children

As our children learn and grow, adults and Elders walk beside them, all learning from each other. The footsteps in this artwork represent the sharing of knowledge and the learning journey between children and Elders, as well as between children and parents and teachers.

The tree – the many pathways taken as children grow and learn

The tree represents the idea of growth, and shows that a child's learning journey can take many paths, with each branch as important as the others. As parents and family make decisions about the types of learning children are involved in and the environments where they learn, the child continues to grow and develop with the support of those around them. No matter what path is taken, the early years count.

The hands on the tree trunk, created using a traditional blowing technique that mirrors the oldest rock art in the world, represent the key role that children have always had as the heart and soul of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and communities.



The sun – the light and love that education and opportunity provides for our children

The sun represents a bright future for all of our children as they learn and grow.

It reminds us that every day is a new day of opportunity for our children and our community to grow together and nurture each other. The vibrant sun represents the positive energy that learning, through the support of parents, families, Elders and teachers, provides in a child's life.