

ARI FINNISS-INGA MINHATHIRNDA.



What we do at Finniss.



Written by Arabana Wangka community workshop participants in
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Produced by the Mobile Language Team in partnership with the Arabana
Aboriginal Corporation.





Arabana is a South Australian Aboriginal language traditionally from Kati-Thanda, the western Lake Eyre Basin. Finniss Springs is an old mission and station north of Marree. It is now a cultural hub for Arabana community to reconnect with wadlhu (country).

In 2018 and 2019, Arabana wathili (family) gathered on Finniss Springs to hold the first Arabana On-Country Language and Culture Camps. These camps were led by Elders and speakers of Wangka Arabana (Arabana Language) with the support of the Mobile Language Team. Wardu-kupa-kari (children) did many things at camps, some of which you can read about in this pipa (book)!

For more information about the Arabana language visit: portal.mobilelanguageteam.com.au



Ari nharla yurru-nga yarri ngunhirnda.

We listen to our Elders at Finniss.



Ari malka-malka
kunhirnda Finniss-inga

We do paintings at Finniss.



Ari maka maparnda Finniss-inga.

We collect fire wood at Finniss.



Ari wimpa
malkamarnda
Finniss-inga.

We make tracks in the sand at Finniss.

A photograph of two young men in a desert environment. The man on the left is wearing a grey t-shirt, light blue shorts, and a green beanie with 'YOU' written on it. He is bent over, using a small tool to work on a kangaroo tail. The man on the right is wearing a black t-shirt and red shorts with an 'AFL' logo. He is holding a long wooden stick vertically. In the background, there is a small structure with a corrugated metal roof and a fire burning on the ground.

Ari kungarra thila wadnhirnda Finniss-inga.

We cook kangaroo tails at Finniss.



Ari maka kaparnda
Finniss-inga.

We do wood carving at Finniss.



Ari wanthilarnda matha Finniss-inga.

We play chasey at Finniss.



Ari damper
wadnhilirnda
Finniss-inga.

We make damper at Finniss.



Ari mutuka-nga wanparda Finniss-inga.

We ride in the car at Finniss.

A group of approximately 15 children and a young man are gathered under the shade of a large, ancient-looking tree in a dry, sandy landscape. One boy is climbing the tree. The group is dressed in casual winter clothing like hoodies and beanies. The background shows a vast, open, arid environment with sparse vegetation and a clear blue sky.

Ari kilangkila-nga-kari thangkarda Finnis-inga.

We hang out with our cousins at Finnis.

Ari footballa
warrarnda
Finniss-inga.

We play football at Finniss.



A photograph of three people sitting around a campfire at night. The fire is made of sticks and is burning brightly, casting a warm glow. A woman is on the left, looking down. A person is in the center, partially obscured. A man is on the right, holding a stick. The background is dark, suggesting a night setting in a natural environment.

Ari maka-pirla-nga thangkarda Finniss-inga.

We sit around the camp fire at Finniss.

Ari wadlhu-nga
wathi-wathilarnda
Finniss-inga.

We go exploring at Finniss.



A close-up, high-angle shot of a person lying in a blue swag on a sandy beach. The person is smiling and looking up, with their hands resting on their chest. The swag is a dark blue, hooded garment. The background is a bright, sandy beach with small pebbles.

Ari swag-inga kudnala idnhirnda Finniss-inga.

We sleep in swags at Finniss.

Ari wadni wangkarda
Finniss-inga.

We sing songs at Finniss.



A woman wearing a headscarf and a black shirt is operating a camera mounted on a tripod. An older man wearing a cap and a dark shirt is sitting next to her, looking towards the camera. They are in a dry, open landscape with some structures in the background.

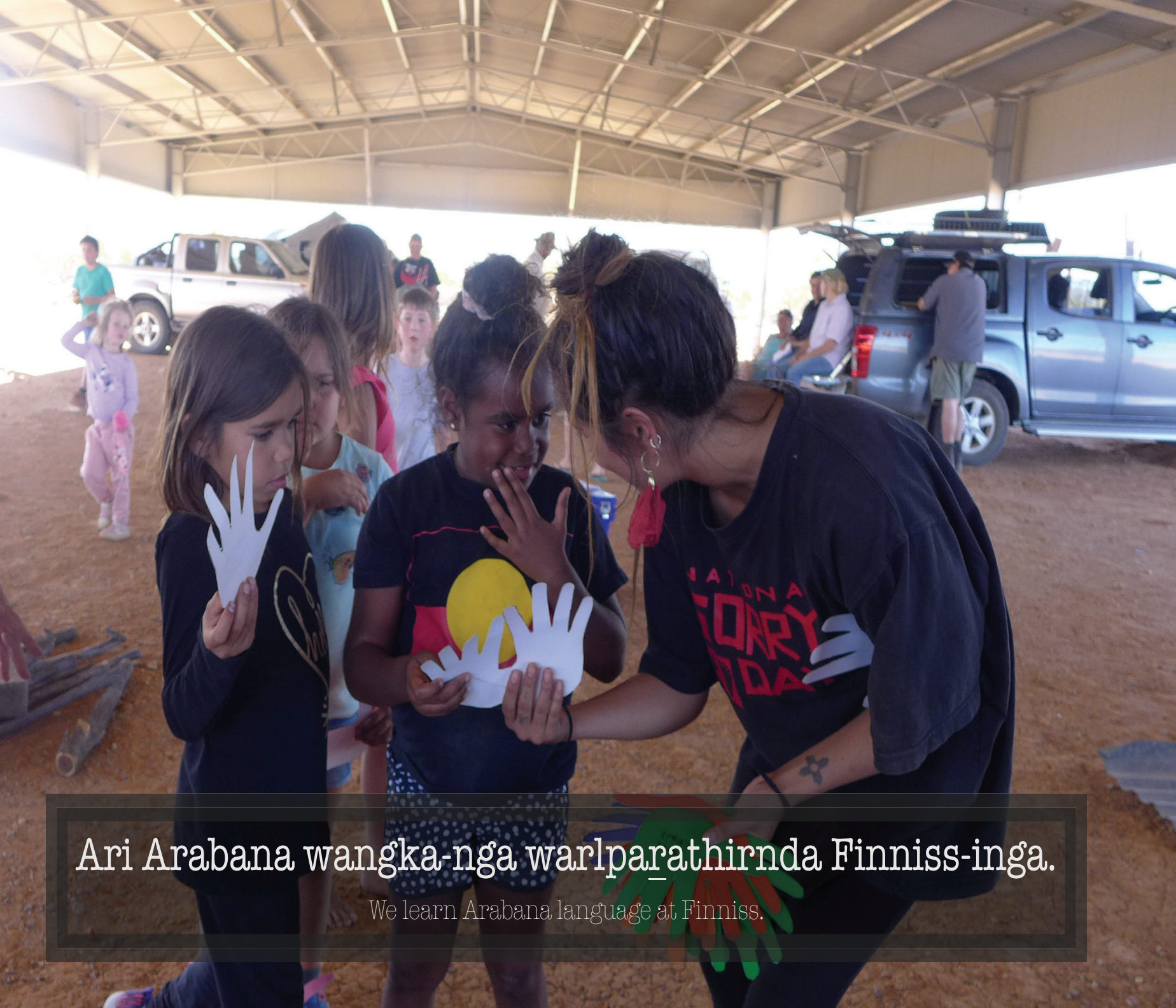
Ari wangka nguntarnda Finniss-inga.

We tell stories at Finniss.



Ari wiya-wiyalarnda Finniss-inga.

We are happy at Finniss.



Ari Arabana wangka-nga warlparathirnda Finniss-inga.

We learn Arabana language at Finniss.

A list of Arabana words used in this book, in alphabetical order

Arabana wangka

ari

Finniss-inga

footballa warra-rnda

idnhi-rnda

kapa-rnda

kilangkila-nga-kari

kudnala

kungarra

kunhi-rnda

maka

maka-pirla-nga

malka-malka

malka-ma-rnda

mapa-rnda

matha

minha-thi-rnda

mutuka-nga

Arabana language

we

at Finniss

to play football

to lie down

to carve, to make

group of galahs (noisy kids!)

to sleep

kangaroo

to put down, to do

fire, firewood

at the coals of the fire

marks, paint

to make marks, to paint up

to collect together

a group, a mob

what's up, what's happening

in the car

ngunhi-rnda

ngunta-rnda

nharla

thangka-rda

thila

wadlhu-nga

wadni

wadnhi-li-rnda

wadnhi-rnda

wangka

wangka-rda

wathi-wathila-rnda

wanthi-la-rnda

wanpa-rda

warlpara-thi-rnda

wimpa

wiya-wiya-la-rnda

yarri

yurru-nga

to give

to show, to give information

Aboriginal person, man

to be, to sit, to hang

tail

on country

song, corroboree

to cook (for someone)

to cook

language, word, speech

to sing

to wander around

to chase about

to sit on something, to ride

to learn, to get clever

tracks

to laugh, to giggle

ear

Elder