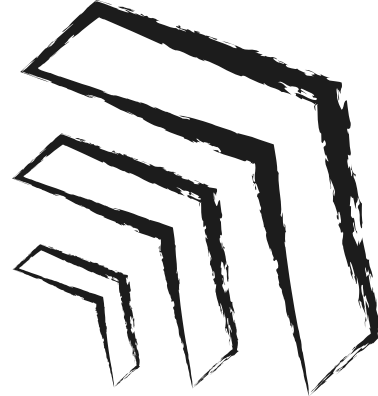




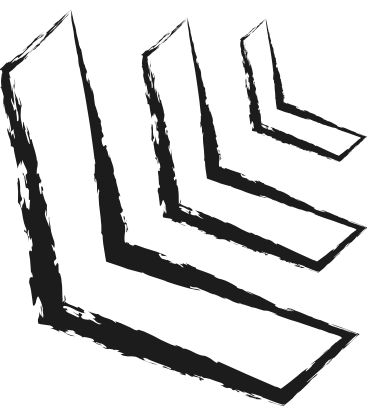
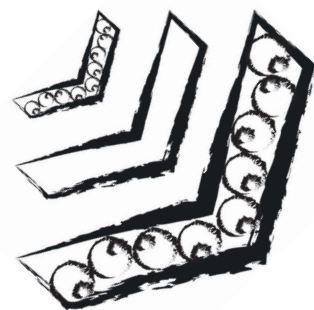
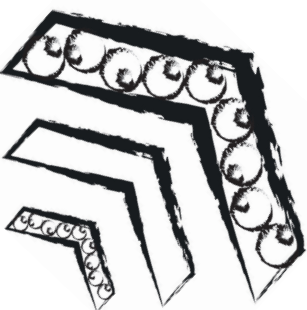
LANGUAGE
IN SONG

Vocal Exercises

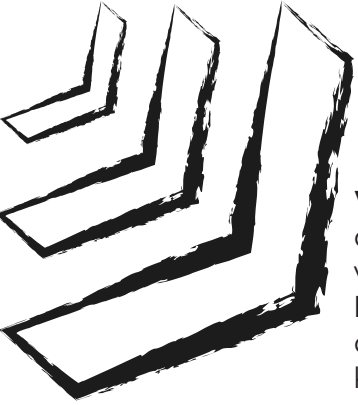


minyangu

How many?



YUGAMBEH YOUTH
Aboriginal Corporation



Dandaygambihn (our Elders)



Yugambah Elders have always encouraged **jahjum** (children) to learn English and **Yugambah** language. **Kombumerri/Ngugi** woman Lottie Eaton [Levinge] would use both English and **Yugambah** in a sentence 'to keep language alive.' Her father, Albert Levinge, would gift **jahjum** with treats when they could count and name in language the Moreton Bay and Pacific Ocean sea creatures he kept in specimen jars or when out on **jagun** (Country).

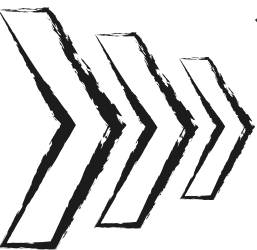
Wanyi girrebbala ganngalehla (awakening our understanding)

Singing Aboriginal language, culture and songs alive has been a collective journey through collaboration with our **Dandaygambihn** (our Elders) and teaching our **jahjum** over many years.

My personal journey **yanbil ganngalehla jahyi bareibunen** (journey of thinking and knowing, gathering and dreaming), emphasises respect for familial ties to land, language and knowledge systems. I am excited to share my journey with you through a series of educational resources.

Candace Kruger

Yugambah Yarrabilgingunn (Yugambah songwoman)



Yugambah language region

The traditional lands of the **Yugambah** language region are located within south-east Queensland, currently known as City of Gold Coast, Logan City and Scenic Rim Region.

Rich in culture, arts and language, the people of this region maintain strong connections to the land, inland waterways, sea and sky.

Always was, always will be.



Documenting Aboriginal Language



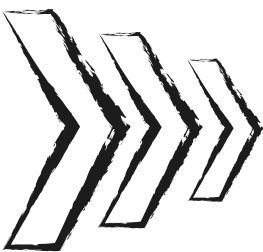
Joseph Banks (1770, pp. 306-307) first documented Australian Indigenous languages in the Cape York region. Knowledge of Indigenous languages was then subsequently sourced from Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people as informants and recorded as language lists in diaries, newspapers, books and academic journals by anthropologists, linguists, policemen, teachers, surveyors, farmers, clergymen, Government employees and geographical society members.

Image: The first recorded word list of an Australian Indigenous language.

Journal of Joseph Banks on board HMS Endeavour.

State Library of NSW.





Permissions and Protocol

As a **Yugambeh Yarrabilginngunn** (songwoman), there is a level of responsibility that comes with holding, sharing and passing Aboriginal knowledge, including the duty to lay the path for community to learn the lands narrative and carry the lands language. All works produced by the Yugambeh Youth Aboriginal Corporation are endorsed by Yugambeh Elders and safeguard the authenticity of Aboriginal knowledge as it moves forward and is shared with community and business organisations.

Candace Kruger, 2020

When working with this song material we respectfully ask that you adhere to the following protocols:

- Acknowledge the language and people of the land on which you gather.
- Acknowledge the narrative, the song material and inclusion of **Yugambeh** language from south-east Queensland.

Audience Advice: Please be advised that this resource contains names and stories of people who have now passed.

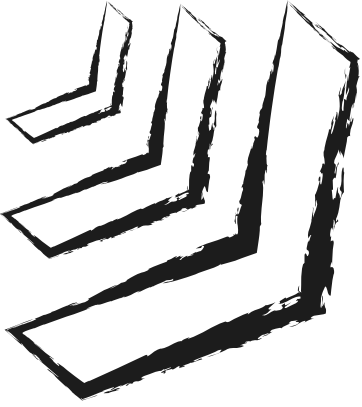
Minyangbu (How Many?)

This number narrative explores the use of **Yugambeh** numbers one through five. Numbers in Indigenous languages was a category specifically collected by linguists and anthropologists as a way to learn about the nuances of Indigenous culture. In **Yugambeh** language the number five could be said **bulla-bulla-yabru** (2+2+1) but can also be said as **danggan** which is five and also means hand. Cooke (1990, p. 2), who has worked with **Yolgnu** Mathematics and Language, recognises that words have many contextual meanings and states that by removing words, concepts and structures from their Aboriginal context and putting them into a European box... inevitably the full significance of their meanings doesn't do justice to the intricacy and complexity of the **Yolgnu** word.

In the same way, many **Yugambeh** words have complex and alternate meanings, therefore to assist in the understanding and delivery of the **Yugambeh** counting system, try adding actions when singing. Note, when singing five, demonstrate a whole hand, extend the hand forward, open the palm and reveal five fingers.

Learning Yugambeh

Yugambeh	Alternative spellings	Pronunciation	English
Minyangbu	minyangku; minyagu; minyungbo	Min-young-boo	How many?
Yabru	yaburu; yabar; yabru; yābrū; yabúru; yabbru	Yah-brew	One
Bulla	bulah; bula; bulá; bulai; boolara; bulabu; bularu	Bull-ah	Two
Bulla-yabru	bulah yaburu, bulur yaburu; bulay yaburu; bulla yabbera; bulla yabbru;	Bull-ah yah-brew	Three
Bulla-bulla	combinations of above...	Bull-ah bull-ah	Four
Danggan	dunngunn	Dung-ghan	Five & Hand
Yugambeh	yugambir, yugumbe, jukambe, yakoomba; ukum	You-gum-bear	Yugambeh
Jahjum	jarjum; jahdjam; jadjumm; jahgam; charjoom, tchorajoom	Jah-jum	Child & Children
Jagun	djagun; jan-ja; chagun; tchagoom; tcharkoon	Jah -gon	Country



minyangubu

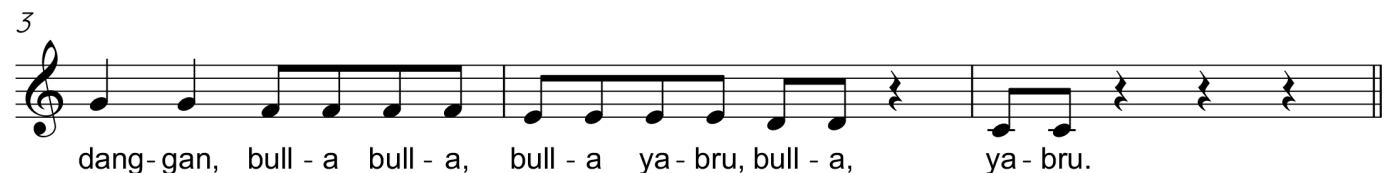
How many?

Candace Kruger

Vocal 1.



1 Vocal 2.



Talga (Beat Time)

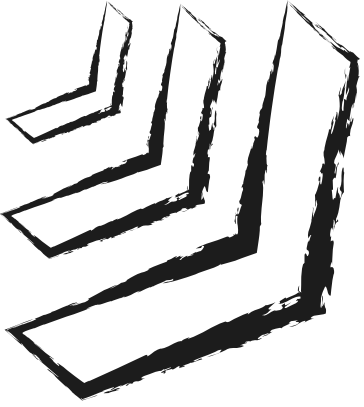
Keeping the beat is an essential element of music making in Aboriginal culture, particularly in the south-east Queensland region. **Yugambah** musical instruments which assist the keeping of time include the **bunngunn** possum skin drum, **burragunn** boomerang and **murunu** clap sticks (Best, Kruger, & Connor, 2005).

For **Minyangbu**, try simple body beat such as foot stamping, hand clapping or using clap sticks to keep the beat while singing. Consider layering with natural sound, such as **psithurism**, the sound of wind whispering through trees. Arrange with the gardener to collect the pruned small branches of eucalyptus, bottle brush, lilly pilly or wattle species. Holding branches in hands, use graceful sideways movements in time with the rhythm. Explore different sounds; shorten the stroke and flick the wrists on the downbeat. More vigorous shaking can be used to signify the end of a musical composition.



Fact:

Pruning plants and trees helps to control pests and disease whilst encouraging healthy, vigorous new growth.

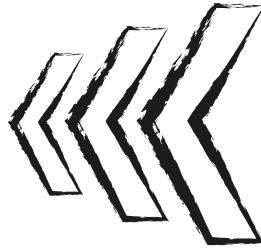


Acknowledgements

Prepared by: Paula Nihôt and Candace Kruger on behalf of the Yugambeh Youth Aboriginal Corporation.

Lyrics and Music: Candace Kruger, **Kombumerri/Ngugi, Yugambeh/Quandamooka** language regions.

Artwork and Design: Paula Nihôt, **Gamilaraay** language region.



Yugambeh Youth Aboriginal Corporation

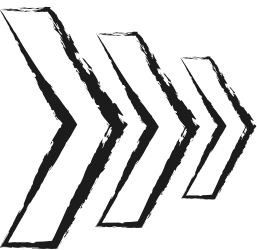
Yugambeh Youth Aboriginal Corporation supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth between the ages of 5 and 25 years, who reside in the **Yugambeh** language region, to engage in and benefit from performance arts.

Yugambeh Youth Aboriginal Corporation aims to promote:

- Cultural integrity and pride within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.
- Reconciliation, mutual respect and tolerance through Aboriginal music and performance arts.
- Community development.

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Titles in this series

Minyangbu How Many?

Minyangbu buhyigayngah How many wattle trees?

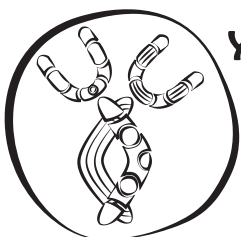
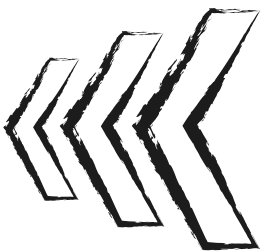


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