

Transcription of Enterprising Australians video

Mikaela Jade – Indigital– Introducing the characters of the Kakadu

The video for this transcript can be found on the Questacon YouTube channel at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Roil_c6YxVs

Transcription from video:

[intro music]

Isla: So take us through some of the characters you've got there.

[Image shows Isla and Mikaela sitting on some rocks looking at postcards of Indigenous artwork.]

Mikaela: Ok, so these characters were painted by senior traditional owners. This was painted by Abel Naborlhborlh, he's Modjarrkki, he's a crocodile obviously, but his story is actually about family kinships and relationships.

This one was painted by Robert Namarnyilk, and this is a split spirit figure.

So these are actually like a zip that zips him together, and when he's on the Stone Country he zips apart and becomes two different characters.

This one's Djalarr, and he's a centipede, so this is a centipede dreaming.

It's about health practices for Bininj. So, Bininj eats a lot of meats and if they go to bed without washing their face and hands they're susceptible to eye diseases.

So, they tell the centipede story to make sure kids wash their face before they go to bed, 'cause if you don't Djalarr will come up and bite you and lick you with her poison, and you'll end up with a swollen face.

This character is Namande, he's a Stone Country Devil. So, we're sitting in Stone Country at the moment. Namande is a very strong figure in the landscape here.

And these are the snakes – water python – called Borloikko, and this story is an ecological story about when is the best time to harvest water python. It's a food that Bininj love to eat here so it tells you about Yegge, the season where it's good to harvest Borloikko.

[Image shifts to the Enterprising Australians logo.]