

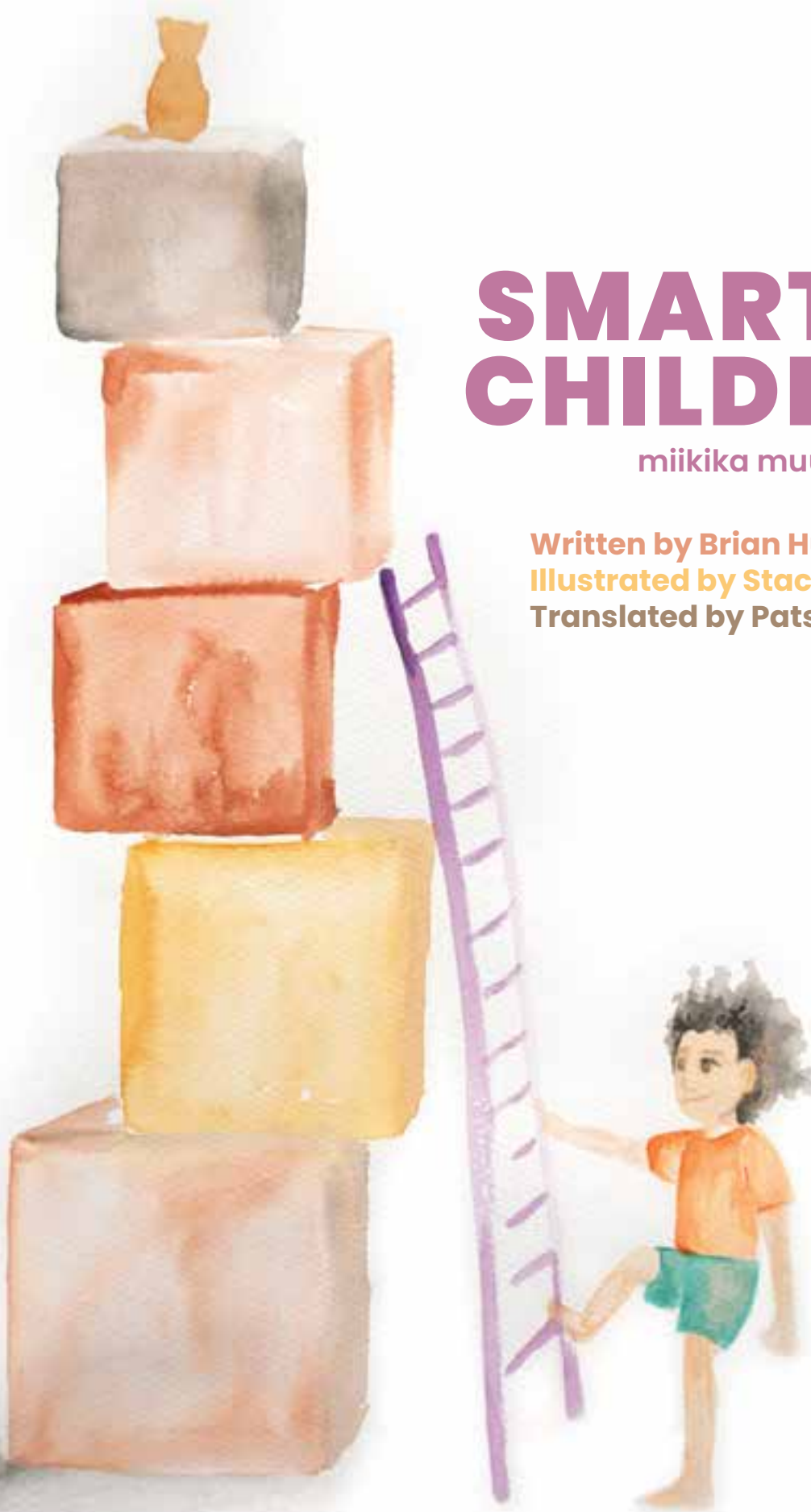
# SMARTER CHILDREN

miikika muurpa-naara

Written by Brian Hunt

Illustrated by Stacey Perry

Translated by Patsy Doolan



## Smarter Children

A publication of Mildura Rural City Council,  
76 Deakin Avenue, Mildura, Victoria 3500, Australia

<https://www.mildura.vic.gov.au/Council/Major-Projects/Bilingual-Children's-Book-Project>

Text copyright © Mildura Rural City Council 2023

Illustrations copyright © Mildura Rural City Council 2023

First published 2024

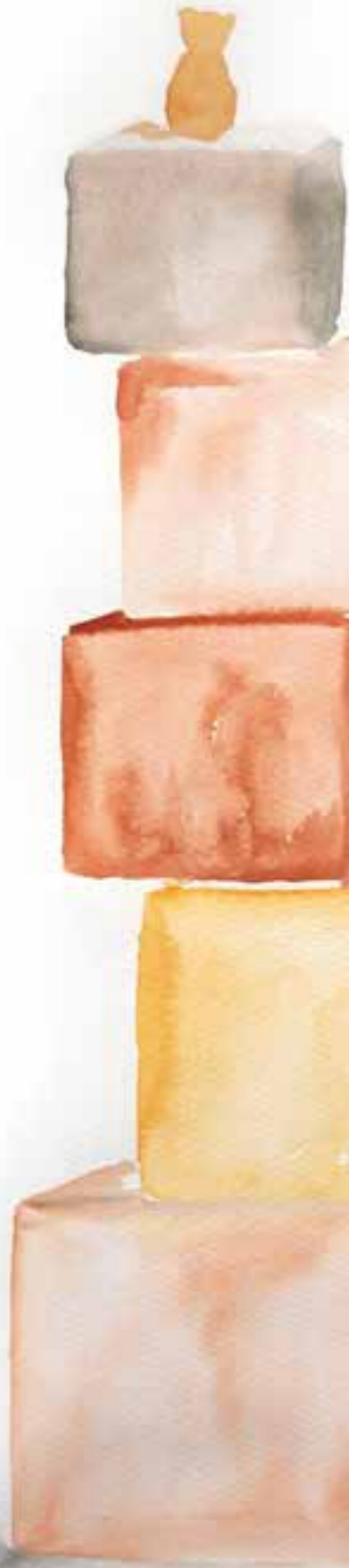
All rights reserved. This work is free to be shared under Creative Commons licensing, whereby Mildura Rural City Council, authors, translators, and illustrators are recognised and derived works are not sold for profit.

ISBN 978-0-6459478-0-9

Designed by Tiana D'Amico, Neo Flore, Emily Hocking, Isabella McIntyre & Josiah Tresize.

Printed by Park Douglas Printing, Mildura, Victoria

Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.



There are children  
who are smart,  
there are those  
who think they are.

In the Barkindji language,  
children are **muurpa-naara**.



The smarter children listen,  
they will learn  
and they'll go far.

In Barkindji, to listen  
is to **paarapa**.



Smarter children  
show respect,  
are obedient as well.

To improve or become good  
in Barkindji is to **paliira'mala**.



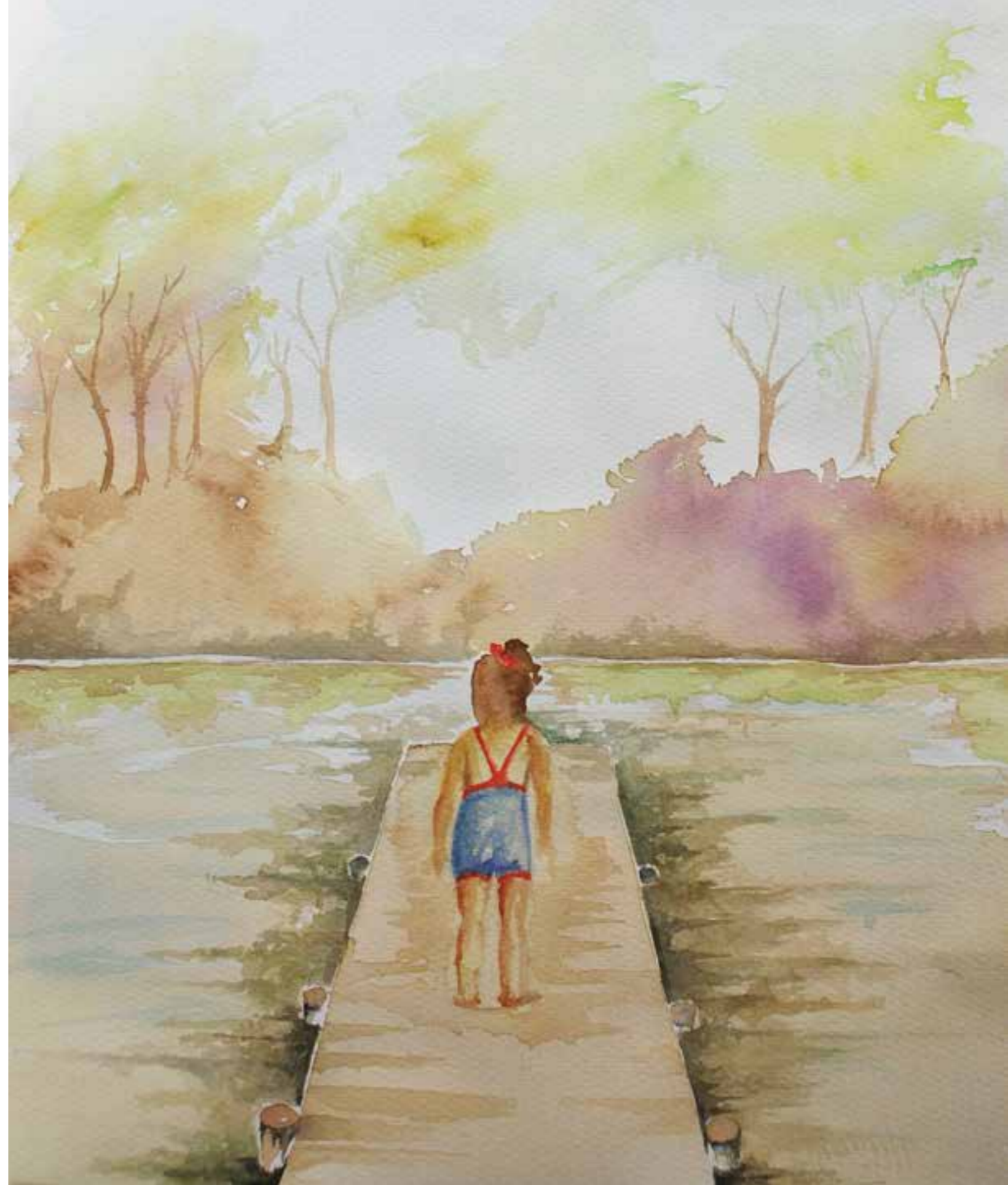
They always use their manners,  
they are smarter  
– you can tell.

Using your manners is being  
“proper” and “true”,  
which is **kiiyala**.



Smarter children  
show good sense,  
always do as they  
are told.

To be a clever person  
is to be **miikika**.



They listen to their seniors,  
they'll be wiser  
when they're old.

A senior, or most important person,  
is known as a **pithiya**.





So if you think you are smart,  
you can put it to the test,

When you put something to the test,  
you try it or work at it or make it happen  
which is **ngaarpa**.



always obey your carers,  
you will be among the best.

The best, to do really well or excellently,  
means **palii'mala**.





**Brian Hunt**

(Uncle) Brian Hunt has been a performing poet, singer, and song-writer for years. He's also been a grape picker, a truck driver, and is a proud family man living in the Mildura region.



**Patsy Doolan**

(Aunty) Patsy Doolan is a much loved Barkindji/Paakantyi woman who has served her community for years, working and volunteering in areas including education, justice, and now health. Patsy is also a skilled artisan, crafting beautiful jewellery that combines traditional cultural elements with modern style, which she makes available at markets near and far.



**Stacey Perry**

Stacey is a Mildura based artist who works in a number of mediums in particular watercolour, acrylics, printmaking and collage. Stacey is also active in the local community running various art workshops for kids and young teens through Arts Mildura and Mildura Rural City Council.

# MILDURA 2023 BILINGUAL CHILDREN'S STORY BOOK PROJECT

This story book was created as part of the Mildura Bilingual Children's Story Book project. This project initially brought interested community members together to some children's story book writing workshops. From those workshops, initial stories were drafted, which were then edited by educators experienced in working with primary students with little English. More community members then volunteered to assist with translation and illustration of the books, and with the graphic design and layout.

Scan the QR code below to go to the website where you can hear and see each story being read in English and in other community languages.

