

Australian Kids through the Years

By Tania McCartney

Illustrated by Andrew Joyner

Many thousands of years ago, the first people arrived in Australia and made this land their home, but when Europeans arrived in the late 1700s, things changed forever. Now, Australia is home to children of many cultures and backgrounds.

Australian Kids through the Years takes a look at children's lives, from the time of the first children, to the colonial era and Federation, and through the decades of the twentieth century to the present day. For each period, the book introduces a particular girl and a boy who then feature in the following spread.

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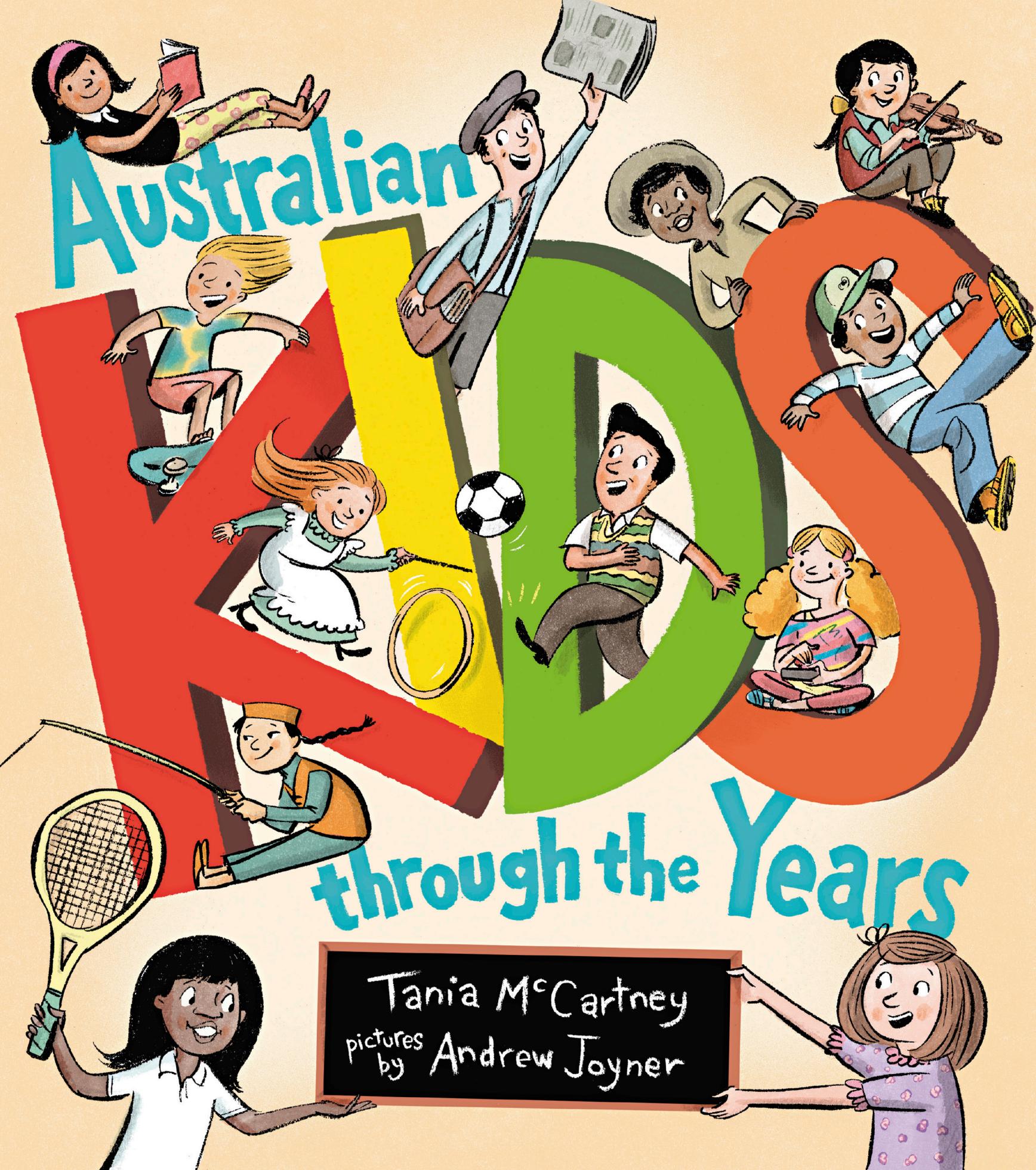
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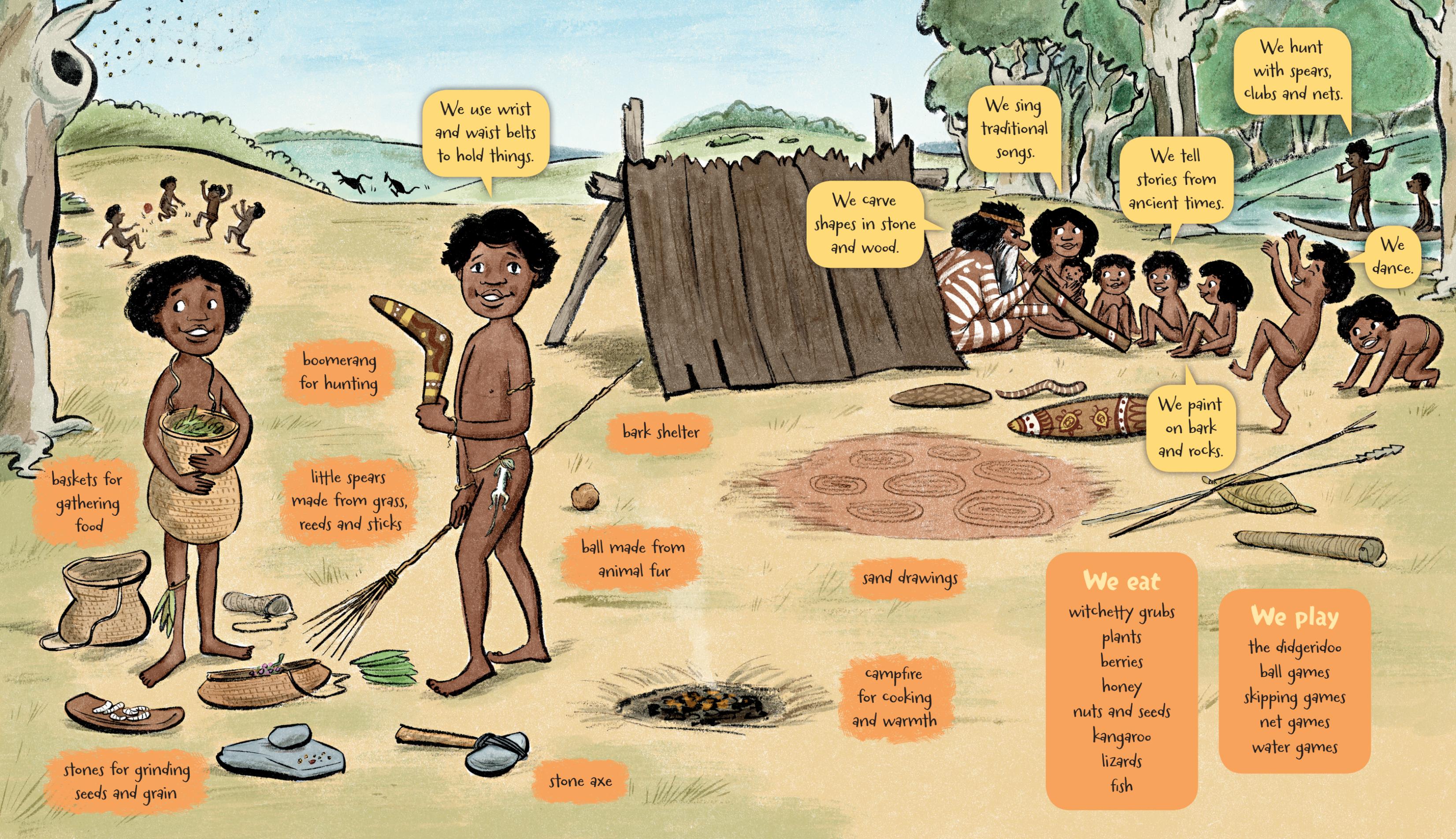
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Australian

through the Years

Tania McCartney
pictures
by Andrew Joyner





We use wrist and waist belts to hold things.

We sing traditional songs.

We hunt with spears, clubs and nets.

We tell stories from ancient times.

We carve shapes in stone and wood.

We dance.

We paint on bark and rocks.

boomerang for hunting

bark shelter

baskets for gathering food

little spears made from grass, reeds and sticks

ball made from animal fur

sand drawings

We eat
witchetty grubs
plants
berries
honey
nuts and seeds
kangaroo
lizards
fish

We play
the didgeridoo
ball games
skipping games
net games
water games

stones for grinding seeds and grain

campfire for cooking and warmth

stone axe

1850s



Hannah helps out at her parents' hotel.
She's too busy to go to school so
her mother gives her lessons at home.

Chi and his father live in a tent in
the goldfields. He doesn't go to school.
He helps his father search for gold.





We listen to our neighbour's wireless.

electric streetlights

Most children go to school.

cloth cap

bobbed hair

outdoor toilet

long-sleeve shirt

satchel for carrying newspapers

meat safe

Milk is delivered in metal containers.

drop-waist dress

shorts with braces

long socks and Mary Jane shoes

billycart

lace-up shoes and socks

We eat
bread and dripping
Anzac biscuits
canned foods
golden syrup
oatmeal
lamingtons
stew

We play
slingshots
pogo sticks
toy soldiers
dolls
dolls' houses
spinning tops

We read
Tales of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie
Winnie-the-Pooh
Blinky Bill:
The Quaint Little Australian

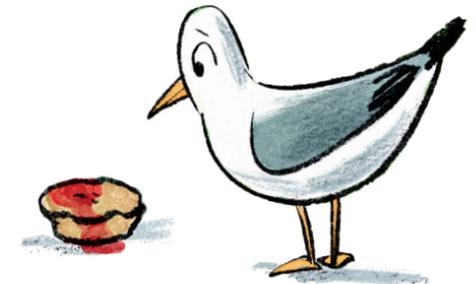
YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!

1970s



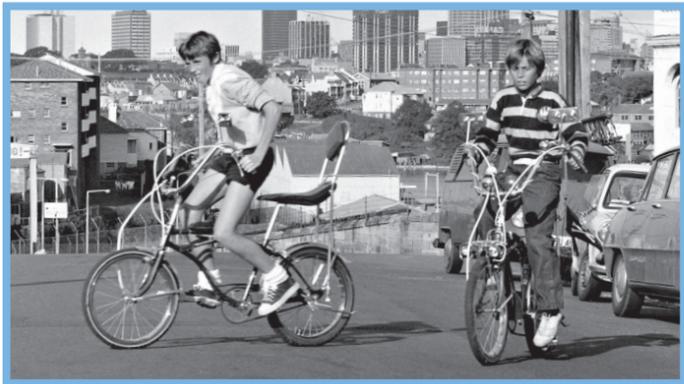
Matthew lives with his dad and sister.
He wants to be a computer engineer,
just like his dad.

Ming's parents are university professors.
She loves to write stories and
wants to be a journalist.



1970s

Australian children enjoyed freedom, peace and the great outdoors.



1980s

Electronic games became one of our favourite toys of all time. Pacman was one of the first.



1990s

The world became smaller for Aussie kids—through travel, television, film, mobile phones and the internet.



2000–today

The internet has become a part of Australian kids' lives. They use it to play games, to do school work and even for virtual travel!

