

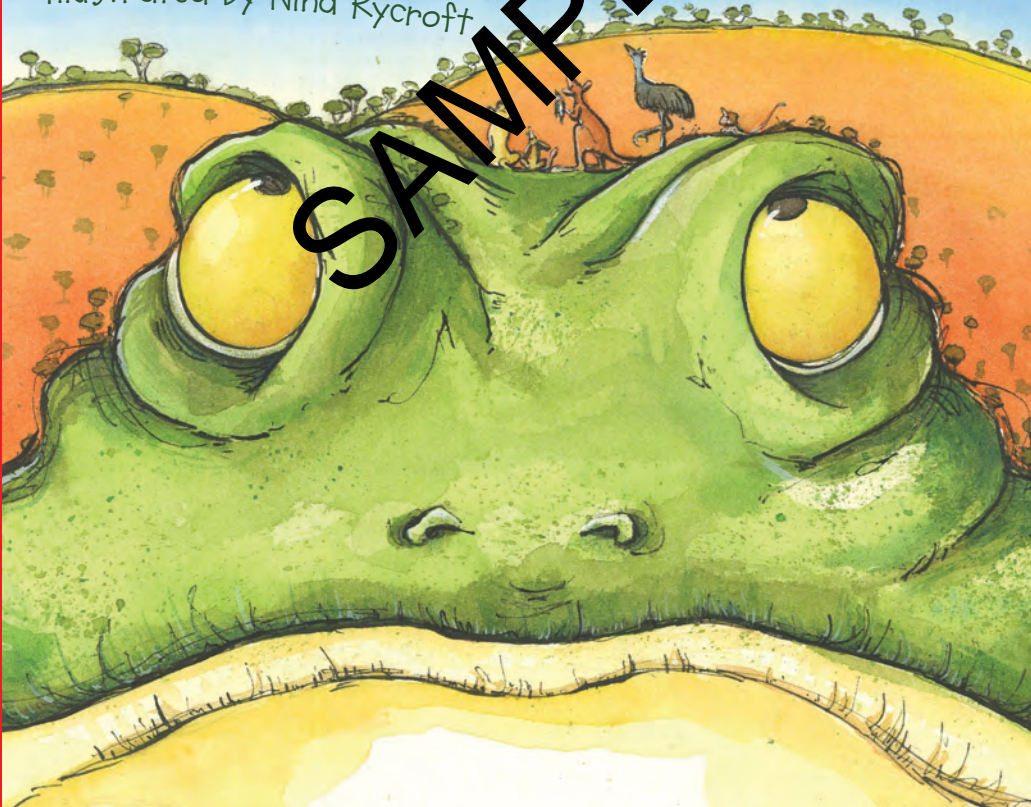
Tiddalick the Greedy Frog



An Aboriginal
Dreamtime Story

Retold by Nicholas Wu
Illustrated by Nina Rycroft

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Tiddalick the Greedy Frog

An Aboriginal
Dreamtime Story



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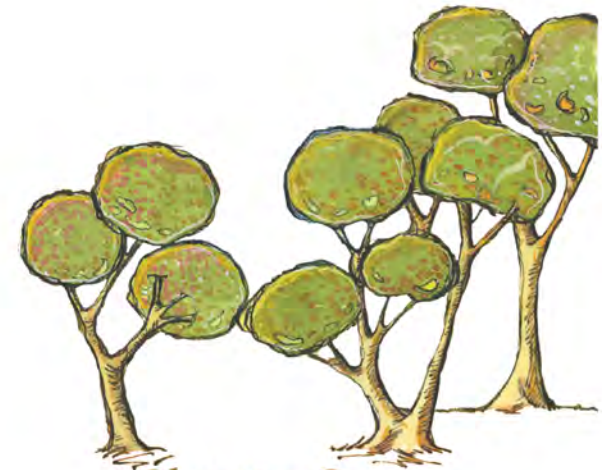
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The Australian Aboriginal people tell stories about a mystical time known as Dreamtime. These stories help them remember old ways and explain mysterious events. They tell of ancient spirits that came to Earth. These spirits created plants, animals, and landmarks. The tale of Tiddalick is one of these old stories. It is treasured by people around the world.

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Chapter One

Dreamtime

Once, there were no mountains, no rivers, no animals and no people. There was no sun, no rain and no wind. There was only darkness.

Then, the Dreamtime came to be, and wonderful things began to happen. The Rainbow Serpent came down from the sky and slithered across the Earth. Mountains rose, and valleys appeared. Rivers flowed, and the Earth was slowly covered with trees, plants and flowers. Animals appeared as if they had been blown in by the wind.

In those days, when the Earth was green and beautiful, there lived a giant frog named Tiddalick. He was bigger than the rocks. He was bigger than the trees. He was even bigger than the mountains.

When Tiddalick was happy, everything was calm and peaceful. When he was grumpy, the Earth would tremble, rocks would fall and winds would rage.





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Chapter Two

The Greedy Frog

One morning, Tiddalick woke up in a very grumpy, greedy mood. He was so grumpy and greedy that when he went down to the lake to drink, he drank and drank until he had drunk all the water in the lake.

Tiddalick the Greedy Frog

An Aboriginal
Dreamtime Story

Tiddalick drank all the water in the rivers and ponds until there wasn't a drop left on Earth! What could the animals do to save themselves—and their world.

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Read! Explore! Imagine!
Fiction
Readers

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Reading Level: 22 (O)

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