

# NINNI YABINI



CHERYL KICKETT-TUCKER AND TYROWN WAIGANA

F	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
✓	✓	✓	✓							

Writing	
Ideas	✓
Organisation	✓
Voice	
Word Choice	✓
Sentence Fluency	✓
Conventions	✓
Presentation	



Reading	
Determining Importance	
Inferring	
Making Connections	✓
Predicting	✓
Questioning	✓
Summarising & Synthesising	✓
Visualising	

Ninni Yabini by Cheryl Kickett-Tucker and Tyrown Waigana is a cute little story about a young swan whose parents love him very much. One day, while his parents are building him a safe nest to sleep in, Ninni Yabini chases a willy-wagtail bird and gets himself lost. He eventually finds his way home, back into the arms of his loving parents.

## Writing

**IDEAS:** This would be a great mentor text to help students learn about the beginning, middle and endings of narrative stories. It has a clear problem and solution that students could identify (Yabini chases a wagtail and gets lost- then he follows a star to get back to his parents). This book could form the basis of a similar 3-page story for junior students (page 1= beginning, page 2= middle, page 3= end). For students in years 2+, you could look at the way the author has solved the problem for Yabini- he had to go through 3 small trials to eventually overcome the issue (i.e. it wasn't solved with a single, quick fix). **WORD CHOICE:** There are some great tier 2 words that would be worth highlighting for students. These include: poked, dripped, pricked, swept, wandered, fluttering. **SENTENCE FLUENCY:** This book is made up mainly of simple sentences but there are some compound and complex ones as well.

## Reading

**MAKING CONNECTIONS:** Students could discuss other books they know of with similar characters or story lines. How are these stories similar or different? What makes this story unique? **QUESTIONING:** This story is written in Noongar (the language of the people from around the south-west of Western Australia) and English. This could spark further investigations about who the Noongar people are and where they are from. How do the Noongar seasons compare with the seasons of your local Indigenous people?