



Kimberley Society

Book Note

The Cowboy Frog (Kawupayi Walak) by Hylton Laurel. [Magabala Books](http://MagabalaBooks.com), Broome, 2003. Paperback, 24 pages, full colour illustrations, RRP \$6.95.

Hylton Laurel wrote and illustrated this delightful children's book several years ago. He was only nine at the time, and his story won an award in the Multicultural Book Competition in 2001. It tells the story of a brave green frog who lived near Noonkanbah Crossing. The reader learns a little about Cowboy Frog on every second page, where the text is presented in both English and the Walmajarri Aboriginal language. On the other pages, Hylton's drawings show Cowboy Frog fishing in the Fitzroy River, killing and cooking his food, and saving barramundi from a crocodile.

Hylton's life has been spent on Millijidee Station where 70 people live in Kadjina Community, with between 20 and 30 students attending the Wulungarra Community School. The school produces literature in Kriol, the students' first language, and in Walmajarri and English. Yangkana Madeleine Laurel did the Walmajarri translation in *The Cowboy Frog*. The book, which is part of Magabala's Uupababa series of titles for young children, was launched last October in conjunction with *What Makes a Tree Smile?* by young Tamina Pitt and her mother Terri Janke. That book has full colour illustrations by Kimberley-based artist Francine Ngardarb Riches. Other Uupababa books are: *Bardi Counting Book*, *Goanna Jumps High*, *Look and See*, and *Mura Migi Kaziki*.

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