



## Yarning Learning Circle Recycled Mat

Artist Billyara

The artwork features pathways that lead in to the yarning circle.

The yarning circle is where people come together to sit and share their stories and knowledge and to learn from others. The dots in the inner circles represent the land and our mother earth. We pay our respects to the people, both past and present of each land which we meet on.

*In Aboriginal culture storytelling and communication was very important. A Yarning Circle is a traditional method of communication for Indigenous cultures in Australia. They are a way to pass on knowledge, history and also for story telling.*

*Each Indigenous nation will use a Yarning Circle differently. Yarning Circles have been used throughout Aboriginal history, and continue to be used today for open conversations, story telling or “yarning”.*

Macquarie  
River

Dubbo



## About the Artist

### Billyara

Billyara is a respected artist from the Wiradjuri tribe. The name Billyara comes from the artist's totem, an eagle.

The eagle stems from the artist's connection to the land. Billyara has been painting Aboriginal art for 28 years and teaches these traditions to younger generations. Billyara's work has been exhibited extensively, and has sold his paintings internationally. Through a relationship with Modern Teaching Aids, Billyara hopes to introduce contemporary Aboriginal art to young children in fun and engaging ways.

## The Wiradjuri Nation

The Wiradjuri are New South Wales's largest Aboriginal group. Their land covers approximately from the Great Dividing Range in the east, to Hay and Nyngan in the west, Gunnedah in the north and Albury in the south.

Their land is known as having three rivers: Kalari (Lachlan), Wambool (Macquarie) and the Murrumbidjeri (Murrumbidgee). The Murray River is on the southern boundary. The Wiradjuri were highly skilled hunters, gathers and fishers, and their diet came from their local land. As the land consisted of a lot of water, seafood such as cod and yabbies were important in their diet. The Wiradjuri were made up of small clans or family groups that followed the seasonal nature of the land.



Murray River

Albury