

THE MOOLGUROORUNG AND BANNINGBOOROOLOCUST AND CARPET SNAKE//  
1p.

In Yamminga time Moolguroorung was a womba, and came first, before any other womba had come kalbu. Every time Moolguroorung died, it used to go down into its own booroo, and get a new skin and come up again nice and new. By and by Banningbooroo, who was womba, came along and saw the Moolguroorung changing its skin and coming up again after it had gone into the ground. Moolguroorung used to say, "M-m-m" when he came up again. When Banningbooroo saw Moolguroorung coming up out of the booroo fresh and new, he said, "You must not do that. When you go into the ground you must stay there and not come out again."

Banningbooroo only said this because he was jealous of the Moolguroorung being the same as himself, for Banningbooroo also went into the ground and came out with a nice new skin. So he bit Moolguroorung in the middle and now Moolguroorung is only a little fellow, and when he goes into the ground he has to stay there for he cannot put on a new skin since his back was broken. So now snakes are the only people who can go into the ground and get a new skin and come up nice and new. If Banningbooroo had not bitten Moolguroorung, womba would have been able to come up again after they had gone into the ground.