

WOOLGARDAIN AND KOOLARDING  
WHIPSNAKE AND MANGROVE SNAKE

17  
18

Woolgardain was a land snake and Koolarding a sea snake. Yamminga time Woolgardain had no poison, only good strong teeth, and Koolarding had only poison teeth. One day they were both sitting near their camps. Koolarding said to Woolgardain, "Can you run to that tree?" Woolgardain was very active and ran quickly to the tree and back again.

"Now," he said to Koolarding, "you run."

Koolarding said, "No, I am too heavy, but you are a great runner, so I will give you my poison teeth and you can give me your strong teeth and then you can bite and run away quickly, but if I bite I can't run away. I am too clumsy and I may be killed."

So they exchanged teeth with each other, and now the woolgardain can poison and quickly get away, but Koolarding can bite but cannot kill, and so he is not killed. He is there in the mangrove swamp now, and woolgardain is in the pindan (inland, the bush.)