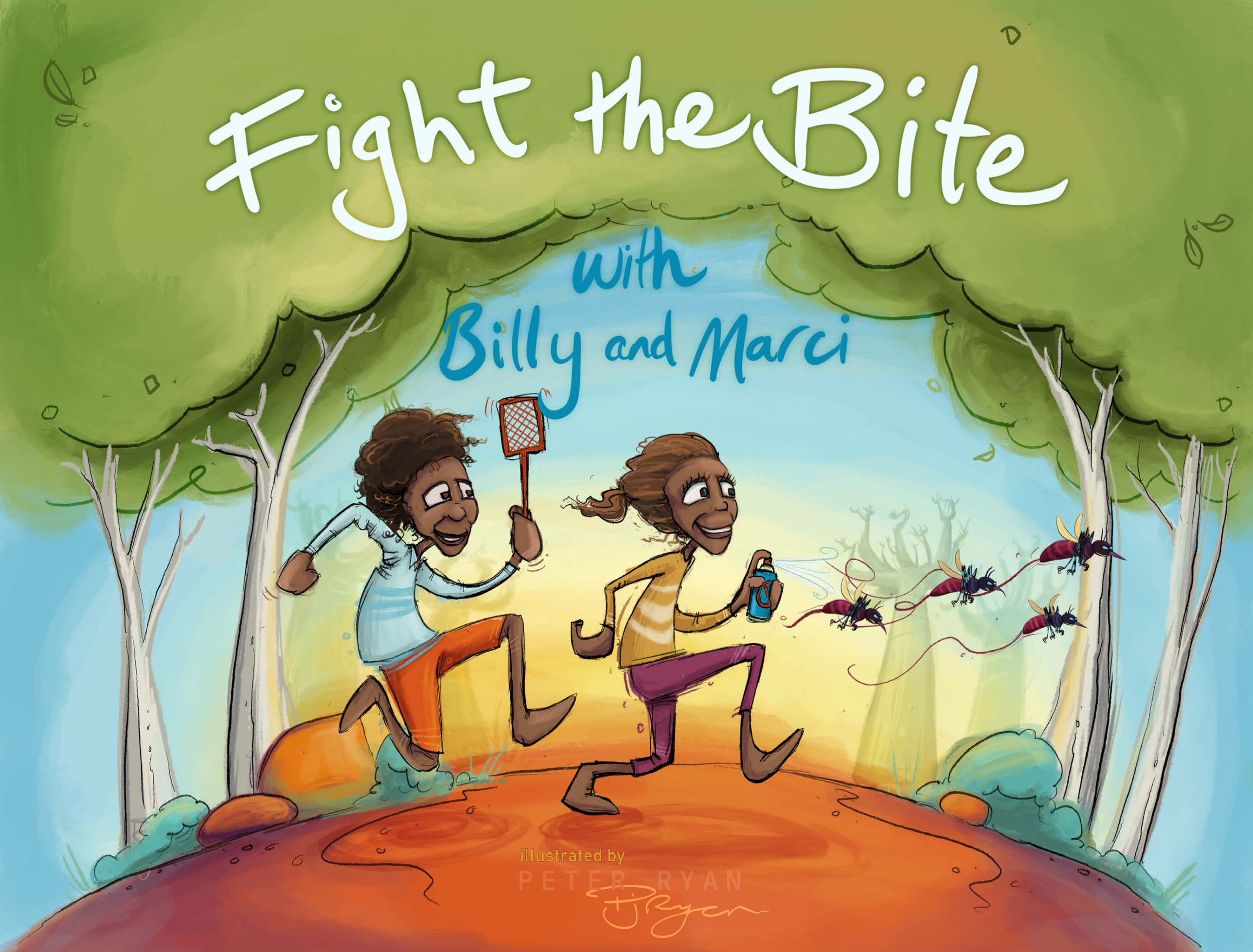
Fight the Bite

with Billy and Marci



illustrated by
PETER RYAN

Department of
Health

GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Fight the Bite with Billy and Marci was produced by the Environmental Health Directorate, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, WA Department of Health.

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Acknowledgement of Country:

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands of Western Australia and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

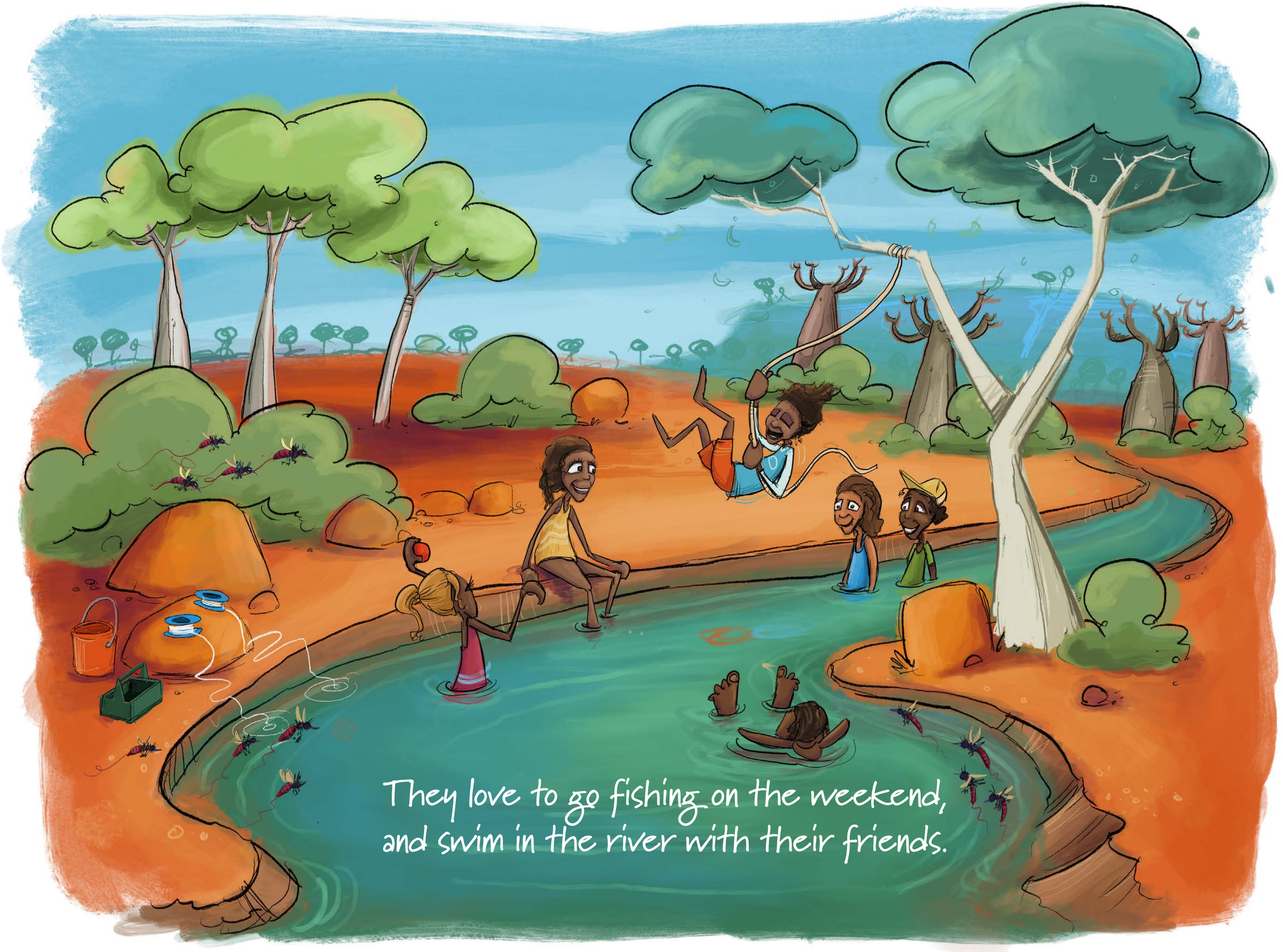
We recognise the strong and enduring connection that Aboriginal peoples have to Country, and the knowledge, stories and traditions that have been shared for many generations.

We honour the many First Nations communities across Western Australia and their important role in caring for Country.

We are grateful for the opportunity to learn from Aboriginal peoples and to share their knowledge, and we are committed to respecting their culture, heritage and connection to Country.

Billy and Marci live in the north of Western Australia,
where the weather is warm and there are
so many fun things to do outside.





They love to go fishing on the weekend,
and swim in the river with their friends.

They play footy
on the oval after school,
and spend time playing
in the bush.



The one thing that ruins their fun,

MOZZIES!



Mozzies are everywhere!

Especially in the wet season, between December and June.

Mozzies love to bite in the evening when the sun is going down,
and in the morning when the sun is coming up.



Billy and Marci just thought mozzie bites were itchy and annoying, but one day at school their teacher told them that...





"Mozzies can pass on viruses
that make people very sick."



Billy and Marci went home from school that day, wanting to find a way to play outside safely. "We don't want to get sick from mozzies Mum. How can we stop getting bitten?" asked Billy.

"There are three easy ways to Fight the Bite," said Mum.





1. COVER UP
2. REPEL
3. CLEAN UP

"Cover up in long, loose clothing, so the mozzies can't get to your skin. Don't forget your shoes and socks!"

Did you know mozzies can bite right through tight clothes, even jeans?

...and if you're sleeping outside,
make sure you sleep under a mozzie net
so you don't get bitten at night."

"Get a grown-up to put repellent onto skin
that mozzies can bite.
Put it on evenly.
If you dot it on here and there, it won't work."

"Don't put repellent near
your eyes or mouth"



"Help clean up the yard and the community. Mozzies love to lay their eggs in water that collects in buckets, toys, rubbish and old tyres," said Mum.

Tip water out.

Throw the rubbish in the bin.

Turn containers upside down.

"Even Charlie's water bowl needs changing twice a week, so mozzie eggs don't hatch!"

"You just reminded me, I need to cut the grass and weeds around the house. The mozzies love to hide in it and get close to us," said Dad.





"...and can you please fix the holes in the window screens,
so the mozzies don't sneak into the house Uncle?"

"Thanks Mum and Dad, staying safe from mozzies is easy...
Just Cover Up. Repel. Clean Up!"
said Billy.

"Let's go and tell all our friends how to Fight the Bite so they don't get sick from mozzies," said Marci.



And the two kids ran off to play, this time protected from mozzies.



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- Aboriginal Health Policy Directorate, Public and Aboriginal Health Division, WA Department of Health

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