

Gold at Pilbara Creek – Pansy’s story

When I was a little girl my family lived in a spinifex house called a mia, and we slept on a spinifex bed.

We lived at Pilbara Creek - all my family, my father and mother, my brothers and sisters.

In the morning we would get up and go to look for gold.

We went to the little gullies and looked for gold on the ground and in the dirt.

My father and mother used a yandy, a special dish to get the gold out of the dirt.

My brother and sisters and I looked for little pieces of gold and we put them in an old tobacco tin.

When my family collected a heavy weight of gold, my father took it to a shop at Pilbara Creek, got money for it and bought tucker, blankets and clothes.

It was a good happy life.



Further Information



spinifex is a tough, spiky grass, which grows in the desert in Central Australia

Pilbara Creek is in the north-west of Western Australia

tucker is a slang word for food

Activities

Draw a line to join the next part of the sentence with its beginning.

When I was a little girl

and looked for gold

We lived at Pilbara Creek -

my family lived in a spinifex house

We went to the little gullies

looked for little pieces of gold

My father and mother

all my family, my father and mother

My brother and sisters and I

a heavy weight of gold

When my family collected

good happy life

It was a

used a yandy

Can you answer these questions about the story?

Who wrote this story?

What was her house called?

What was her bed made from?

Where did they live?

What did they look for?

When did they go looking for it?

Where did they look?

What kind of tin did they put it in?

Where did the father take it?

What did he get for it?

What did he buy?

Do you think Pansy is indigenous? Yes Maybe No

Tell your tutor the reasons why you think this (Find more reasons than just the photo!)

Answer these True or False questions:

Pansy was an only child. True False

They put the gold in a tobacco tin. True False

They looked for gold in the evening. True False

They looked for gold on the ground. True False

They looked for gold in the dirt. True False

Look, Say Cover, Write, Check

Look at the word.

Say the word.

Write the word.

Check your spelling.

Practise spelling these words:

Word	Your spelling	Tick if correct?
slept	
lived	
looked	
bought	
when	
heavy	
weight	
ground	
special	
clothes	



A traditional aboriginal mia