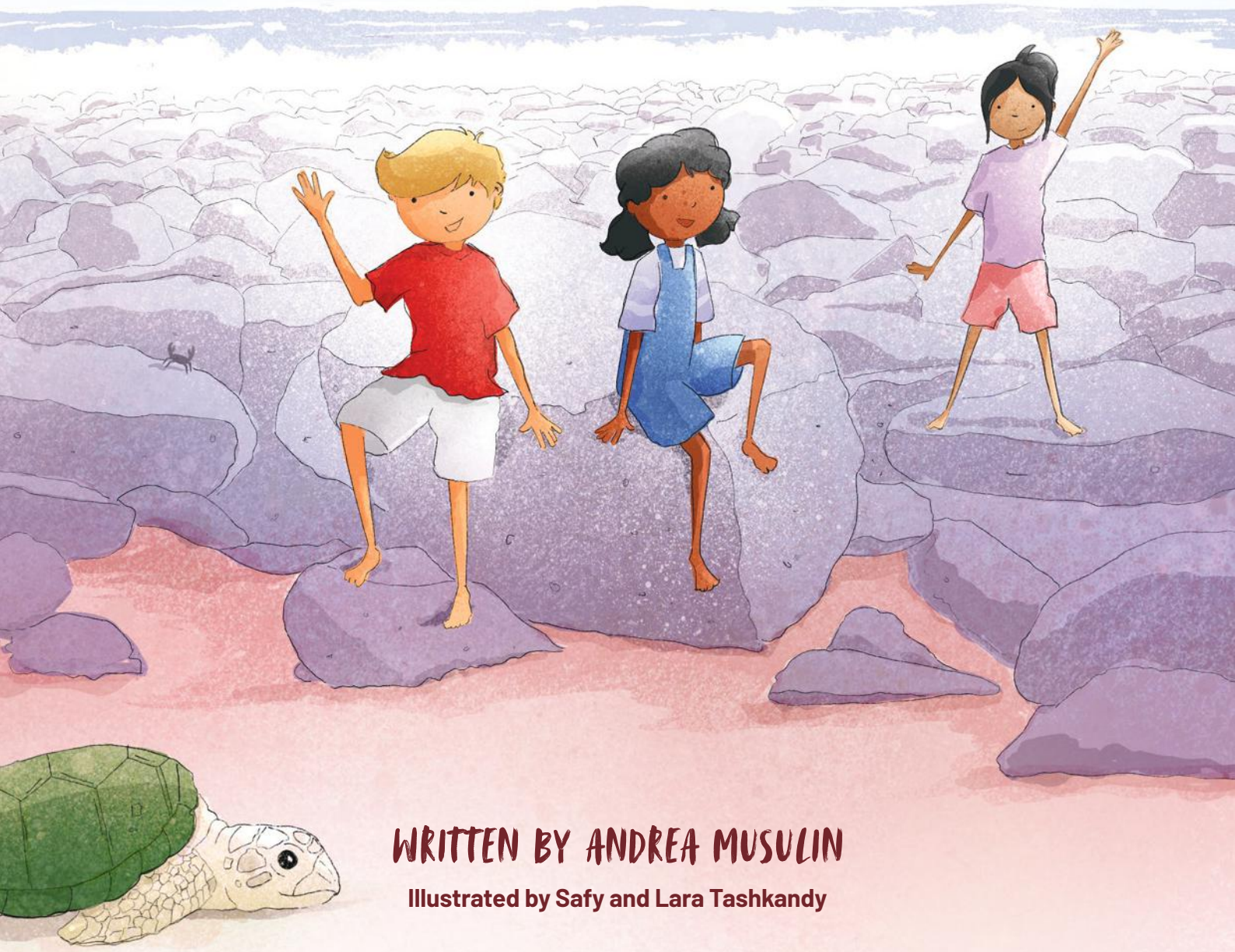
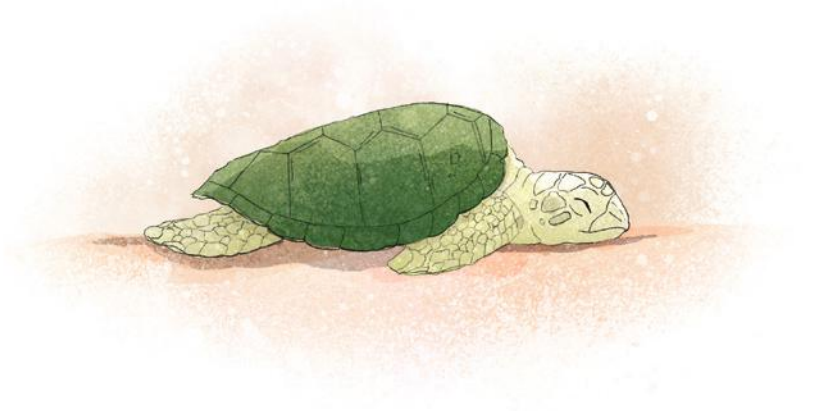
Keeping Kids Safe in Bundaberg



WRITTEN BY ANDREA MUSULIN

Illustrated by Safy and Lara Tashkandy



This book is dedicated to all the wonderful children in Bundaberg and all the adults who were once children in Bundaberg.

'Keeping Kids Safe in Bundaberg'

Child Focused Safety Services and **IMPACT Community Services** would like to thank the Year 3 and 4 students at **Walkervale State School** who contributed to and helped shape this story and the images.

Proofread by
Chris Jaques

Child Focused Safety Services respectfully acknowledges the Taribelang Peoples who are the Traditional Owners of the land. We also acknowledge The Gooreng Gooreng and Gurang Peoples of this land. We also pay our respects and acknowledge Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of the First Nations Peoples.

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Have you ever thought about how big
the world can be?

On the map, there's a little place
north of Brisbane called
Bundaberg that sits along the sea.

For many Queensland kids, it's the place
they call home. And it's country where
kangaroos meet and the blue tongue lizards
like to roam.


You are here

Bundaberg is also known as Bundaburra and is a land of
sunburnt country where the Burnett River meets the ocean.

It's the land of the Taribelang people where some
Indigenous languages are spoken.

Above the Burnett River stands a bridge both strong and old.
The bridge was built in 1900, with many tales now told.



For over a hundred years, people have travelled to and fro,
originally on ferries and now in cars
as the mighty Burnett River gently drifts below.

It links the north and south and has stood through sun and rain,
a Bundaberg landmark showing that history remains.



Just outside of Bundaberg, where the ocean meets the shore,
there's a very special place with something wonderful in store.

It's called Mon Repos, where turtles come at night.

They slowly cross the sandy beach to find a place just right,
then dig a nest and lay their eggs, before the morning light.



And when the little hatchlings are ready, out they come,
tiny turtles on the sand — their journey has begun!

They hurry towards the ocean and disappear beneath the sea,
beginning their great adventure, swimming wild and free.



In the old days, local families would gather at Paddy's Island, just out of town, a special place where families came together and children would run around.

It was a place for sharing stories, laughing, fishing and having fun, spending time together on Country beneath the warm Queensland sun.



Kids would watch Pop catch mud crabs by hand,
while others fished or played together on the warm summer sand.

There were aunties and uncles, cousins and friends,
and days spent together that nobody wanted to end.

For the families who gathered there, Paddy's Island was more than just a place to play, it was about family, belonging and connection to Country — memories that remain today.



There are many places in Bundaberg where children learn each day,
discovering new things as they work, grow and play.

There are schools North, East, South and West.
All these schools are awesome so it's hard to pick the best.



There's another little school but you won't find children there because this school is called Distance education, or the School of the Air.



At the Bundy Bowl, it's hard to know where to begin,
kids can skate, play games or knock down a pin!

With family and friends, there's so much to share,
at the bowl there is plenty of fun and excitement in the air.

It's another great place that Bundy kids know.
It's the place to meet with friends,
have fun and most of all just have a go!




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Here in Bundy, there's something famous to see,
A ginger beer factory that's part of the town's history.

It's been a part of Bundaberg for many a year,
making the drink called Bundaberg Ginger Beer.

At the Bundaberg Barrel there's so much to see,
you can also discover its place in the town's history.



You can learn how they brew it and the tricks of the trade,
and taste all the flavours the factory has made.

So when you're in Bundy, look out as you go,
for the famous big Barrel that the local kids know.

If you haven't been yet, go visit the Barrel and join in the
cheer, and discover the story of Bundy Ginger Beer.




Mon Repos Turtle Centre
Paddy's Island
Bundy North State School
Bundaberg Barrel
IMPACT
IMPACT Community Service
Bundy Bowl
Walkervale State School

Map of Bundaberg

There are also many suburbs in Bundaberg
where the kids live and play.

Most kids live with families and some with
relatives they stay.

Some live in the middle and some are far away.
It's in these Bundy suburbs that children grow
every day.











But wherever they live,
it's important to know
that all kids in Bundaberg
still need adults to help them grow.





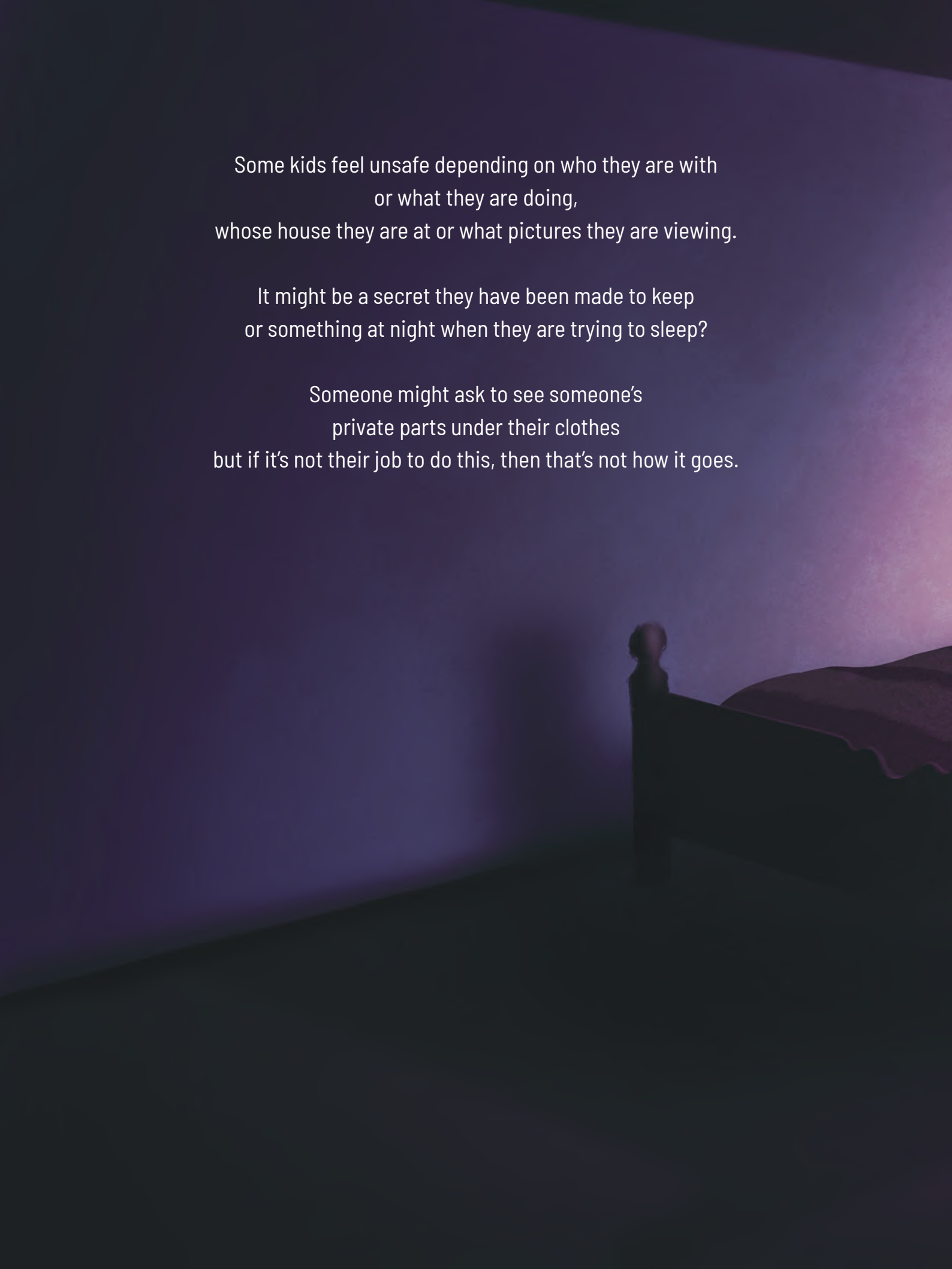




Bundaberg kids are special, they are all one of a kind.
They may look different and have their own individual design.

Some kids are in wheelchairs or have extraordinary minds
but, most importantly,

All kids in Bundaberg have the right to feel safe all of the time!



Some kids feel unsafe depending on who they are with
or what they are doing,
whose house they are at or what pictures they are viewing.

It might be a secret they have been made to keep
or something at night when they are trying to sleep?

Someone might ask to see someone's
private parts under their clothes
but if it's not their job to do this, then that's not how it goes.





When Bundaberg kids feel unsafe,
they might feel it in their belly or maybe they sweat or
their legs turn to jelly.

These feelings have names. It's not just in their minds.
These reactions are called

Early Warning Signs.



Their heart might beat fast, or their brain might race away.
If this ever happens, HELP they must say and,
if it is possible, try and get away.

If this ever happens, it's important to know
that all kids in Bundaberg can let their feelings show.

Some worries kids hide may be big and some worries may
be small but it's important for kids to talk to a trusted
grown-up about them all!

Ignoring unsafe feelings won't make them go away.
If you don't tell a grown-up, the worry will stay.



Remember

Nothing is so awful you can't talk with someone about it.

Kids need to know that this is true.
So always tell a grown-up if there is something
worrying you.

When feeling unsafe, kids should try not to fear,
there are plenty of adults who are just waiting to hear.





It simply doesn't matter what you've done or what you do.
There are lots of grown-ups in Bundaberg who care about you.

Maybe someone in your mob is there when things get
rough to help you see things through.

Can you think of someone you know that
you could talk to?



If at first you don't feel safe,
keep telling till you do.

Keep telling the grown-ups whom you trust,
they are there to help you.

The End



About Andrea Musulin

Andrea Musulin is a former police officer who has dedicated most of her career to keeping children and women safe over 30 years of service. In this storybook, she continues her life's work and the fight against child abuse, neglect and family violence. Andrea has been involved with Protective Behaviours education since 1993 and was one of the early pioneers in the Protective Behaviours journey in Western Australia.

About Child Focused Safety Services

Child Focused Safety Services (CFSS) is dedicated to helping children feel safe, be heard and receive the protection and support they deserve. The organisation works alongside families, schools, community organisations and services to strengthen the knowledge, skills and confidence of the adults responsible for children's safety.

The *Keeping Kids Safe* storybook series brings personal safety messages into children's everyday lives. By featuring familiar places, local stories and community connections. Each book creates opportunities for children and adults to talk together about feelings, body safety, trusted adults and asking for help. Children learn that they have the right to feel safe, can recognise their Early Warning Signs and can keep telling until someone listens and helps.

Through education, prevention and community partnerships, Child Focused Safety Services works towards a future where every child is valued, supported and safe.

About IMPACT Community Services

IMPACT Community Services is a regional community organisation working alongside people, families and communities to create safer, healthier and more stable lives. The organisation partners with government, local services and communities to deliver early intervention, prevention and crisis support that addresses complex social challenges before they escalate.

Its work is grounded in deep local knowledge and informed by data and evidence, enabling us to deliver practical, place-based solutions that strengthen communities and reduce long-term pressure on health, justice and child protection systems. IMPACT is focused on outcomes that make a real difference for individuals, families and the communities we serve across Queensland.

Child Focused Safety
SERVICES WA

Keeping Kids Safe in Bundaberg is a special story created for the children and families who call Bundaberg home.

Through familiar places, local stories and the people and landscapes that make Bundaberg unique, children are taken on a journey through their own community while learning important messages about personal safety, belonging and speaking up.

Created with the contribution of local children, this book helps young readers understand that they have the right to feel safe, recognise the signs their body may give them when something doesn't feel right, identify trusted adults in their Safety Network, and understand that they can keep telling until somebody listens and helps.

Most importantly, *Keeping Kids Safe in Bundaberg* reminds every child:

You are special. You have the right to feel safe.

And wherever you go, there are adults who can help keep you safe.

It is a simple teaching tool that parents, carers, teachers and other service providers can use to introduce the concepts of the Protective Behaviours or Keeping Kids Safe Program that is taught in Australia.



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