Podcast: Little Yarns

Episode Title: Kid in Adnyamathanha

Duration: 6’ 22”

[ABC Podcast sting – This is an ABC Podcast]

[Little Yarns opening music building under Rudi’s voice]

**Rudi:**  Yaama, Rudi ngaya! I’m Rudi and I’m a Gamilaroi girl, and right now, I’m speaking to you from Gadigal Country. There are hundreds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Nations right across Australia. And today, we’re heading to Adnyamathanha Country in the red and rocky ranges of South Australia. We’re going to meet Clayton there and, you know what, we better hurry, we’re gonna be late for class – c’mon!

[Little Yarns opening theme song ]

[Sound of a playground and children playing and yelling ]

**Clayton:** Nhangga kids, nhangga Rudi!

**Kid 1**: Nhangga, Clayton

**Kid 2**: Hello

**Rudi:** Nhangga Clayton!

**Kid 3**: Hi, Clayton

**Clayton:** Welcome back to Adnyamathanha Country!

[School bell rings]

**Clayton:** Ah! You’re just in time for school. Come on, let’s get to class with the other yukarti apinha

[Children running past on their way to class]

**Clayont:** That’s the word I want to share with you today, yukarti means kid in Adnyamathanha

**Kid 1:** Yukarti?

**Clayton:** Yep, that’s you.

[Running footsteps pass over gentle acoustic guitar music]

**Clayton:** As a schoolteacher and as a dad, I spend a lot of time with yukarti apinha. I really like it. I think it’s important for us oldies to keep thinking like kids.

**Rudi**: Clayton, that feels like a dig as the only old person on this show!

(Rudi and kids laugh)

**Clayton:** I think it’s important for us to stay playful and curious, and to keep having adventures.

**Kid 1:** Yeah

**Clayton:** What have you been curious about lately?

**Kid 1:** I’ve been pretty curious about the shell necklaces and bracelets the old people used to make. Like sea Country and Torres Strait

**Rudi:** Oh yeah, those are beautiful

**Kid 2:** I’ve been more curious about the ocean because we don’t know much about it. So I’ve just been thinking about that

**Kid 3:** I’ve been curious about what birds think and what every animal I guess thinks

**Rudi**: Since I’ve been spending a lot of time at home lately, I’ve been curious about what kinds of animals and plants are in my backyard

**Clayton:** See that’s great! I reckon we should all stay curious and want to learn, to paint and play and keep building our ideas. You’re never finished learning.

**Kid 4**: Definitely, yeah! Because if you stop, all your curiosity can go away, and you can stop learning. Like if you stop asking questions, that means you won’t be learning much more because when you ask questions you start to learn

**Rudi**: That’s so true. I’ve been learning about art recently, especially paintings

**Clayton**: That’s awesome. My yukarti has a great imagination. I think that’s important for everyone to have.

**Rudi:** Totally! And I love how much we use our imaginations for these little yarns

**Kid 1:** Yes, I think it’s a very good way to learn

**Kid 2:** Yeah, they should never stop making up stories so they can’t lose their imaginations

**Clayton:** Things are pretty different since I was a yukarti. Growing up in the bush I didn’t have computer games or smart phones or tablets. We’d spend hours on the trampoline in town or building cubby houses with my sister. And in the school holidays we’d come out and stay with the old people, riding horses - nhandu - and sleeping out on our homelands.

[upbeat xylophone music starts]

**Kid 1:** We visit family in the holidays too, up in Cairns

**Kid 2:** I like playing games with my mum and my family and playing poison ball on the trampoline. And yeah

**Rudi**: Do you know what, no word of a lie, I am campaigning for my mum to buy a trampoline

(kids and Rudi laugh)

**Clayton:** It’s special for me to live here again. I can raise my yukarti pila – my two children - in the bush so they can experience their culture and learn our stories, our muda. And it’s special for me to be a teacher here too. Most of the kids at our school are Adnyamathanha, so that’s really cool.

**Rudi:** The coolest!

**Clayton:** We like to play lots of games and sing lots of songs. Most of all, we like to spend a lot of time outside, because I reckon the best way to learn is to play

**Kid 1:** Yeah!

**Kid 2:** Yep!

**Kid 3:** Just stop working and play all day

**Rudi:** You know my favourite thing to learn with you, yukarti aphina?

**Kid 4:** What?

**Rudi**: This! Listening and learning from all our little yarns together. Thanks for taking us to Adnyamathanha class, Clayton! It was so much fun.

**Clayton:** No worries. Thanks for visiting!

**Kid 1:** Thank you

**Kid 2:** Bye, Clayton

**Kid 3:** Cya

**Kid 4:** Bye

**Clayton:**  Nakuty'-ina, yukarti aphina!

**Rudi:** Yalu!

[Little Yarns theme song]

**Rudi:** Thanks for coming out to Adnyamathanha Country with me! It’s been a while since I’ve been back to school, so it was a lot of fun. Can you remember the word Clayton shared with us today?

**Kid 1**: Yukarti – it means kid

**Kid 2**: And yukarti aphina means kids

**Rudi**: Nailed it. Yukarti means kid in Adnyamathanha language. I’ll catch you yukarti aphina for another yarn soon. Take it easy. Yalu!

[Little Yarns closing theme song]

**Rudi:** This Little Yarn was recorded on the Kaurna, Gadigal, Wangal, Bidjigal, Bundjalung and Larrakia Nations; featuring the sounds of Adnyamathanha Country, with original music by Bunuba producer Vincent Goodyer. Thanks to our guest Clayton Cruse and to all the deadly kids on today's episode. Our producer is Soumia Bella, senior producer is Emma Gibbs and our engineer is Nathan Turnbull. Little Yarns is an ABC Kids listen podcast. For more great podcasts to play, music to move, and stories and soundtracks for sleep, download the ABC Kids listen app, free from your app store.