Caring for piccaninny
You can help make piccaninny grow strong

- watch me wherever I go
- smile at me
- my safe place
- I feel secure
- when I go walkabout...
- be with me
- hug me
- play with me
- yarn with me

When I come back... I need you

Help me learn about my community
Babies need you to help them feel secure and grow strong. Bubs starts the journey in the centre at ‘my safe place’. The centre is where bubs feels safe and secure. The centre is where bubs can begin their walkabout and the centre is where they come back to begin their next walkabout.

When bubs goes walkabout they need to have someone there to share the joy and wonder of discovering their world. Stay with bubs, yarn with bubs and show bubs the wonders of their culture and community. Babies need special people in their lives to care for them. They enjoy smiles and having fun. They want to be close and connected to their special people. They want to be connected to their world.

When bubs comes back from walkabout, they need special people to help them get back to the centre, where they feel secure and can grow strong. What helps babies get back to the centre is when you can be with bubs, hold bubs, smile at bubs, use calm and kind voices and respond to bubs when they cry. Babies can become frightened when they are left alone with people they don’t know, if they hear angry voices, are hurt or are if they are left to cry for too long. They also become frightened if they are away too far from these special people. Bubs needs special people in their lives like you, to keep them safe, secure and to grow up strong.

**How to use 'Caring for piccaninny'**

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- **Help me to feel secure**
  - smile at me...hug me...yarn me
  - enjoy me...share my joy
  - stay with me when I am upset
  - help me learn about my culture and community

- **Help me grow strong**
  - have fun with me
  - support me to feel better
  - help me discover my world