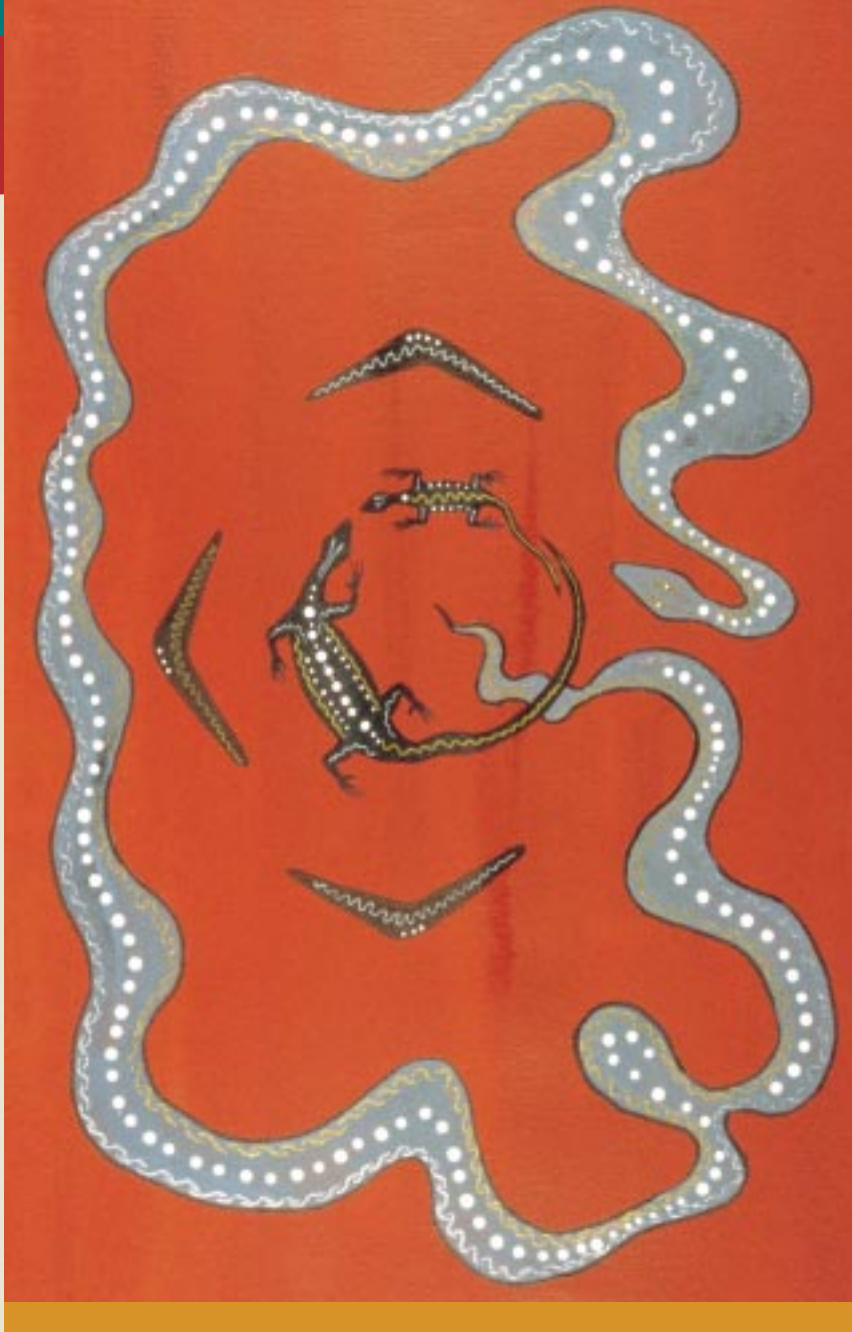


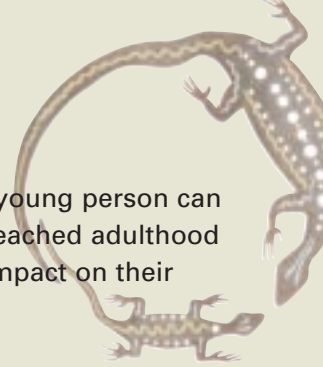
making
our future
work



parents can help

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Choosing a job is one of the biggest moves that a young person can make. At that time of life when they have not yet reached adulthood they must choose a career that will have a major impact on their adult life.



you can help a lot

It is times like these that our children really need us, even if they will not say so. One way that we can help them is to find out what they are good at in school. This is a good starting point in helping them make career choices.

Their personality and attitudes are also important in earning, winning and enjoying a long-term career. So think about your teenager, not just as you see them, but also from the way their teachers and friends see them.

Another way to help is to get information on a range of jobs and what kind of education they would need to do those jobs. Career information is available at Centrelink offices. You can also ask the school's career adviser.


Another way we can be of help is to encourage our children to put their name down at places they would like to work. Also help them with their résumé and job application.

You can also talk to an officer at Centrelink and find out what kind of help your children can get.

vocational and educational guidance for Aboriginals scheme (vegas)

The major goal of VEGAS is to improve participation in secondary and post-compulsory education and training and assist in the transition from school to further training or employment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.





Sponsoring organisations are contracted to conduct short term projects aimed at, for example:

- introducing students to the organisation and teaching methods of a new stage in their education
- providing information about training needs for prospective careers
- providing assistance for students in remote areas to participate in school based work experience programs.


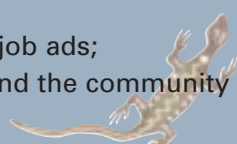
For more details contact your nearest Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs office and ask for the Indigenous Education Unit.

how to go about getting a job

If your children's school days are about to end, help them think about what kind of job they want to do.

Make a list of the sort of jobs they will be looking for and put it where it can be seen. Keep on checking to see if any of the jobs becomes available on the Centrelink touchscreens or in the newspaper.

Now is the time to get your children to:

- ask the school principal and their teachers for personal references;
 - get out any references that they have that show they have worked before;
 - get a copy of *Job Search – Starting Out* from your local Centrelink office; it can help you find out where to find jobs, how to apply, how to put together a résumé, and how to handle an interview or use the other pamphlets in this set;
 - keep on looking in the newspaper for job ads;
 - seek help from friends and relations and the community about any jobs that they know about;
 - keep on going to the local Centrelink office to check out jobs;
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You have to work on the job application until it clearly answers the needs of the job ad, make sure the spelling is right, it's well written and that it makes sense;

If you can, try to have your application typed as this looks good to the bosses.

daughters sometimes need extra help

In the last ten years the number of women working in areas that were only for men has grown a lot, but your daughter might need extra help.

Help her to pick her school subjects wisely, as sciences and maths, for example, will offer entry to a wide choice of courses and jobs on leaving school.

Many women work in the areas of nursing, teaching and hairdressing. Others are moving into trade areas that have to do with food, printing, gardening jobs, painting and decorating and electrical work.

On the other hand office work and secretarial work use computers and so computer skills are in demand.

Children are our future and we need to help them as much as we can.

COVER ART by Canberra-based Aboriginal artist, John (Johnno) Johnson. This picture depicts a mother and child in the circle of life. It shows that parents and communities are involved in developing young people.