

# LUNA ROO



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## At home resource

### About the book

Title	<i>Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller</i>
Author	Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd
Illustrator	Jake A. Minton
Publisher	Little Book Press
Date of publication	2025
ISBN	9781923141315
Category	Picture book
Pages	32



### About this resource

Suitable for	Parents and caregivers
Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achievement</li><li>• Australian animals</li><li>• Overcoming adversity</li><li>• Resilience</li><li>• Sport (soccer/football)</li><li>• Teamwork</li></ul>
General capabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Literacy</li><li>• Personal and Social Capability</li></ul>
Unit writer	<p><b>Libby Baker</b> is a classroom teacher, teacher librarian, and literacy consultant. She focuses on teaching functional grammar for critical literacy using multimodal texts in the primary years. Libby has taught across all age groups in the primary years and has worked as a literacy and EAL/D specialist. She is on the executive of the ALEA ACT Local Council and is the 2025 Reading Australia Fellow. © ALEA 2026</p>

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# Literature and context

**NOTE:** This resource uses the term 'soccer' rather than 'football' to distinguish the sport from Australian rules, rugby league, and rugby union football.

## Connecting to prior knowledge

### Soccer snap

Use the provided cards (see **pp. 3–6** of this resource) to play soccer snap with your child. This game will help develop prior knowledge of the language of soccer before reading *Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller*. Use the blanks to draw your own soccer snap cards. These could include the names of favourite soccer players, a local soccer team, and any other words your child might associate with soccer.

While playing, discuss some of the words on the cards. Ask your child if they have heard the words before. Explain these as you go, acting out any words that include actions. This will allow your child to understand some of the key terms from the book before reading, and may aid their comprehension. If you need help explaining some of the terms, you can consult Twinkl's [list of soccer language](#).

## Exploring the text in context of our community, school, and 'me'

### A sports family tree

Draw a sports family tree with your child. Begin with the trunk, writing your child's name and asking them what sport they like. Write this too, then write the name and favourite sport of each of your family members on a different branch. Discuss why each person might enjoy that sport. Note the similarities and differences between family members.

If there are people in your family who support rival teams, invite children to talk about this. The picture book *My Big Secret* by Felice Arena will support this discussion about difference and acceptance.



# Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller

## Soccer snap cards

### How to play

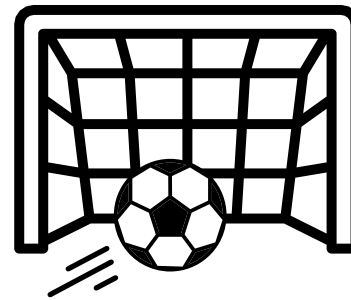
Cut out, shuffle, and deal the cards evenly between players. Keep the cards face down in a pile. Players will take turns to flip over their top card and place it onto a middle pile. If two matching cards are placed one on top of another, players must call out 'Snap!' and place their hand on the middle pile. The first player to place their hand wins the pile. The game ends when one player collects all the cards.



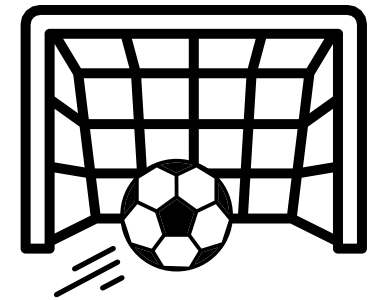
**Ball**



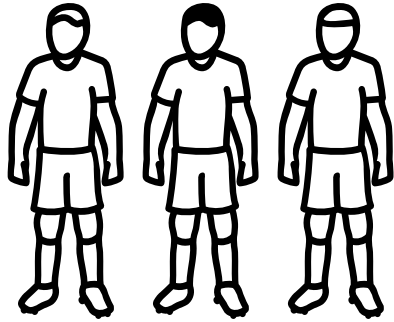
**Ball**



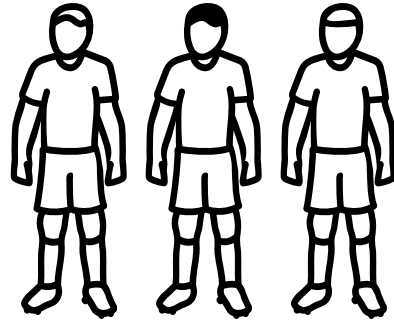
**Goal**



**Goal**



**Team**



**Team**



**Coach**



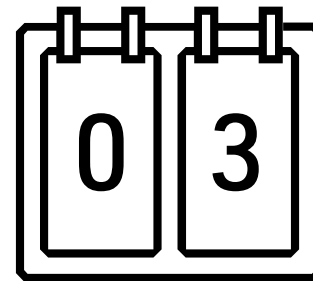
**Coach**



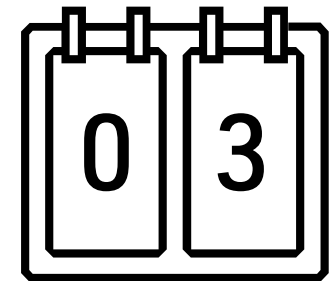
**Pass**



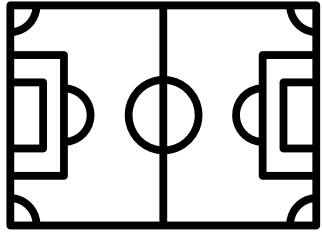
**Pass**



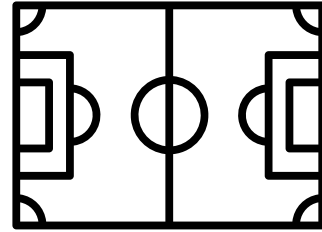
**Score**



**Score**



**Pitch**



**Pitch**



**Soccer**



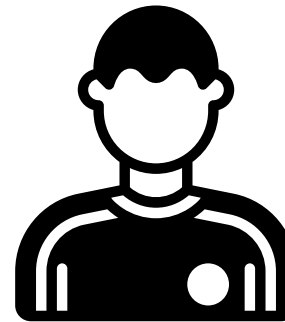
**Soccer**



**Referee**



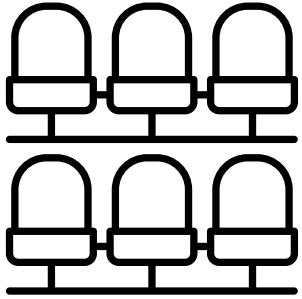
**Referee**



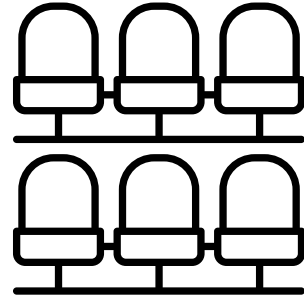
**Captain**



**Captain**



**Stands**



**Stands**

# Responding to literature

NOTE: For the purpose of tracking page numbers, the first double-page spread of the story is considered pp. 1–2.

## Responding to the text

### Commentate your own story

After reading *Luna Roo* with your child, explain that you are going to go back through the book. This time, pretend that you are commentating the game instead of Jeff and Gary (the galahs).

As you flip through the pages with your child, commentate on what is occurring in the story. Do this without reading the written text; instead, use this as a time to retell the story and have fun describing the events that stood out to you and your child. Allow your child to help commentate the story, including any details they remember.

## Exploring plot, character, setting and theme

### Resilience

Read pp. 15–16 where Luna ‘shakes off her doubts’.

Ask your child what it means to ‘shake off your doubts’. This is an expression that means to let go of your worries and fears and not let them get to you.

Create a visual description of this expression with sticky notes and a soft toy. Ask your child what worries the soft toy might have. These might include:

- ‘No one plays with me’
- ‘The other toys are more colourful’
- ‘I am not the cuddliest’

Write the soft toy’s worries on sticky notes and attach them to the toy. Then explain that you are going to shake the worries off. With your child, gently shake the soft toy so that all the sticky notes fall off.

Talk to your child about how the story might have been different if Luna hadn’t shaken off her worries and doubts. Because Luna shook off her doubts, she was in better shape to win the game.



# More resources

## About the book, author, and illustrator

*Luna Roo the Kangaroo Baller:*

- [Little Book Press](#)
- [Simon & Schuster Australia](#)
- [ReadPlus](#)

Adam Jackson:

- [Little Book Press](#)
- [Simon & Schuster Australia](#)

Adrian Lloyd:

- [Little Book Press](#)
- [Simon & Schuster Australia](#)

Jake A. Minton:

- [Little Book Press](#)
- [Simon & Schuster Australia](#)
- [Booked Out Speakers Agency](#)

## Related texts

### Lower primary (F–2)

- [My Big Secret](#) by Felice Arena
- [All The Ways To Be Smart](#) by Davina Bell, illus. by Allison Colpoys
- [Mad Magpie\\*](#) by Gregg Dreise
- [Billy B Brown: The Soccer Star](#) by [Sally Rippin](#), illus. Aki Fukuoka
- [Goal!!!](#) by Lydia Williams, illus. Lucinda Gifford

### Upper primary (3–6)

- [Sporty Kids: Soccer!](#) by Felice Arena
- [Dream Goal \(Kicking It Football Academy #1\)](#) by Jess Black, illus. Mario Gushiken
- [Football Fever 1: The Kick-off](#) by Kristin Darell
- [My Deadly Boots\\*](#) by Carl Merrison and Hakea Hustler, illus. Samantha Campbell
- [We Are Matildas](#) by Shelley Ware, illus. Serena Geddes

\* Reading Australia title

