

**EXPLORE** From generations to generations

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**Indigenous Alice Springs comic book artists  
Stick Mob put final touches on inspirational sequels**

At a local arts centre in Alice Springs, a group of young Indigenous artists is preparing banners and merchandise ahead of launch day. The group, called Stick Mob<sup>1</sup>, have been working diligently on the hotly anticipated second series of their comic books after breaking  
5 out into the niche industry in 2021. Born from the dreams of four high school students—and featuring mutants, cyborgs and phantasms—Stick Mob brings to life unique, central desert stories through their imaginative art.

Their inaugural releases—*Mixed Feelings*, *Exo Dimensions* and *Storm*  
10 *Warning*—took a deep dive into a range of topics, from climate change to intergenerational trauma and healing, set against the backdrop of life in Central Australia.

When their series launched in 2021, writer-illustrators Alyssa Mason, Seraphina Newberry and Lauren Boyle became the first female  
15 Aboriginal graphic novelists to be published in Australia. [...]

Alyssa Mason, now in her early-20s, said the creations had filled the group with pride, and inspired them to keep making new work. [...]

For Seraphina Newberry, the work is an opportunity to create a brighter future for her hometown of Alice Springs. She said many  
20 young Indigenous people, including herself, had faced adversity but that it does not need to define their lives.

“We’re showing them that Alice Springs, or the youth, or whatever is happening in town, is not all bad,” she said. “There’s some really great stuff coming from this community, and the fact that we’re all  
25 working together and we’re actually thriving<sup>2</sup> and not, essentially, just being really closed off.”

*abc.net.au, 2024*

1. Aboriginal term for a family or clan group 2. grow

**WAY 1** 

**1. Look at** the illustration and **tick** the correct boxes.

- The main character is...     a human     an animal     a hybrid creature
- The colours suggest this is a scene from...     the coast     the desert     the city
- This picture is...     realistic     dreamlike (abstract)     a mix of both

**2. Read** the text and **highlight** the information you find about Stick Mob, then **sort** it in this table.

City/Region of origin	Members of the group	Type of art	First projects
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....

3. **Circle** the themes their art addresses.

ENVIRONMENT

SPORTS

COOKING

GENERATIONS

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

ANIMALS

4. **Read** the last paragraph (l. 22-26) and **underline** the positive words or expressions.

5. **Explain** why their work is important. You can use the following words.

*community • together • traditions • stories • generations • impact*

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**WAY 2** 

1. **Look at** the illustration and **write** a short description of it, focusing on its atmosphere and characters.

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2. **Highlight** all the information about Stick Mob and briefly **introduce** them.

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3. **a. Read** this word cloud. **Underline** the words referring to their inspiration and **circle** the words associated to the themes in their work.

**environment**

**generations**   **dreams**

**First Nations people**   **imagination**

**aboriginal youth life**

**b. Say** what made the Stick Mob artists special when they published their first books.

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4. **Sum** this **up** into one sentence.

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5. **Focus** on Seraphina Newberry's comments. **Explain** how Stick Mob's art reflects their culture and impacts young First Nations people.

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