

Boonwurrung Relational Seasonal Calendar

A place-based system for education, wellbeing, and organisational systems.



WHAT IT IS

The Boonwurrung Relational Seasonal Calendar is a place-based framework grounded in six Boonwurrung seasons. It functions as a relational time system, guiding when to act, rest, connect, and repair.

It aligns planning, wellbeing, and decision-making with natural seasonal rhythms based on changes in:

- weather
- plants
- animals
- and human experience

WHAT IT DOES

- Reduces urgency and reactive decision-making
- Improves staff regulation and wellbeing
- Strengthens connection to place and community
- Provides a shared rhythm for planning, communication, and decision-making
- Supports culturally grounded learning and practice

WHERE IT IS USED

- 150+ early learning services
- 3 secondary schools
- 2 universities
- Fully embedded within one local government council
- Adopted by organisations including Sacred Heart Mission
- Implementation underway across councils, hospitals, ecocentres, and discussions in progress with Victoria Police

DESIGNED BY

- Biik Bundjil & Ismawi Design
- Boonwurrung-led education, culture, and systems consultancy

WHY THIS MATTERS

Most organisations are still operating on fixed calendars and constant urgency.

But on this Country, systems have always followed seasonal rhythm.

When rhythm is lost, we see:

- burnout
- disconnection
- reactive decision-making

This framework restores timing, predictability, and relational connection.

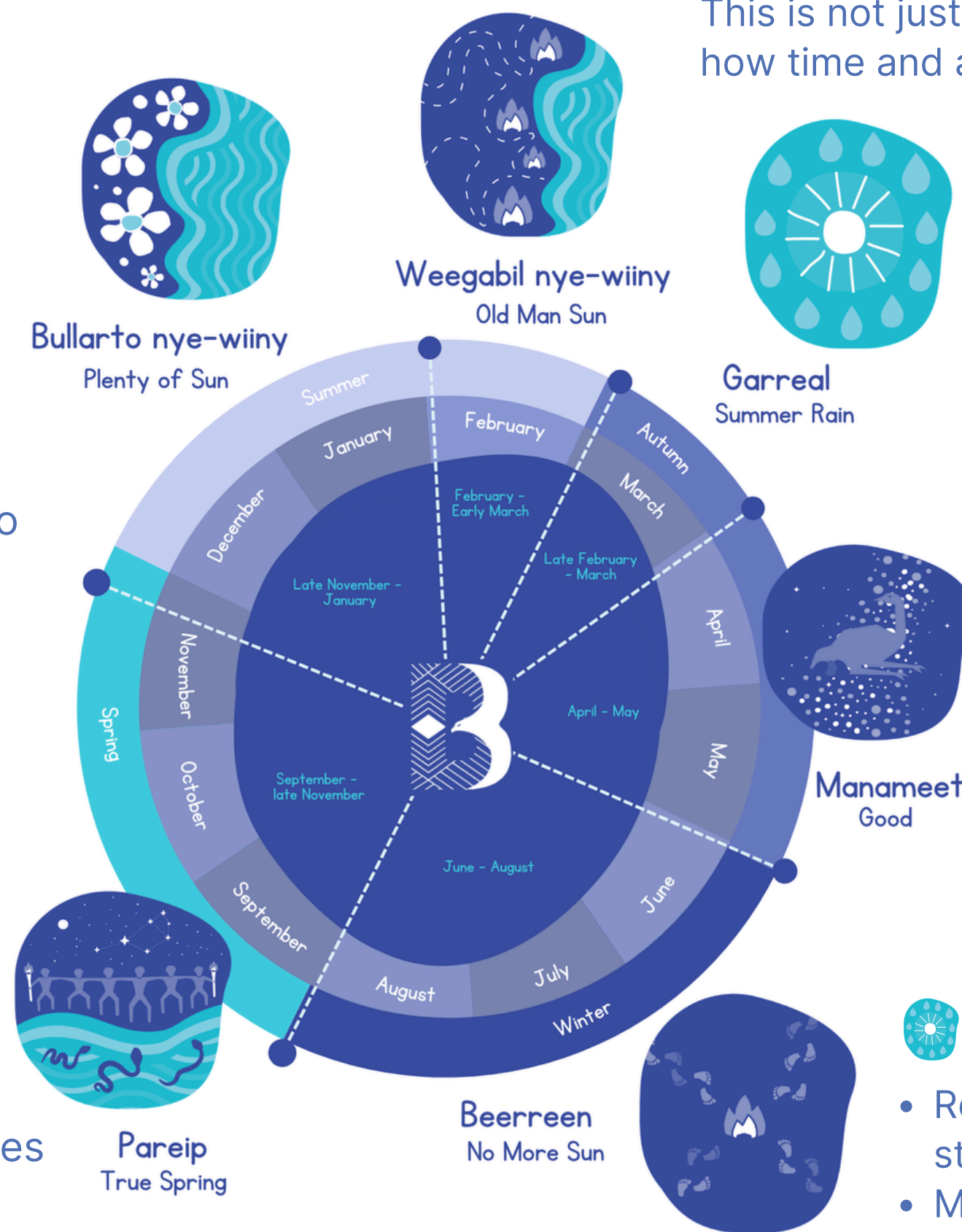
This is not just a shift in knowledge, but a shift in how time and activity are organised.

KEY DESIGN FEATURES

- Six-season structure based on local ecological indicators
- Translates Indigenous knowledge into a usable system
- Functions as an underlying system, not an add-on program
- Scalable across education, government, and community sectors
- Balances cultural integrity with accessibility

IMPACT

- Reduced urgency and improved staff regulation
- More consistent environments for children and families
- Increased confidence embedding Indigenous knowledge
- Stronger alignment with local ecosystems
- Supports long-term cultural and system change
- Supports nervous system regulation across staff and environments
- Demonstrates measurable shifts in planning, pacing, and organisational behaviour over time



Boonwurrung Relational Seasonal Calendar

A place-based system that reduces urgency, improves regulation, and reconnects people to Country.



WHAT IT IS

The Boonwurrung Relational Seasonal Calendar is a six-season framework grounded in local ecological patterns, cultural knowledge, and human

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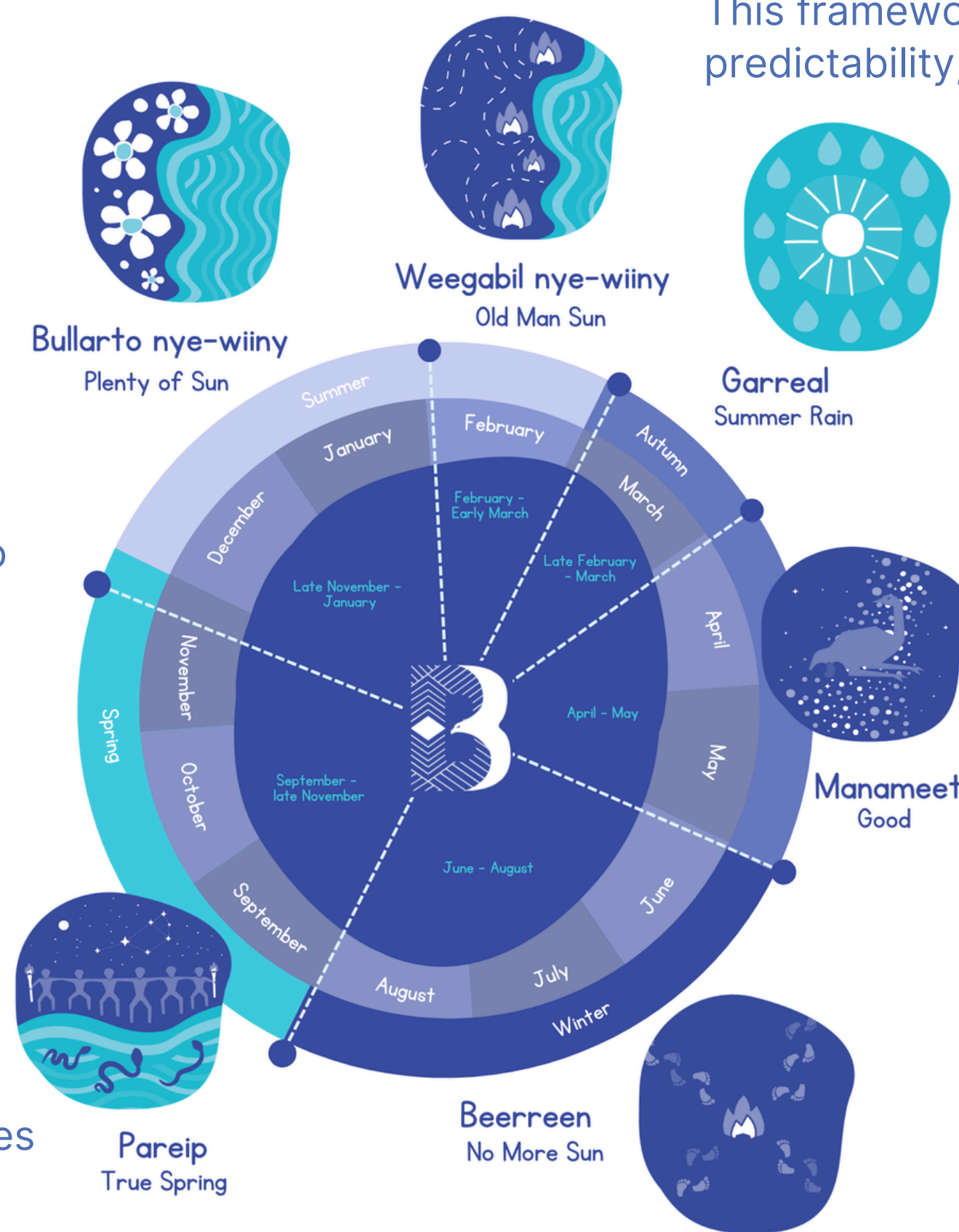
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