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MEDIA RELEASE

Subject: Rap and Rhyme with Eddie Betts

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FOOTBALL legend and children's author Eddie Betts is heading to Murray Bridge to share raps and rhymes with his 'Lil' Homies' to spread kindness, understanding and a love of reading.

Library Team Leader Tim Law said more than 200 people had already booked for An Afternoon with Eddie Betts, to hear the Adelaide Crows player's unique rap and rhyme storytelling to celebrate the release of his second book MY PEOPLE.

"Eddie has created the Lil' Homies series for children which promotes kindness and acceptance of all people," said Mr Law.

"Eddie wants all kids to be educated and have an understanding of his unique culture which dates back 60,000 years."

Betts' latest release MY PEOPLE is all about sharing and educating children about Aboriginal culture and Australia's First Nations people.

The book follows on from his first release MY KIND, which is about spreading kindness and helping children understand acceptance and equality.

When Bett's first joined the Australian Football League at 17 years of age he was unable to read and write himself, and experienced firsthand the challenges and disadvantages illiteracy can present for young people.

As a proud Aboriginal man, father of four, respected leader and positive role model, Betts' developed a series of educational children's books to help other children read with confidence and enjoyment.

The books are designed to be read as rhymes or raps to make reading fun and memorable, while allowing children to express their own personality as part of the storytelling.

Betts' goal is to grow a culture of lifelong readers and give those kids who aren't 'big on reading' the chance to thrive in literacy.

Parents are encouraged to rap or rhyme the book with their own Lil' Homies and share it with Betts by tagging @eddieslilhomies and #eddieslilhomes on Instagram.

Betts' public appearance at Murray Bridge Library at 2pm on Wednesday 9 October is now sold out, but names are being taken for a waiting list.

For more information follow Murray Bridge Library on Facebook or phone 8539 1175.