



## Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue

# Michelle Scott Tucker – Biographer

Before watching Michelle Scott Tucker's interview, discuss what you know about using Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue in informative writing.

Now watch the interview and use the following questions to prompt discussion as a whole class or in groups.

### Discussion Questions

1. How did Michelle Scott Tucker include the words of Elizabeth Macarthur in her biography?
2. What purpose do the quotations from Elizabeth's letters serve within the text?
3. What was Michelle looking for when she was searching for quotations from Elizabeth's letters?
4. How did Elizabeth's words shape the biography?
5. What impact does using Elizabeth's real words have on the text and the reader?
6. What did Michelle find difficult about using quotations from Elizabeth's letters in the biography?
7. What problems did Michelle encounter when using primary sources in general?
8. What tips does Michelle give for using primary sources effectively?
9. Did anything about the way Michelle used quotations in Elizabeth's biography surprise you? If so, what?
10. Did you get any ideas about how you could use quotations in your own writing? If so, what were they?

### FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY

Ask students to form small groups and find a great quote from a historical figure, e.g. Captain Cook, Mary Bryant, James Scobie, Ned Kelly, Mary MacKillop, Evelyn Scott. Get students to brainstorm ideas about how they might use the quotation in a biography about that person. Working individually, students write a paragraph that incorporates the quotation.