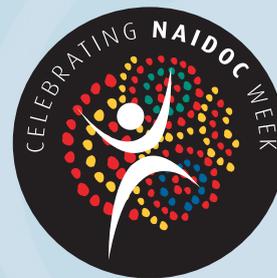


# NAIDOC WEEK

## TEACHERS RESOURCE AND TEACHING IDEAS



### TEACHER RESOURCE DEVELOPED BY DR. LYNETTE RILEY

#### KEY LEARNING

The Australian Curriculum: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curriculum priority.

The Australian Curriculum is working towards addressing two distinct needs in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education:

- that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are able to see themselves, their identities and their cultures reflected in the curriculum of each of the learning areas, can fully participate in the curriculum and can build their self-esteem
- that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curriculum priority is designed for all students to engage in reconciliation, respect and recognition of the world's oldest continuous living cultures.

### NAIDOC THEME 2020

**Always Was. Always will Be.** The 2020 National NAIDOC Week theme has been developed to shine a focus on the length of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander occupation of Australia. In our narratives Aboriginal people talk of continuous occupation of being here when time began, we are part of the Dreaming – past, present and future. Anthropologists and archaeologists have dated our sites to being hundreds of thousands years old, in fact recording some of these sites as being the oldest on this planet.

Additionally, the NAIDOC theme seeks to get teachers, students and community to explore and learn about, and appreciate the wealth and breadth of Indigenous Nations, languages and knowledges of this continent. Exploring and learning about Indigenous understandings of the environment, plants, animals, greater astronomy and cosmology, waters, land use and protection, Indigenous sciences and maths. We need to question ourselves and understand: How does learning these knowledges expand current western teachings to have a greater understanding of the world around us as individuals, as a community of learners and activists in looking after our environments?

Below are a brief collection of ideas for teaching about traditional Indigenous practices and how they are used in contemporary lives. Work with your local Indigenous communities to explore many other cultural practices.



## TEACHING IDEAS – FOCUS QUESTIONS & ACTIVITIES

### FOCUS QUESTION 1: WHO ARE THE INDIGENOUS NATION AND CLAN OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER GROUPS WHERE YOU LIVE AND WHAT ARE THEIR KINSHIP CONNECTIONS?

#### TEACHING LINKS:

AIATSIS Indigenous Map:

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/articles/aiatsis-map-indigenous-australia>

Aboriginal Kinship - Kinship Online Module:

<https://sydney.edu.au/about-us/vision-and-values/our-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-community/kinship-module.html>

Kinship and Skin Names, Central Land Council:

<https://www.clc.org.au/articles/info/aboriginal-kinship>

Indigenous Kinship Systems, Richard Fejo:

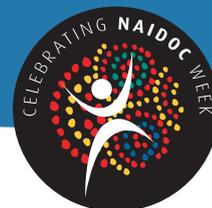
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vkrh4oisaGA>

Torres Strait Islander Culture, Torres Strait Island Regional Council:

<http://www.tsirc.qld.gov.au/our-communities/culture-protocols-heritage>

#### ACTIVITIES:

- Explore the Aboriginal Nation and Clan Groups and/or Torres Strait Islander Groups in your local area.
- Using the AIATSIS map of Indigenous Australia – map where you and your students currently live and or have lived. In which Indigenous Nations and/or Torres Strait Islander Groups have you lived?
- What do you know about those Indigenous Nations or Torres Strait Islander Groups?



## FOCUS QUESTION 2: EXPLORE WHAT SITES EXIST TO DEMONSTRATE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LENGTH OF OCCUPATION ON THIS CONTINENT?

### TEACHING LINKS:

Australia, where time began:

[https://austhrutime.com/australian\\_aboriginal\\_occupation\\_timeline.htm](https://austhrutime.com/australian_aboriginal_occupation_timeline.htm)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collection Timeline, Australian Museum:

<https://australianmuseum.net.au/learn/cultures/atsi-collection/timeline/>

Aboriginal Art & Culture, Alice Springs:

<https://www.aboriginalart.com.au/culture/dreamtime.html>

Earliest Evidence of Aboriginal Occupation of Australian Coast Discovered, The Guardian:

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/may/19/indigenous-australian-life-cave-wa-50000-years>

Torres Strait Islander History, Torres Strait Island Regional Council:

<http://www.tsirc.qld.gov.au/our-communities/torres-strait-history>

### ACTIVITIES:

- Explore the length of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander occupation in Australia.
- How can this length of Indigenous occupation be seen creatively in comparison to British occupation?
- For instance using lengths of string or paint sheets of cardboard to represent this occupation around the classroom walls.



## FOCUS QUESTION 3: WHAT NARRATIVES/STORIES CAN YOU FIND FROM ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE IN YOUR LOCAL AREA TO EXPLORE LENGTH OF OCCUPATION ON THIS CONTINENT?

### TEACHING LINKS:

Teaching Heritage, Board of Studies:

<http://www.teachingheritage.nsw.edu.au/section03/timeindig.php>

Australians Together:

<https://australianstogether.org.au/discover/australian-history/get-over-it/>

Aboriginal Art & Culture, Alice Springs:

<https://www.aboriginalart.com.au/culture/history.html>

Aboriginal Heritage Office:

<https://www.aboriginalheritage.org/history/history/>

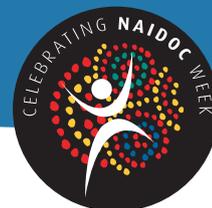
### ACTIVITIES:

- Contact your local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community, through some of their agencies, such as: Aboriginal Education Consultative Group; Lands Councils; Language and Culture Nests or groups; or Local Councils, to find community representatives who are able to come and talk to students, about their heritage stories.
- Go to local museums and culture centres to find out what stories they have to share concerning Aboriginal occupation in the local area.

**Note:** In this activity it is important that you follow appropriate ethical guides and protocols in working with your local Aboriginal Elders and community.

### Documents to assist are:

- Board of Studies NSW (2008) - Working with Aboriginal Communities.
- Sydney Board of Studies NSW (2019) - Centre for Aboriginal Health. Communicating Positively: A Guide to Appropriate Aboriginal Terminology.
- North Sydney, NSW Ministry of Health - Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders 2018. [www.nhmrc.gov.au](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au)



## FOCUS QUESTION 4: WHAT IS CULTURAL HERITAGE?

### TEACHING LINK:

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Queensland Government:  
<https://www.datsip.qld.gov.au/people-communities/aboriginal-torres-strait-islander-cultural-heritage/what-cultural-heritage>

Culture and Heritage, AIATSIS:  
<https://aiatsis.gov.au/research/research-themes/education>

New South Wales Parks and Wildlife Service, Culture and Heritage:  
<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/conservation-and-heritage>

### ACTIVITIES:

- Explore the significance of Indigenous cultural heritage, both across Australia and in your local area?
- Contact National Parks and Wildlife Service, and find out what culture and heritage sites exist in your local area. Explore with your students what you can do to help preserve sites?

## FOCUS QUESTION 5: EXPLORE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES.

### ARTS & CULTURAL PRACTICE – TEACHING LINKS:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Art, National Gallery of Australia:  
<https://nga.gov.au/collections/atsi/>

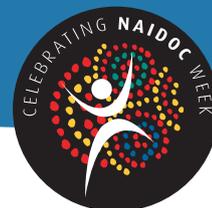
The Story of Aboriginal Art, Artlandish:  
<https://www.aboriginal-art-australia.com/aboriginal-art-library/the-story-of-aboriginal-art/>

Aboriginal Art Symbols, Artlandish:  
<https://www.aboriginal-art-australia.com/aboriginal-art-library/symbolism-in-australian-indigenous-art/>

Aboriginal Art and It's Symbols:  
<https://japingkaaboriginalart.com/articles/aboriginal-art-symbols/>

Weaving and Textiles:  
<http://archive.maas.museum/hsc/paperbark/history.html>

Maningrida weaving:  
<https://maningrida.com/artworks/weavings/about-weaving/>



Tjanpi, weaving:  
<https://tjanpi.com.au/>

Shellwork, La Perouse:  
<http://www.idaia.com.au/en/artwork-la-per-shellwork/>

## ACTIVITIES:

- Explore different forms of Indigenous art practiced across Australia:  
What is it? Why is it unique? Which Indigenous Nations practice particular art forms?
- Research an Indigenous Australian Painter and/or an Indigenous Contemporary Artists:  
Who are they? Where do they come from? What style of Indigenous art do they practice?  
What makes their practice significant?

## ASTRONOMY, CALENDARS & WEATHER KNOWLEDGES – TEACHING LINKS:

Aboriginal astronomy: The science of mapping the sky and the seasons:  
<https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/nitv-news/article/2018/08/16/aboriginal-astronomy-science-mapping-sky-and-seasons> **NOTE:** video

The Kamilaroi and Euahlayi Emu in the Sky:  
<http://aboriginalastronomy.blogspot.com/2014/03/the-kamilaroi-and-euahlayi-emu-in-sky.html>

Emu in the Sky:  
<http://www.emudreaming.com/whatis.htm>  
<https://protect-au.mimecast.com/s/m13iC6X13Rtjmymzlpw23D?domain=emudreaming.com>

Indigenous seasons and calendars:  
<https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Environment/Land-management/Indigenous/Indigenous-calendars>

Indigenous Weather knowledge:  
<http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/dharawal.shtml>

Indigenous Seasons:  
<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/indigenous-seasons/10522128>

## ACTIVITIES:

- Explore how Indigenous peoples used the skies to map their astronomy.
- Study Indigenous weather and calendar systems.



## STEM AND LANGUAGE TEACHING – TEACHING LINKS:

ACARA and the CSIRO have developed together illustrations of practice, showing students learning Aboriginal traditional ecological knowledge through the Australian Curriculum: Science, through on Country and classroom projects (also known as ‘two-way science’).

The [four illustrations of practice videos](#) featuring primary and middle school students in remote Aboriginal communities have been published on the Australian Curriculum website.

To learn your country, start by learning its Aboriginal names: [ABC South East NSW](#) by Vanessa Milton and Sarah Abbott:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-01-21/to-learn-your-country-start-by-learning-its-aboriginal-names/10719890>

The forgotten Aboriginal names for 10 of Melbourne’s suburbs: [The Conversation](#) By Jason Gibson, Helen Gardner and Stephen Morey, Posted 10 Jul 2018

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-10/the-aboriginal-names-for-ten-melbourne-suburbs/9960092>

Racist place names in Queensland’s north to be wiped off maps, by Meghna Bali, 5 Jul 2018:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-08-29/ten-racist-names-queensland-wiped-off-maps/8852536>

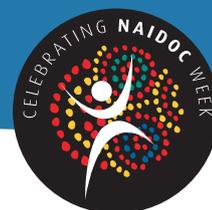
What’s in a name? A brief history of Tasmania’s changing place names:

ABC Radio Hobart, By Carol Rääbus, Posted 25 Mar 2018, 8:00am:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-03-25/history-of-place-names-in-tasmania/9570242>

## ACTIVITIES:

- Explore the ACARA and CSIRO site for ways to incorporate Indigenous STEM into your teaching.
- Explore the Indigenous language of your community – what place, street or other names in your community are from the Indigenous local language.



## FOOD – TEACHING LINKS:

Indigenous Foods, SBS:

<https://www.sbs.com.au/food/cuisine/indigenous-australian>

Traditional Bush Food:

[http://www.aboriginalculture.com.au/bush\\_foods.html](http://www.aboriginalculture.com.au/bush_foods.html)

Australian Food:

<https://australianfoodtimeline.com.au/aboriginal-food-sources/>

A Guide to Bush Tucker:

<https://theculturetrip.com/pacific/australia/articles/a-guide-to-bush-tucker-australias-native-foods/>

Yerrabingin, Collaborative Design and Thinking:

<https://www.yerrabingin.com.au/>

Edible and medicinal foods:

[https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/apr/26/edible-medicinal-or-cultural-first-indigenous-rooftop-farm-opens-in-sydney?CMP=share\\_btn\\_fb](https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/apr/26/edible-medicinal-or-cultural-first-indigenous-rooftop-farm-opens-in-sydney?CMP=share_btn_fb)

## ACTIVITIES:

- What traditional food sources are available in your local area?  
Learn their traditional names and their use.
- Can you use any of the traditional food in cooking?  
What's involved in the preparation process?

## INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT – LAND, WATER AND FIRE – TEACHING LINKS:

Aboriginal People Built Water Tunnels, News In Science:

[http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/ancient/AncientRepublsh\\_1590192.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/ancient/AncientRepublsh_1590192.htm)

Land and Water, AIATSIS:

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/research/research-themes/land-water>

Indigenous Environmental Management, CSIRO:

<https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/Environment/Land-management/Indigenous>

Our Water, Our Community, NSW Government:

[http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/547303/plans\\_aboriginal\\_communities\\_water\\_sharing\\_our\\_water\\_our\\_country.pdf](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/547303/plans_aboriginal_communities_water_sharing_our_water_our_country.pdf)

Brewarrina Fish Traps:

<https://www.brewarrina.nsw.gov.au/tourism-101525/attractions-activities/the-fishtraps.aspx>



Brewarrina Fish Traps:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5051305>

Traditional Burning:

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/project/traditional-aboriginal-burning-modern-day-land-management/>

Cultural Burning:

<http://kooricountryfiresticks.com.au/what-is-cultural-burning.html>

## ACTIVITIES:

- What cultural water, burning or land management practices are utilised in your local area?
- Research and learn one of the cultural practices mentioned above.

## ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES AND SONGS – TEACHING LINKS:

Traditional Indigenous Music:

<https://www.aboriginalart.com.au/didgeridoo/>

Australian Aboriginal Music and Instruments:

<http://hmcs.scu.edu.au/musicarchive/AusGeneral.html> and

<https://www.aboriginalart.com.au/didgeridoo/instruments.html>

Aboriginal Sound Instruments:

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/cd/aboriginal-sound-instruments.pdf>

Important of Torres Strait Song and Dance:

<https://aiatsis.gov.au/gallery/video/importance-songs-and-dances-torres-strait>

Dance and Music:

<http://www.watarrkafoundation.org.au/blog/the-tradition-of-aboriginal-dance>

ABC Indigenous YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeL4bsWHfMBloaPTIQDC64g>

This Place (ABC Indigenous):

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=This+place+ABC+Indigenous](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=This+place+ABC+Indigenous)

Brewarrina Cultural Museum:

<http://ourlanguages.org.au/namex/brewarrina-aboriginal-cultural-museum/>



## SONGS & SINGERS:

Jacinta Tobin:

<https://www.jacintatobin.com.au>

The first song- Maliya.gaalay Ngay (My Morning Star) is sung in Gamilaraa/Yuwaalaraay by Kelsey Strasek-Barker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdxXFrbvWM>

The Stiff Gins- Nardi Simpson and Kaleena Briggs recorded at the ABC 702:

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/videos/2014/04/28/3993645.htm>

Desert Pea Media are in the hip-hop style! <https://www.desertpeamedia.com/creative-team>

'Where Ya From?' by Bogga Mish & Boggabilla High School Students (with Desert Pea Media):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nOLFrFZNI-s>

'Talk of the Town' by The Collie Crew (with Desert Pea Media). Great song uses Aboriginal English.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWj8tcr6kg>

The Mob- 'Dhinawan Touch the Stars' (with Desert Pea Media):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rTobNadp0oU&fbclid=IwAR38FvXtim37m1G93D6vUGKzFsN-vff9NcD8-fbNnhZ71jLjTgTE-bvAtGE>

Ngamildaya, Ngamildaya by Priscilla Strasek, Sophia Brown and Kelsey Strasek-Barker, Song written aimed at teaching language:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co4KlwFuc4A>

'Throw Your Arms Around Me' in Gamilaraay. Sung by James Henry and Mark Seymour (from Hunters and Collectors) and backup singers!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yof3j-GjAbXFAPetEHdFIEJ-3HJ0pD5/view>

## SONGS – INDIGITUBE

[https://www.arts.gov.au/departmental-news/iy2019-what-indigitube?utm\\_source=miragenews&utm\\_medium=miragenews&utm\\_campaign=news](https://www.arts.gov.au/departmental-news/iy2019-what-indigitube?utm_source=miragenews&utm_medium=miragenews&utm_campaign=news)

<https://www.indigitube.com.au>

PalawaKani:

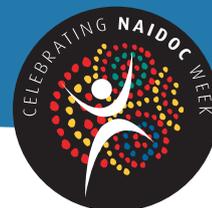
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHUqIUh4Pik>

Djakapurra Muyarryun

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fL190sYR4m0>

Manuel Dhurrkay

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lafC4MXbA4g&list=RDlafC4MXbA4g&start\\_radio=1&t=82](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lafC4MXbA4g&list=RDlafC4MXbA4g&start_radio=1&t=82)



B@M Bathurst to Melville Palingarri but also in English

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXaJjAi3JUJ&index=4&list=RDlafC4MXbA4g>

Wildflower Galiwin'ku Yolgnu:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmLVxRS\\_Sxs&list=RDlafC4MXbA4g&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmLVxRS_Sxs&list=RDlafC4MXbA4g&index=5)

## ARCHIVAL RECORDINGS

Fanny Cochrane:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-09/fanny-cochrane-smith-recordings-inducted-into-unesco-register/8254806>

Kaleena Briggs and Nardi Simpson singing on a new wax cylinder:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-10-02/wax-cylinder-recordings-tell-a-story-of-culture/4993078>

## ACTIVITIES:

- What are cultural protocols in Indigenous dance and music; and why are they important to maintain?
- Explore an Indigenous Traditional music form.
- Explore and learn about a Traditional musical instrument.
- Explore and learn a traditional dance – ensuring you utilise appropriate gender and cultural protocols in the learning of the dance.
- How have traditional songs, dance and music continued into contemporary lives?
- What are the different dance and musical instruments used by different Indigenous Nations and Torres Strait Islanders?
- Research contemporary Indigenous music and musicians: Who are they? How do they incorporate traditional musical styles and instruments into their current practices?

**Note:** These activities must be done with Indigenous peoples, with respect and acknowledgement of their Intellectual and Cultural Property Rights.

**Acknowledgement:** I would like to thank my colleagues in the Aboriginal Education and Indigenous Studies Team at the Sydney School of Education and Social Work, University of Sydney, who have worked with me over time, to collect some of the links used in this document: Susan Poetsch, Lorraine Towers, Tracey Cameron, Tarunna Sebastian, Irene Wardle, Cathie Burgess and Sheelagh Daniels-Mayes.