Aboriginal Dreaming

accompanying illustrations.

poster, which features a unique visual poem with

Dreaming

Aboriginal art prints

tools. Part 4 looks at the future of Aboriginal pla n t use studies,

species of plant to make food, drink, medicine, nar cotics and

environment. Part 3 focuses upon the importance of particular

Spontaneous learning.” – p. 268-270.

Visual-spatial skills; f) Imagery; g) Contextual le arning; h)

important than the individual; d) Holistic (global)  learning; e)

Learning through trial & feedback; c) The group is more

observation and imitation rather than verbal instru ction; b)

Aboriginal ways of learning are “a) Learning throu gh

manual

white contact; Adding a new perspective, which presents ‘back up’ information; Stage items and suggestions; Stories from the Aboriginal Dreaming & More stories from the Aboriginal Dreaming: Life gets tough sometimes, Something to remember & Please don’t let it happen (three novels for students); Aboriginal art prints; Tribal area map; and Make a proud stand poster, which features a unique visual poem with accompanying illustrations.


Among the cultural differences between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal ways of learning are “a) Learning through observation and imitation rather than verbal instruction; b) Learning through trial & feedback; c) The group is more important than the individual; d) Holistic (global) learning; e) Visual-spatial skills; f) Imagery; g) Contextual learning; h) Spontaneous learning.” – p. 268-270.

Arts and crafts of Indigenous Australia by Linda Bruce and Jim Hilvert-Bruce. South Yarra, [Vic]: Macmillan Education Australia, 2009. 704 BRU

“Written in a friendly and engaging style, this book offers a fascinating insight into how Indigenous Australians maintain their culture and provides a rich resource on the many different art forms.” – Back cover.


These books aim to add an Aboriginal perspective into the NSW curriculum. Each includes overviews of a subject, a glossary, a ‘Know your facts’ quiz, and activity sheets. The books are aimed at upper primary and secondary students. The activities have a strong literacy focus and are helpful for senior secondary students having difficulty with writing skills. The titles, which can be borrowed as individual items, are Colonisation, Health, Invasion, Land, Land rights. Please explain, Protests, Reconciliation and Stolen generations.


This account of 1965’s Freedom Ride provides a background to the protest, descriptions of the key people involved, a graphic (i.e. cartoon) retelling of the story, a section on its effects, and classroom activities. For primary school students.


This kit contains the following nine 24-page books and a teacher resource: Celebrating Survival Day; Discovering Aboriginal Australia; Fighting for rights; Indigenous sporting greats; Kaisiana’s journey; Toones Strait: Keeping language alive; Keeping strong through art; Special objects; and The travelling Yamani: a story from the Ngadjon-Jii People.


This kit contains nine 32-page books and a teacher resource by Eve Recht: Caring for country; It’s more than art; Kaurareg mob; Life at Mulga Bore; Making a difference; Remembering Coniston; Stories through art; Unsung hero; Welcome to Mer Island: Maiem Taba Merem.

Focus on Indigenous art across the curriculum [three books: ages 5-8, ages 8-10, and ages 10+]. Macmillian Teaching Resources, 2006. 704.039 STR

These teacher resource books contain integrated, planned and sequential art units which are based on modules in the humanities, environment and science syllabuses from various Australian states. Each book is accompanied by nine wall charts with teaching notes. Note: each of the six items can be borrowed separately.
Aboriginal teaching resources

From ochres to eel traps: Aboriginal science and technology resource guide for teachers edited by Helen Halling. Canberra: Science Educators Association of the ACT, 1999. 305.89 FRO

This book contains short chapters on the history and usage of: art pigments, boomerangs, womera, natural resins and gums, separation of poisons from edible plants, bush foods, stone tool technology, Aboriginal inventors, bush medicine, specific uses of technology in a community, seasonal calendars, games and toys, and firesticks. Includes classroom activities.

Good morning Mr Sarra: my life working for a stronger, smarter future for our children by Chris Sarra. St Lucia, Qld: University of Queensland Press, 2012. 305.89 SAR

“When Chris Sarra arrived as the first Aboriginal principal of Cherbourg State School in 1988, it was a time of high hopes but low expectations in Indigenous education. Over the next six years, he transformed the school into a national success story, but not without controversy along the way.” – Back cover.


This book “will be particularly helpful in the planning and implementation of primary, secondary and tertiary educational programs.” – Back cover.

Indigenous Australia for dummies by Larissa Behrendt. Richmond, Vic: John Wiley and Sons, 2012. 305.89 BEH

“What is The Dreaming? How many different Indigenous tribes and languages once existed in Australia? What is the purpose of a corroboree? What effect do the events of the past have on Indigenous peoples today? Indigenous Australia for dummies answers these questions and countless others about the oldest race on Earth.” – Back cover.

Indigenous service: investigating the wartime experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from the First World War to the present by Jennet Cole-Adams and Judy Gauld. Canberra: Australia. Department of Veterans’ Affairs, 2013. 305.89 IND

There are two books (primary and secondary), which can be borrowed separately. Each contains six investigations which comprise background information for teachers and learning activities. The investigations ask such questions as why Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have enlisted, what their experiences during and after service have been, and what have been their contributions on the home front?

Koori · Murri · Goori and Palawa storylines [posters] (60 cm x 42 cm). NSW Board of Studies, 2010.

Eight laminated posters which summarise major events and trends. The myth of terra nullus 1770-1825; Frontier wars 1825-1870; Protection 1870-1914; Separation 1914-1945; Reassertion 1945-1971; We are strong’ 1971-1994; Challenges continue … 1995-2000; A new millennium … 2001-present. Also available online: http://atfl.com/thlag

Life in Indigenous Australian communities [series]. South Yarra, Vic: Macmillan Education Australia, 2006. 305.89915 LIF

This series, aimed at middle and upper primary students, comprises four titles: Gawa: Arnhem Land, Northern Territory; Haasts Bluff, Bathurst Island, Northern Territory; Nguiu: Central Desert, Northern Territory; Warmun: East Kimberley, Western Australia.


“[W]ritten from an Indigenous perspective … Topics covered include: history, culture, arts, sport, languages, population, health, education and the workforce, governance, participation and reconciliation.” – Back cover.

Maralinga: the Anangu story by Yalata and Oak Valley communities, with Christobel Mattingly. Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2009. 305.89 YAL

This book, with illustrations by community members, describes life before and after the atomic weapons testing of the 1950s and 1960s in the Maralinga Tjarutja lands. See also Teachers’ Notes: http://www.aliceforkin.com/uploads/Book/TT/TaechersNotes/9797145379428.pdf


Nyuntu ninti (what you should know) by Bob Randall and Melanie Hogan. Sydney: ABC Books, 2008. 305.89 RAN

“Through the gentle and wise words of ‘Uncle’ Bob Randall, Nyuntu ninti shows us what we should all know about an ancient and spiritual culture that is the very heart and soul of Australia.” – Back cover.

Reconciliation [lower, middle, and upper primary kits]. Scholastic, 2002-2003. 305.89915 REC

Reconciliation incorporates an Indigenous perspective into the primary curriculum. There are 33 student titles, 5 big books, 8 high-quality glossy posters, 3 CDs and 3 teacher resource books. All items can be borrowed individually. Check the Library catalogue for further details: http://library.nswtf.org.au/libero/WebOpac.cls

Reconciliation in Australia [series]. South Yarra, Vic: Macmillan Education Australia, 2009. 305.89915 REC

This series of six illustrated books for primary school students comprises: Reconciliation in the arts; Reconciliation in the environment and health; The reconciliation journey; Reconciliation in schools; Reconciliation in society; and Reconciliation in sport. Each title can be borrowed individually.
Aboriginal teaching resources

**Springboard** [kit]. Prahran, Vic: Macmillan Education Australia, 2004-2005. 372.4 SPR

This literacy program kit contains four titles: *Kakadu* [reading level 16]; *All about boomerangs* [reading level 21]; *Australia* [reading level 28]; and *Munga, the bush monster* [reading level 22]. *Kakadu* is 16 pages long; the others are 24 pages long.


“When early childhood curriculum is inclusive, focused on diversity and difference, and politically engaged then social justice is possible. This book is the result of many experiences and conversations between the early childhood educators who have inscribed its pages with their yarns, stories and narratives.” – Publisher website.

**Teaching Aboriginal studies: a practical resource for primary and secondary teaching** edited by Rhonda Craven. 2nd ed. Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2011. 371.82 TEA

“Chapters on Aboriginal history and culture, stereotypes and racism, government policies, and reconciliation provide essential knowledge for integrating Aboriginal history and culture, issues and perspectives across the curriculum.” – Back cover.

**Teaching and learning in Aboriginal education** by Neil Harrison. 2nd ed. South Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 2011. 371.82 HAR

This book “helps you prepare for the joys and challenges of teaching Aboriginal students in urban, remote and rural primary and secondary schools.” – Back cover.


This book addresses “problems in complex areas such as school retention, literacy and numeracy, self-concept, and identity.” – Back cover.

**BOOKS (fiction for children)**


The poet wrote most of these poems to support literacy programs. The book is for those children whose “lives [are] shaped by the sights and sounds of the bush.” – p. 2. For years K-6.


“The story highlights the importance of family and kinship in Aboriginal culture, and beautifully captures the intimate knowledge of plant and animal relationships that Aboriginal people possessed.” – Back cover. Illustrated with the help of the Year 2 children to whom it was first read. For children. Teachers’ notes: [http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/_files/asp/educators/bittangabee_notes_final.pdf](http://www.aiatsis.gov.au/_files/asp/educators/bittangabee_notes_final.pdf)


This Stolen Generations story “is a tale for everyone who has ever wondered about the pain of separation, and the strength of the human spirit.” – Back cover. Children’s fiction. Also available as a talking book.


“This collection of songs is about what children see and experience in their everyday lives, in the forests, in gardens and about shells on the shore to having toast and tea.” – Ruby Hunter, p. 4.

**The Dreaming of Aboriginal Australia: a large collection of inspirational stories** collected and prepared by Jean A. Ellis. Penrith, NSW: Kalliarna Productions, 2006. 305.89 DRE

“Traditional Aboriginal people in their many, separate groups found answers and guidance in the intricate, in-depth, varied and creative Teachings which came from the Dreaming. The Dreaming was both lore and law to them and remains so for many contemporary Aboriginal people as well… This is the largest, single collection of Dreaming stories ever to be told.” – Back cover.

**From little things big things grow** by Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody, illustrated by kids from Gurindji Country, with paintings by Peter Hudson. Camberwell East, Vic: One Day Hill, 2008. 994.29 KEL

An illustrated version of the inspirational song. For ages 5+.

**Idjhil: and the land cries for a lost soul** by Helen Bell. Nedlands, WA: Cygnet, 1996. F BEL

“Idjhil is the moving story of an Aboriginal boy who, at the age of nine, is taken from his family in accordance with the official government policy of the time. Although written as fiction, it is based on the memories and experiences of people still alive today [1996].” – Back cover. Reading level: ages 9-12.

There are three series of Indij readers books. Series 1 comprises 11 books and a teachers’ guide. Series 2 consists of 9 books, a teachers’ guide, an audio CD (raps), and a 10-minute film (Nan and Dad and Me at the Zoo). Series 3 contains 9 books and a teachers’ guide. Each teachers’ guide includes cultural notes, lesson plans and blackline masters. For primary students.


This story of the Wongutha people of the Eastern Goldfields area in Western Australia tells of a group of stars known as the Seven Sisters. “The Sisters were beautiful women who used to visit the earth and wander the land. This is the story of why they appear in their position in the night sky.” – Back cover. For children.


“Learn how the little platypus, with the help of a fire spirit, became the curious creature we know today, that is found diving, swimming and floating in the billabongs and rivers of the bush.” – Back cover. For children.


The illustrations that accompany the lyrics are by schoolchildren from Papunya and Galiwinku. For primary school students.


“[O]ne of the first songs of its idiom to broach the subject of Aboriginal rights in Australia … Solid Rock’ is an inspirational Australian story stunningly illustrated by school children from Mutujulu, Kaltukatjara and the Impana communities, together with brilliant images of Uluru and surrounding landscapes by Peter Hudson.” – Back cover. For primary school students.


This autobiographical song by one of the stolen generations is illustrated by his late wife, Ruby Hunter, and Peter Hudson. Suitable for primary school children.


A story from the Wongutha people of Western Australia, telling of a huge and powerful snake whose tracks became the rivers and creeks we now see. For children 6-12 years.

CD/DVDs [see also CDs and DVDs guides]

The Dreaming [DVD]. Moore Park, NSW: Aboriginal Nations Australia, 2004. 6 DVDs, 1110 min. DVD DRE

Seventy-eight animated stories from the Dreaming. Suitable for primary students. Teacher’s guide also available, both on disc 1 and as hard copy.


These joyful, catchy songs are for early childhood and lower primary students.

My place: series 2: 1878 - before time. ABC, 2011. 2 DVDs, 359 min. DVD PLA

“My place tells the story of the children who live in one place over 130 years. Picking up the story from Henry in 1878, we go back through the years to Bangaroo’s adventures before white settlement.” – Back cover. For ages 9-14. Classification: PG (Mild themes)

WEBSITES

ABC Indigenous
Includes news and TV and radio programs
http://www.abc.net.au/indigenous

Australian Museum
Includes information about objects and art held by the museum, the Aboriginal people of coastal Sydney, and Aboriginal history.
http://australianmuseum.net.au/section-Indigenous-Australia

Burarra gathering
About the people, land, language and traditional technologies and knowledge of the Burarra people of Arnhem Land.

Dust echoes
This site contains 12 dreaming stories and a study guide.
http://www.abc.net.au/dustechoes

Indigenous arts, culture and heritage
Part of the Australian government’s Australian stories page.
http://alturl.com/5prp

Indigenous People’s rights in Australia today: where do you stand?
An Amnesty International site for secondary students.
http://www.amnesty.org.au/wheredoyoustand

Indigenous scholarships

Living black [SBS]
Contains links to TV and radio programmes and a blog.

National Native Title Tribunal
The website includes maps and fact sheets.

NSW Board of Studies: Aboriginal educational contexts
http://ab-ed.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au

State Library of NSW: Indigenous Australians
The Library has manuscripts, artworks, photographs, printed books, and recent HSC projects.


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