

# Exploring connections: Indigenous knowledge & perspectives

and

## Education for sustainability

### -a resources list for educators-

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#### The early years learning framework states that:

'For Australia [respecting diversity] ... includes promoting greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing and being.' (EYLF, p 13)

'Cultural competence is a two-way learning process' (EYLF Educators Guide, p 25)

'... elements which underpin successful cultural competence include ...

- understanding and awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, history and contemporary societies

- understanding that the importance of connectedness to land and spirituality is the core of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural identity.' (EYLF Educators Guide, p 25)

'An integrated, holistic approach to teaching and learning ... focusses on connections to the natural world. Educators foster children's capacity to understand and respect the natural environment and the interdependence between people, plants, animals and the land.' (EYLF, p 14)

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#### Books to share with children

##### Connections to EfS (Education for Sustainability):

- **Welcome To Country**, by Aunty Joy Murphy & Lisa Kennedy (*Black Dog Books*, 2017)
- **Sorry Sorry**, by Anne Kerr (*Boolarong Press*, 2014)
- **Kondole the Whale**, by Ian Milne (*Rainbow Press*, 1992)
- **What Made Tiddalik Laugh**, by Joana Troughton (*Thomas Nelson*, 1977)
- **How the Birds Got Their Colours**, retold by Pamela Lofts (*Ashton Scholastic*, 1983)
- **Young Dark Emu: A Truer History**, by Bruce Pascoe (*Magabala Books*, available June 2019)
- **The Saga of King Waa-gun**, by John Long (*Boolarong Press*, 2017)

##### Exploring Indigenous language, culture and stories:

- **Kurna Warraarra Wonbawonbandi: Counting in Kurna**, Kalaya Children's Centre (*Finsbury Press*, 2007)
  - **Nunno Kurnaara: Body Parts in Kurna**, Kalaya Children's Centre (*Finsbury Green*, 2010)
  - **Kuranye Kurnaarra: Colours in Kurna**, Kalaya Children's Centre (*West Press*, 2010)
  - **Hello!**, by Tony Flowers (*National Library of Australia*, 2016)
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## Resources for educators

### Online & Websites

- **Adelaide Botanic Gardens**  
<https://www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/education>
- **SA Museum**  
<http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/learn>
- **Aboriginal Resource Centre**, formerly ARMSU  
Contact Lauren Hughes @ Mawson Lakes Garden Tce Child Care Centre  
Email [director.gardenterrace@scmlccc.org](mailto:director.gardenterrace@scmlccc.org)
- **NRM: Natural Resources Management Board - Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges**
  - aboriginal partnerships
  - education
  - plant lists<https://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/adelaidemtloftyranges/home>
- **Living Kurna Cultural Centre and Warriparinga Wetlands**  
<https://www.marion.sa.gov.au/venues-and-facilities/living-kurna-cultural-centre>
- **Kurna Warra Karrpanthi (KWK) – University of Adelaide**  
<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/kwp/kwk/>
- **8 Aboriginal Ways of Learning**  
<https://www.8ways.online/>
- **Reconciliation Australia: Narragunnawali curriculum resources**  
<https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/curriculum-resources>
- **Indigenous Weather Knowledge**  
<http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/>
- **Cool Australia: Indigenous Connections**  
<https://www.coolaustralia.org/take-action/indigenous-connections/>
- **Reconciliation Kits**, Scholastic Australia – no longer available for purchase but may be accessed through schools and borrowed from educational libraries
- **United Nations**
  - Sustainable Development Goals
  - UN & Sustainability
  - Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
  - Universal Convention on the Rights of Children
  - Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
<https://www.un.org/en/>
  - 2019 Nature Report /IPBES Global Assessment  
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2019/05/nature-decline-unprecedented-report/>

## Supporting articles & books

- **Linking Together for Aboriginal Children: Listening and learning to form partnerships with Aboriginal families and communities**, edited by Teresa Butler-Bowdon (*Network SA, ARMSU, 2014*)
  - **Kurna Paltinna: a Kurna song book**, edited by Chester Schultz, Nelson Varcoe & Rob Amery (*Kurna Plains School, 1999*)
  - **Growing Up Strong teacher resource book**, Wendy Notley (*Aunty Wendy's Mob, 2001*)
  - **Relatedness as Reconciliation: Personal Storying for Cultural Integrity**, by Miriam Brown, in Early Childhood Australia's *Every Child* (Volume 24, No 3, 2018)
  - **Flower Girl**, by Kerry Mundine, in **Talkin' Up and Speaking Out: Aboriginal and Multicultural Voices in Early Childhood**, edited by Miriam Giugni & Kerry Mundine (Pademelon Press, 2010)
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## Indigenous perspectives - reference material

### Connections to EfS (Education for Sustainability):

- **Dark Emu Black Seeds: Agriculture or Accident?**, by Bruce Pascoe (*Magabala Books, 2014*)
- **Treading Lightly: the hidden wisdom of the world's oldest people**, by Karl-Eric Sveiby & Tex Skuthorpe (*Allen & Unwin, 2006*)

### Indigenous worldview, perspectives, culture & stories:

- **Talking To My Country**, by Stan Grant (*Scribe Publications, 2016*)
- **Aboriginal Peoples, Colonialism and International Law: Raw Law**, by Irene Watson (*Routledge, 2015*)