



**Celebrating Stories,
Cultures and Languages**

TEACHER'S RESOURCES For stage 2 and 3 learners

CURRICULUM LINKS

- [F-10 Australian Curriculum: Science Elaborations for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cross-curriculum priority](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures \(Version 8.4\)](#)
- [F-10 Humanities and Social Sciences: Key ideas – Subject/sub-strand illustrations](#)
- [Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages \(Version 8.4\)](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Framework – L1 Pathway – Scope and Sequence](#)

Indigenous Literacy Day (ILD) is an opportunity to share and learn about the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Stories, Cultures and Languages.

We encourage you to engage students using the five activities below and the three art workshops from acclaimed ILF ambassadors, authors and illustrators.

Activity 1

The ILD National Digital Event is an engaging 20 minute video sharing cultures, languages and stories from two Communities in remote Northern Territory - Tiwi Islands and Jilkminggan. Children from these Communities introduce themselves based on connection with each other, their family and their Country. These are often expressed through song and dance.

Ask the children to think of situations where song and/or dance are part of their cultures. Examples could be a birthday party, a religious or cultural event, a wedding or an AFL game.

Key Question:

What makes them so special for you?

Activity 2

In the video, the children teach ILF Ambassador and music legend, Jessica Mauboy to sing Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes in two languages - Mangarrayi and Tiwi. ILF Ambassador Gregg Dreise also shares the song in his First Language, Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay, a language spoken on Kamilaroi Country.

Building a relationship with and learning from your local Community is really important, and can make this extra special. Can you connect with the Indigenous Elders of the Country your school is situated on and ask if there are words for Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes?

- Learn to sing the song in your local First Language based on the Country you are based and continue to use the words throughout the year.
- Research words from your Country using a resource developed by First Languages Australia. *Gambay* is an interactive map that displays and promotes the diversity of Australia's Aboriginal languages and Torres Strait Islander languages. The word 'gambay' means 'together' in the Butchulla language of the Hervey Bay region in Queensland.

- Have the children make a book using the words in a First Language from the Country your school is located. The children can illustrate the words and take the book home to share with their families.

Tools and resources to assist:

- Learn how to make a book in this 38 minute, free [workshop](#) by ILF ambassador, Alison Lester.
- Visit [Snapfish.com](https://www.snapfish.com) to create a printed book.

Activity 3

In the video the children sing the Barramundi Song to the tune of Frere Jacques. The children explain that they sing about the animals they have in their region and these differ from the Tiwi Islands to Jilkminggan, 300kms to the south.

- Encourage the children in small groups to use the rhythm, to create words for a song using animals they have in their environment. For example, if you are on the coast, you might have ocean animals in your song, or if you are from desert areas, you may have emus and other animals. And for those in city areas, don't forget your pets and insects and birds you might find in your local park!
- Children can then perform their song to each other and share where they find or see the animals they have included.

Activity 4

In the video the children go hunting for fish and then cook their catch by fire.

Key Question:

Why do you think it's important to use what you see around you?

Discuss how children in your class find food. Does anyone forage or go hunting or fishing? Has anyone cooked food on a fire? If so, what? Have children share what they cooked and where they were. If it was a cultural event, have the children share what the event was and what else they do at the event.

Activity 5

Winthali is a new bilingual book available online at shop.ilf.org.au. It is a traditional Bunuba story, about Greedy Old Man Crocodile (Lallanggarra) who won't share his fire with the Bunuba people. Brown Falcon (Girrganyi), with the help of the young animals comes up with a clever plan to take a fire-stick from his home at Jarrambaya. This story belongs to the Danggu people of the Fitzroy Valley. The illustrations are by the author's two children, Boheme 2 and Remi 7.

Read the book to the children. You can hear the story in both English and Bunaba by scanning the QR code inside the cover.

- Show the book to the children. Based on the cover of the story alone, ask the students to guess what the story is about.
- Ask the children to summarise the story in a sentence.
- For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Dreaming Stories and Traditional Stories are used to teach young people important life lessons about caring for Country and for each other. Ask them what they think the moral of the story is.

The author, Joe Ross says, "The story also has a moral entwined about greed and we hope that readers will take away that working together to solve a problem can be successful and everyone has a role to play. Sharing promotes caring and strengthens community."

- Show students a map of Australia and point to where the story is from.
- Ask students why a moral like this is important and to think of examples in their lives of how greed can impact the lives of many and what values are needed to turn the greed around, so collectively, everyone benefits.

Free art workshops by acclaimed artists and authors

ILF is delighted to offer your students free of charge, access to three art workshops by three talented ILF ambassadors and acclaimed illustrators and authors. These workshops were fee-based in 2021, but we are now opening them up for all to watch and learn.

If you and your students enjoy the workshops and would like to donate to ILF, we encourage a minimum donation of \$10, which equates to one book being gifted to a child in remote Australia.

Click on the links below to learn more about the workshops:

1. [Once Upon a Doodle: Stories from Pictures](#) - by acclaimed illustrator and author Ann James
2. [Art, nature, recycling and boomerangs](#) - by author, performer and musician Gregg Dreise
3. [Make a Book](#) - acclaimed author and illustrator Alison Lester

More resources

If you are a school, register for SharingStories Foundation new cultural education portal - Jajoo Warrngara - the Cultural Classroom - <https://sharingstoriesfoundation.org/education/>

For children's books and young adult books written and illustrated by First Nations authors, visit shop.ilf.org.au and [Magabala Books](#).

If your school doesn't have a Reconciliation Action Plan yet, here is where you can get started:

<https://www.narragunnawali.org.au/raps/what-is-a-rap>

SBS has been working with ILF Ambassador Shelley Ware on some fantastic learning resources for schools. This NAIDOC resource has some great ideas and links to resources that can be used all year round. https://www.sbs.com.au/sites/sbs.com.au/home/files/sbs_learn_naidocweek2022_teacher_resource_digital.pdf

On behalf of the team at the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, we really hope you and your students enjoy the 2022 Indigenous Literacy Day celebrations and learnings. Please share any feedback you have about these Teacher Resources to marketing@ilf.org.au.