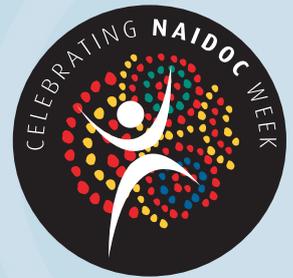


# NAIDOC WEEK

TEACHERS RESOURCE AND TEACHING IDEAS



## 2019 NAIDOC THEME: VOICE. TREATY. TRUTH. LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR A SHARED FUTURE.

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 2019

**Voice. Treaty. Truth.** were three key elements to the reforms set out in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. These reforms represent the unified position of First Nations Australians.

National NAIDOC Co-Chair Patricia Thompson says that for generations, Indigenous Australians have sought recognition of their unique place in Australian history and society today.

“For generations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have looked for significant and lasting change. We need our fellow Australians to join us on this journey – to finish the unfinished business of this country.”



“The 2017 [Uluru Statement from the Heart](#) built on generations of consultation and discussions among Indigenous people - we need to be the architects of our lives and futures,” she concluded.

National NAIDOC Co Chair, John Paul Janke believes 2019 is also a unique opportunity to hear this nation’s Indigenous voice with the year being celebrated as the UN’s [International Year of Indigenous Languages](#).

“It’s time for our knowledge to be heard through our voice – an Indigenous voice of this country that is over 65,000 plus years old.”

“They are the first words spoken on this continent. Languages that passed down lore, culture and knowledge for over millennia.”

“They are precious to our nation and need to be celebrated but it’s our voice that needs to be listened to,” he said.

The 2019 theme acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have always wanted an enhanced role in decision making in Australia’s democracy.

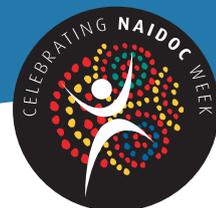
The theme also highlights our various First Nations’ desires for lasting and effective agreements such as Treaties which cannot be achieved unless we have a shared, truthful understanding of the nature of the dispute, of the history, of how we got to where we stand.

“The history of our First Peoples is the history of all of us, of all of Australia, and we need to own it - hearing this history is necessary before we can come to some true reconciliation, some genuine healing for both sides.”

“Then we can move forward together.”

“So, Let’s work together for a shared future,” the Co-Chairs concluded.

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/news/naidoc-2019-voice-treaty-truth-let’s-work-together-shared-future>



# \* TEACHING IDEAS – FOCUS QUESTIONS & ACTIVITIES

## FOCUS QUESTION 1: WHY IS THE THEME ‘VOICE’ SO IMPORTANT TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA?

Teaching link: OUR SHARED HISTORY-  
<http://www.shareourpride.org.au/sections/our-shared-history/>

### ACTIVITY:

Allow students to work in small groups and select a specific point on the TIMELINE of contact, through the ‘OUR SHARED HISTORY’ link and discuss how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples voices were utilised or missing in these eras.

## FOCUS QUESTION 2: WHY IS THE THEME ‘TREATY’ SO IMPORTANT TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA?

Teaching link: NITV “What is a Treaty?” -  
<https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/explainer/explainer-what-treaty>

### ACTIVITY:

#### 1. Using the NITV link for “What is a Treaty?” Explore:

Question 1 – What is a treaty?  
Question 7 – Timeline of Treaty.

Students discuss:

- i. The significance of ‘Treaty’ and ‘Treaties’ in Australia.
- ii. What would a ‘Treaty’ mean in Australia for Indigenous peoples?
- iii. What does not having a ‘Treaty’ mean for Indigenous Australians?

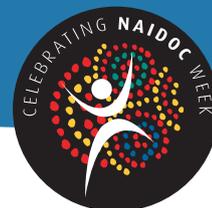
#### 2. Yothu Yindi song ‘Treaty’ - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7cbkxn4G8U>

Lyrics- <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/read-the-lyrics-of-yothu-yindi-song-treaty>

Students: Divide students into two groups

- Group 1- Listen to the Yothu Yindi song ‘Treaty’
- Group 2- Read the Yothu Yindi lyrics ‘Treaty’

Each group brainstorm what they gained from the activity and what they learnt about the concept of ‘Treaty’. Each group to present their observations to the group, for whole class discussion.



## FOCUS QUESTION 3: WHY IS THE THEME 'TRUTH' SO IMPORTANT TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA?

Teaching links:

We must be 'truth-telling' about the history of Indigenous people: Senator Malarndirri McCarthy - <https://www.theherald.com.au/story/5553767/we-must-be-truth-telling-about-the-history-of-indigenous-people-senator/>

Truth-telling Central to Reconciliation Process- <https://www.reconciliation.org.au/truth-telling-central-to-reconciliation-process/>

### ACTIVITY:

- i. Discuss with students, what is the role of 'Truth-Telling' in the history of contact with Indigenous Australians?
- ii. Discuss with students, the role of 'Truth-Telling' in cultural survival.
- iii. Discuss with students, the role of 'Truth-Telling' can play in working towards reconciliation in Australia.

## FOCUS QUESTION 4: WHY IS THE 'ULURU – STATEMENT FROM THE HEART' IMPORTANT TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA?

Teaching links:

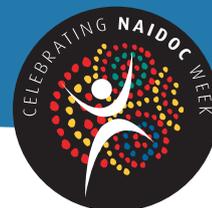
Uluru Statement From The Heart- <https://www.referendumcouncil.org.au/final-report.html>

### ABC

- The Uluru Statement from Heart, one year on: Can a First Nations Voice yet be heard? <https://www.abc.net.au/religion/the-uluuru-statement-from-heart-one-year-on-can-a-first-nations-v/10094678>
- Indigenous voice to parliament should be reconsidered, bipartisan committee finds <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-11-29/indigenous-voice-to-parliament-should-be-reconsidered-committee/10563378>

### ACTIVITY:

- i. Read the 'Uluru – Statement from the Heart' – analyse and critically discuss the statement.
- ii. Read comments from Indigenous people and discuss why they believe the 'Uluru – Statement from the Heart', is important.



## USEFUL WEBSITES

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)

For more information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curriculum priority and its organising ideas: <http://australiancurriculum.edu.au>

Australian Curriculum: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures Guiding Principles for Promoting and Implementing the Australian Curriculum Cross- Curriculum Priority: [www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/media/1536/guiding-principles.pdf](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/media/1536/guiding-principles.pdf)

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS): <https://aiatsis.gov.au/>

NAIDOC Week – Plan your event: <https://www.naidoc.org.au/get-involved/plan-your-event>

NAIDOC 2019 Poster: <https://www.naidoc.org.au/2019-poster>

SBS Teaching Resources: [sbs.com.au/learn/naidoc](http://sbs.com.au/learn/naidoc)