

# THEME: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

## RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION



### LESSON PLAN

#### What First Nation Country are you on?

##### Teacher provocation

Do you know what First Nation Country you are living, working and playing on? This importance of knowing the land you are situated on is extremely important for First Nations people- but the connection we feel to country can be a difficult concept for non-Aboriginal people to grasp. The living environment goes beyond physical elements, and is fundamental to our identity.

##### Links to the Curriculum

Cross curriculum priorities

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures
- Humanities and social sciences
- History
- Civics and citizenship

##### Inquiry Questions

- Why is it important to know what First Nation Country you learn, live and play on?
- Why are there so many First Nation Country's across Australia?
- Does each Country have a different language and customs?
- What First Nation Country do I learn and play on?
- What First Nation Country/overseas Country were you born or your parents/grandparents born?

##### Activities

###### What Country am I on?

Find out what Country you are on by looking at the [Map of Indigenous Australia](#). You can also phone [South Australia Native Title Services](#) or Local Council if you are unsure.

What are the other First Nation Countries that are close by? What are some of the land features in this First Nation Country that are significant? Are there any local First Nation stories that aim to explain these land features?

###### Researching

Where does your family come from? What Country or First Nation Country were you, your parents or grandparents born on? Learning about family history and origins provides an opportunity for creating connection. First Nations peoples have a strong connection to family origins and this is a really important component of identity, knowing and understanding Country of origin is just as important for First Nations people as knowing family lineage.

##### Class Origins Story

With the knowledge of where your family come from. Place a blank butchers paper or ArtPaper up on a wall and project the Map of Indigenous Australia onto it. Ask students to draw a line *from* the First Nation Country or overseas location their family come from *to* the location of your school. Get creative with symbols and different lines to express they type of travel that was taken or the significant land features that are important to each family.

The outcome of this activity is that there is now a piece of Artwork about the very unique story of the origins of your class.

##### Connect with your local community

Invite a First Nations person to present or talk to the you or your class about the Country the school is situated on. Learning about the 'old stories' of what happened on the land of the school is a great way for schools and students to develop a unique understanding and appreciation of the land students learn on.

### USEFUL RESOURCES AND LINKS

#### [AIATSIS Map of Indigenous Languages](#)

A great starting point to find out the Country you were born on or work and learn on.

#### [Narragunnawali Action: Acknowledgement to Country.](#)

Each Reconciliation Action Plan action has resources and information attached. This resource is great for foundational learning.

#### [Connection to Country.](#)

Provides an opportunity to explore the importance on knowing Country and the connection to Country

