

## Resource Guide

# Languages

The information and resources contained in this guide provide a platform for teachers and educators to consider how to effectively embed important ideas around reconciliation, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions, within the specific subject/learning area of [Languages](#). Please note that this guide is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive, and that users are encouraged to consult with their local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community in engaging with the material contained in the guide.

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*Please be aware this guide may contain references to names and works of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that are now deceased. External links may also include names and images of those who are now deceased.*

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages

“Our language is sacred...Words are given to us by the land and those words are sacred...Words make things happen—make us alive. Words come not only from our land but also from our ancestors.... Language is what we see in people. Language is what we know of people...Language is how people identify themselves. Being you is to know your language. It is rooted in your relationship from creation—in your kinship that cycles from then and there, onwards and onwards...” – Ms Amelia Turner, Lhere Artepe Aboriginal Corporation.

For tens of thousands of years, hundreds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages have been spoken across Australia, reflecting the rich oral storytelling and knowledge sharing traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across generations. Studies show that there were at least 250 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages at the time of European arrival. These were distinct languages (not dialects – indeed, the number of dialects is much greater), each with its own extensive vocabulary and complex grammar. This linguistic diversity reflects the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and identities more generally. As expressed through the above words of Arrernte woman, Ms Amelia Turner, Language has an important and intricate interrelationship with Country, culture and kinship/community identities, for which reason the Subject/Learning Area of Languages cannot, in many ways, be abstracted from a range of other Subject/Learning Areas such as Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Health and Physical Education, Music, Visual Arts and Drama, to give just a few examples.

Unfortunately, colonisation and past policies of assimilation—including systemic condemnation of First Language(s) use and forced separation of children from their families and speaker communities—have severely affected the practice and continuation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. In 2014, the [National Indigenous Languages Survey](#) report estimated that only 120 of Australia’s First Languages were still being spoken, with just 13 of these being considered ‘strong’. Approximately 100 of those languages still spoken are considered severely or critically endangered, meaning that they are at risk of becoming no longer spoken, or ‘sleeping.’

Nevertheless, it is also important to appreciate the resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and languages, and recognise that, across Australia, there are a number of communities actively and effectively working to revive, revitalise and maintain their First Languages. Similarly, it is important to acknowledge and appreciate the continuation of *non-verbal* Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, such as distinct Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sign languages, and the symbolic languages of the visual and performing arts spheres. Furthermore, given that languages, like cultures, are incredibly dynamic, the emergence of [new dialects such as Aboriginal English, and new languages in their own right, such as Kriol](#) should also be actively acknowledged. A number of diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages resources and case studies are included in, but certainly not limited to, the main body of this guide.

## Timeline of Key Dates in the Contemporary History of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages

This timeline chronologically lists some of the key dates in the more recent history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages and/or with regard to the relationship between Languages and reconciliation more generally.

- **60,000+ years ago:**
  - 250+ distinct Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages were spoken across Australia prior to European colonisation, and the subsequent introduction of the English language.
- **1974:**
  - Bilingual education programs were established in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.
- **1975:**
  - [The Racial Discrimination Act \(1975\)](#) is introduced, including in Section 3 (1) a specific statement about the imperative to “*promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.*”
- **1983:**
  - The Warumpi Band’s [Jailanguru Pakarnu \('Out from Jail'\)](#) was the first rock song recorded and released in an Aboriginal language (Luritja).
- **1984:**
  - The [Kimberley Language Resource Centre \(KLRC\)](#) is established in Halls Creek, representing the first Aboriginal Language Centre to have been established in Australia, and serving as the peak representative body for a number of Aboriginal Languages in the Kimberley.
- **1992:**
  - *Treaty*, by Yothu Yindi, was the first song in an Aboriginal language (Gumatj) to gain extensive radio airplay in Australia. Written by Yothu Yindi band members in collaboration with Paul Kelly and Peter Garrett, the song was a massive global hit in 1992.
  - The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs released its [Language and culture: A matter of survival—Report of the inquiry into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language maintenance](#).
- **2005:**
  - The Board of Studies NSW and the NSW Department of Education introduced a NSW Aboriginal Languages syllabus for Kindergarten to Year 10.
  - The NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs supported the development of language programs in jails and detention centres.
- **2007:**
  - The first [Puliima National Indigenous Language & Technology](#) Forum was held in Newcastle, and has since become a biennial event aimed at bringing people together from

across Australia and internationally to explore projects, ideas, products and equipment that can be used in community-based Indigenous languages projects.

- **2009:**
  - After originally voting against it in 2007, the Australian Government officially signed the [Universal Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), which includes a number of specific Articles pertaining to languages. For example, Article 14 (1) states that “*Indigenous peoples have the right to...providing education in their own languages.*”
- **2012:**
  - The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, based on an inquiry into language learning in Indigenous communities, released its landmark [Our Land Our Languages](#) report, which highlighted the importance of language revival, revitalisation and maintenance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- **2014:**
  - In Australia and internationally, a number of individuals and communities took part in the [Indigenous Language Challenge](#), involving the sharing of short film clips used to celebrate one’s First Language, and inspire others to do the same.
  - The Western and Northern Aboriginal Languages Alliance (WANALA) was established, managed by Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education through the Centre for Australian Languages and Linguistics.
- **2015:**
  - ACARA released the [National Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages](#), the first national curriculum document covering up to Year 10 and providing a way forward for all schools in Australia to support the teaching and learning of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.
- **2016:**
  - Although met with mixed response, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull commenced his annual [Closing the Gap speech](#) by addressing Parliament in the Ngunnawal language of the Canberra area.
  - The first Australian Aboriginal language video game, [Tjinari](#), was developed.
  - New South Wales Cabinet recently gave approval to consult on draft legislation to recognise and protect NSW Aboriginal languages, which would make it the first State in Australia with legislation to recognise the importance of Aboriginal languages.
- **2017:**
  - Baker Boy (Danzal Baker) released [Cloud 9](#), the first original rap to be recorded in an Aboriginal Yolŋu Matha.
  - “*Our Languages Matter*” was selected and celebrated as the 2017 NAIDOC Week theme.
  - [Aboriginal Languages Legislation](#) was introduced to the New South Wales Parliament.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Resources

Organised below are a number of examples of recently produced or published Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages-related resources that can meaningfully contribute to contemporary classroom learning, and to the field of Languages in Australia as a whole.

### Book Publications

There are a number of book resources which have been written and/or translated into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages. In searching for these resources, consider contacting your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centre, and exploring the collections of publishing companies focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and content, such as:

- [Aboriginal Studies Press](#)
- [Batchelor Institute Press](#)
- [Binabar Books](#)
- [Black Ink Press](#)
- [IAD Press](#)
- [Magabala Books](#)

### Film Clips and Digital Animations/Storytelling

- ABC— [Behind the News: Indigenous Language](#)
- ABC— [Behind the News: Indigenous Art & Language](#)
- ABC— [Behind the News: Indigenous Language Lessons](#)
- ABC— [Behind the News: Local Languages](#)
- ABC Open— [Mother Tongue](#) (a collection of film clips centred around First Languages in Australia)
- ABC Splash— [Associating pidgin, creole and Aboriginal English](#)
- ABC Splash— [Code-switching: a communication survival skill](#)
- ABC Splash— [Count to 10 in Gomeri](#)
- ABC Splash— [Discover the diversity of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages](#)
- ABC Splash— [Expressing yourself in the only way you know how](#)
- ABC Splash— [Influences on Australian English](#)
- ABC Splash— [Learn a Dhurga greeting](#)
- ABC Splash— [Learn to count in Kurna!](#)
- ABC Splash— [Learn some Dharug greetings](#)
- ABC Splash— [Learn some of the Noongar language](#)
- ABC Splash— [Learning Dharug, Aboriginal language of Sydney](#)
- ABC Splash— [Meet Jacinta Tobin from the Dharug nation](#)
- ABC Splash— [Name parts of the body in Dhurga](#)
- ABC Splash— [Preserving the Badimaya language](#)
- ABC Splash— [Preserving Aboriginal languages](#)
- ABC Splash— [Reawakening Australian Aboriginal languages](#)
- ABC Splash— [Reviving Aboriginal Australian languages](#)

- ABC Splash— [Reviving Aboriginal languages](#)
- ABC Splash— [Say hello in Dharug](#)
- ABC Splash— [Teaching Aboriginal languages in schools](#)
- ABC Splash— [The Awabakal language of the Newcastle area](#)
- ABC Splash— [Understanding Aboriginal English](#)
- ABC Splash— [Understanding the evolution of Aboriginal English](#)
- ABC Splash— [Using your manners in Dharug](#)
- ABC Splash— [Yaama Ghubhii: Indigenous Connect Song](#)
- SBS— [My Grandmother's Lingo](#) (with accompanying SBS [Explainer](#) and [Learn](#) resources)
- State Library of NSW— [My Weekend with Pop](#) (with accompanying [Guide for Teachers](#))

In addition to these short film clips, staff and students may also consider viewing full-length films that have been released in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. Consider, for example, films such as [Ten Canoes](#) (2006), Australia's first feature film to be made entirely in an Aboriginal language. Furthermore, there may be opportunities to research appropriate YouTube series for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages of your local area, such as the [Kaurna for Kids](#) channel and its [Pirltawardli](#) series. Individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres sometimes have their own YouTube channels (such as [Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring](#), to give just one example), as well as archival language footage that may be possible to access and engage with upon gaining relevant permissions.

## Languages Databases

- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies— [AUSTLANG Australian Indigenous Languages Database](#)
- Charles Darwin University— [Living Archive of Aboriginal Languages](#)
- [Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures \(PARADISEC\)](#)
- State Library of New South Wales— [Rediscovering Indigenous Languages: Collection Items](#)
- University of Western Australia, Curtin University & Wikimedia Australia— [Noongarpedia](#)

Many individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres also have their own language databases and archival collections. It is important to respectfully consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres to ensure that relevant protocols are followed, and permissions are gained, before engaging with these kinds of language materials.

## Languages Maps

- ABC— [The AIATSIS map of Aboriginal Australia](#)
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies— [AIATSIS map of Indigenous Australia](#)
- First Languages Australia— [Gambay map](#) (with accompanying [Teachers' Notes](#)).
- Our Languages— [Language Maps](#)
- South Australia Museum— [Tribal Boundaries in Aboriginal Australia | Norman B. Tindale](#)
- State Library of New South Wales— [Rediscovering Indigenous Languages: Community Map](#)
- State Library of Queensland— [Indigenous languages map of Queensland](#)

In engaging with these map resources, remember that many are *representations* only, and that borders and boundaries are not necessarily intended to be exact. Many languages maps, for example, indicate only the general location of larger groups of linguistic-cultural communities, which may include distinct languages within a wider language family, and indeed various dialects of a distinct language. Consider contacting your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Council or Language and Culture Centre in seeking information and resources around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander linguistic/geo-cultural maps or mapping.

## Languages Apps

- Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation— [First Language App](#)
- Barnjarla Language Advisory Committee (BLAC) and RegenR8— [Barnjarla Dictionary app](#)
- Bundiyarra – Irra Wangga Language Centre— [Wajarri Dictionary app](#)
- Charles Darwin University— [Gupapuyngu app](#)
- First Peoples’ Cultural Council— [FirstVoices languages app](#)
- I-STORIES, Northern Territory Library/Disparity Games Pty Ltd— [NT Language-Anindilyakwa app](#)
- Minjilang Endangered Languages Publication project (Iwaidja Inyman)— [Ma Iwaidja language app](#)
- Mirima Council Aboriginal Corporation— [Miriwoong language app](#)
- NPY Women’s Council— [Kulila! language app](#)
- Nyamba Buru Yawuru— [Yawuru ngan-ga language app](#)
- Pathangal Languages Education Aboriginal Corporation/RegenR8— [Mutti Mutti Dictionary app](#)
- Pathangal Languages Education Aboriginal Corporation/RegenR8— [Nari Nari Dictionary app](#)
- Pathangal Languages Education Aboriginal Corporation/RegenR8— [Yitha Yitha Dictionary](#)
- Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages— [iPhone apps and iPad apps](#)
- Wiradjuri Study Centre/RegenR8— [Wiradjuri Dictionary app](#)
- writingWA— [Mamang app](#)
- Yugambeh Museum— [Yugambeh Museum language app](#)
- Yuwaalaraay— [Ma Gamiliraay language app](#)

## Music Recorded and Released in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages

Alongside traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language songs and Songlines, there are a number of examples of popular music which have been recorded and released in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. A couple of milestone examples include:

- Baker Boy (Danzal Baker)— [Cloud 9](#), the first original rap to be recorded and released in Yolŋu Matha.
- Dr G Yunupingu— see [the official YouTube channel](#) for a number of examples of his music in Yolŋu languages. His debut album, *Gurrumul*, reached number three on the

ARIA charts, won ARIA awards for Best World Music Album and Best Independent Release and won a Deadly Album of the year.

- Warumpi Band— [Jailanguru Pakarnu \('Out from Jail'\)](#), the first rock song recorded and released in an Aboriginal language (Luritja).
- Yothu Yindi— see [Yothu Yindi's Official YouTube channel](#) for a number of examples of music in Language, including the Gumatj version of *Treaty*, the first song in an Aboriginal language to gain extensive radio airplay in Australia.

## Languages Video Games

- Arc Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language (CoEDL) and Australian National University (ANU)— [Tjinari](#)

Many of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Apps listed above also incorporate a gaming component.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Place Names

The table below lists a number of example resources around the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages and place names.

- Australian Museum— [Place Names Chart](#) (Online chart)
- Harold Koch and Luise Hercus— [Aboriginal Placenames: Naming and Re-naming the Australian Landscape](#) (E-book)
- Luise Hercus and Jane Simpson— [Indigenous Placenames: An Introduction](#) (Online book chapter)
- Reconciliation Australia— [Let's Talk... Sacred Ground: Names and Places](#) (Online fact sheet)
- Rob Amery and Georgina Yambo Williams— [Re-claiming Through Renaming: The Reinstatement of Kurna Toponyms in Adelaide and the Adelaide Plains](#) (Online book chapter)
- Sophie Verass/NITV— [Indigenous meanings of Australian town names](#) (Online media article)
- State Library of New South Wales— [Weemala](#) (Digital database)
- State Library of Queensland— [South East Queensland Placenames](#) (Online information guide)

Consider also contacting your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Council or Language and Culture Centre in seeking information and resources around traditional place names.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sign Language Resources

- ABC Open— [Marumpu Wangka! Kukatja Hand Talk](#)
- Adone, D. and Maypilama, E. (2013)— [Yolgnu Sign Language: An Undocumented Language of Arnhem Land](#)
- Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education— [Iltyem-iltyem](#)



## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres and Language Representative Groups

Listed below are a number of examples of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres and representative groups that have played, and/or continue to play, a key role in the maintenance, revitalisation and revival of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages across Australia.

- [Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation](#) (see [First Language Literacy](#) Program)
- [Barnqarla Language Advisory Committee](#)
- [Bundiyarra Aboriginal Community Aboriginal Corporation Irra Wangga Language Centre](#)
- [Darwin Languages Centre](#)
- [Far West Languages Centre](#)
- [First Languages Australia](#)
- [Goldfields Aboriginal Language Centre](#)
- [Indigenous Literacy Foundation](#) (see [Community Literacy Projects](#))
- [Kurna Warra Pintyanthi](#)
- [Kimberley Language Resource Centre \(KLRC\)](#)
- [Mabu Yawuru Ngan-ga language resource centre](#)
- [Mobile Language Team Aboriginal Policy and Advocacy Committee](#)
- [Miromaa Language & Technology Centre](#)
- [Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language and Culture Centre](#)
- [Muurbay Aboriginal Language & Culture Cooperative](#)
- [Ngukurr Language Centre](#)
- [Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Aboriginal Corporation](#)
- [North Queensland Regional Aboriginal Corporation Languages Centre](#)
- [Pama Language Centre](#)
- [Papulu Apparr-Kari Aboriginal Corporation](#)

- [Queensland Indigenous Languages Advisory Committee \(QILAC\)](#)
- [Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity \(RNLD\)](#)
- [Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation – palawa kani](#)
- [Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages](#)
- [Wangka Maya Pilbara Aboriginal Language Centre](#)
- [Western And Northern Aboriginal Languages Alliance \(WANALA\)](#)
- [Wiradjuri Condoblin Corporation](#)
- [Yamaji Language Centre](#)
- [Yugambah Museum Language and Heritage Research Centre](#)

As well as acknowledging and appropriately engaging with the work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres and Language representative groups, you may also like to carry out some further research around the contributions of individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander linguists, language workers, and language teachers such as [Geoff Anderson](#), [Dr Jakelin \(Jaky\) Troy](#) and [Jack Buckskin](#), to give just a couple of examples. Essentially, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language speakers with the cultural authority to share their Language with others should be recognised as linguists and language teachers in their own right – where appropriate, spend some time getting to know Language speakers within your local community, and staff at your local Language and Culture Centre.

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Courses, Teacher Training, and Revitalisation Training

Listed below is an example selection of the kinds of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages training options available across different parts of Australia. For more information and opportunities, you may also wish to consider searching the [University Languages Portal Australia](#), checking in with your local training and education institutions, and consulting with your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centres/community organisations. Given some of the distinct cultural protocols around learning and teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, note that there may be specific eligibility requirements for some of the kinds of courses listed.

- Adelaide University— [Kurna Language courses](#)
- Australian National University— [Gamiliraay course](#)
- Batchelor Institute— [Indigenous Languages, Knowledges and Policy](#) courses
- Charles Darwin University— [Yolŋu Studies](#)
- Department of Education WA— [Aboriginal Languages Teacher Training](#)
- Muurbay Aboriginal Language & Culture Cooperative— [Certificate II in Gumbaynggirr Language and Culture Maintenance](#)
- Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity (RNLD)— [Documenting and Revitalising Indigenous Languages \(DRIL\) program](#)
- Resource Network for Linguistic Diversity (RNLD)— [Master-Apprentice Training](#)
- University of Newcastle— [Australian Indigenous Language and Cultural Issues Today](#)
- University of Sydney— [Master of Indigenous Languages Education](#)
- TAFE NSW— [Aboriginal Language](#) courses
- TAFE Western— [Wiradjuri Language](#) course
- Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages— [Accredited Training in Learning & Teaching an Endangered Aboriginal Language](#)

As well as engaging with examples of tertiary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages training opportunities, you may also consider researching a range of [case studies of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages programs in Australian schools](#), alongside a range of positive language teaching and revitalisation models (such as the [Master-Apprentice](#) model, the [Language Nest](#) model or the [Total Physical Response/Total Physical Response Storytelling](#) model, to give just a couple of examples).

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Events/Celebrations

The list below features a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages-related events and/or celebrations.

- [Goldfields Aboriginal Languages Awards](#)
- [Indigenous Literacy Day](#)
- [International Mother Language Day](#)
- [Marrin Gamu Indigenous Language Song Competition](#)
- [Nanga Mai Awards](#) – Staff Award for Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Languages
- [Puliima National Indigenous Language & Technology Forum](#)
- [WANALA Conference](#)

## Other Online Guides/Reference Materials

- Australian Council for Educational Research (2008) *Indigenous Languages Programmes in Australian Schools: A Way Forward*, [http://research.acer.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=indigenous\\_education](http://research.acer.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=indigenous_education)
- Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority (2017) *Framework for Aboriginal Languages and Torres Strait Islander Languages*, <http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/languages/framework-for-aboriginal-languages-and-torres-strait-islander-languages/rationale>
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (2005) *National Indigenous Languages Survey Report 2005*, [https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/report\\_research\\_outputs/nils-report-2005.pdf](https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/report_research_outputs/nils-report-2005.pdf)
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (2014) *Community, identity, wellbeing: the report of the Second National Indigenous Languages Survey*, [https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/report\\_research\\_outputs/2014-report-of-the-2nd-national-indigenous-languages-survey.pdf](https://aiatsis.gov.au/sites/default/files/products/report_research_outputs/2014-report-of-the-2nd-national-indigenous-languages-survey.pdf)
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (2017) *Indigenous Australian Languages*, <https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/articles/indigenous-australian-languages>
- Federation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages and Culture (2004) *FATSIL Guide to Community Protocols for Indigenous Language Projects*, [http://www.fatsilc.org.au/images/pdfs/fatsil\\_protocols\\_guide.pdf](http://www.fatsilc.org.au/images/pdfs/fatsil_protocols_guide.pdf)
- First Languages Australia (2015) *Junyirri: A framework for planning community language projects*, <http://www.firstlanguages.org.au.au/images/Junyirri-2017-web.pdf>
- House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (2012) *Our Land, Our Languages: Language Learning in Indigenous Communities*, [http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House\\_of\\_representatives/Committees?url=/atsia/languages2/report.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_representatives/Committees?url=/atsia/languages2/report.htm)
- New South Wales Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (2017) *Protocols for Teaching Aboriginal Languages and Cultures*, <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/CulturalProtocols.pdf>
- Queensland Studies Authority (n.d.) *Effective teaching and learning strategies: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages—Resource guide*, [https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p\\_10/snr\\_atsi\\_languages\\_11\\_strategies.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p_10/snr_atsi_languages_11_strategies.pdf)

- Queensland Studies Authority (n.d.) *Language websites: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages — Resource Guide*,  
[https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p\\_10/snr\\_atSI\\_languages\\_11\\_websites.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/p_10/snr_atSI_languages_11_websites.pdf)
- Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (2017) *Connection to Language*, <http://www.snaicc.org.au/policy-and-research/connection-to-language/>
- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (2009) *Aboriginal Languages, cultures and reclamation in Victorian schools: standards P-10 and protocols*,  
[http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/vels\\_aboriginal\\_languages.pdf](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Documents/vels_aboriginal_languages.pdf)
- Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (2017) *Aboriginal Languages Victoria*,  
<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/alcv/about.aspx>

## Reflective Questions for Languages Staff and Students

- How have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures influenced Languages in Australia, and what active role do these histories and cultures play today?
- What is the relationship between language, culture, Country and identity? Why is this relationship important to appreciate?
- What is the relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages and other subject/learning areas such as Geography, Health and Physical Education, Science, and indeed all other subject/learning areas? Why are these relationships important to appreciate?
- What are some of the similarities and differences between non-Indigenous and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and practices relating to Languages? What are some of the ways in which these conventions have or can work together in interesting and important ways?
- Choose to research an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Linguist or wider Language Worker/Teacher. What is the importance of his or her contributions to Languages education, either at the local or (inter)national scale?
- Where possible and appropriate, organise an excursion to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Centre. What important messages, information or ideas did you gain through engaging with the staff at, and work of, this Centre?
- Choose to research a particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language education/revitalisation program or model being implemented in Australia. Why is this program or model effective and important, and what kind of outcomes does it support?
- Choose to research a key date in the more contemporary history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages. What was, or is, the significance of this event to the subject/learning area of Languages and/or to reconciliation?
- How might your school or early learning service contribute to the celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages education?
- How can embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures into the study and practice of Languages help to foster reconciliation?