



Teacher Resource

Language App

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. How many Indigenous languages are there in Australia?
2. What is the Mamutjitji Story app based on?
3. What is another name for Mamutjitji?
 - a. Antlion
 - b. Green ant
 - c. Termite
4. Complete the following sentence. Mamutjitji Story is the first-ever app in the _____ language.
5. Why is it important to preserve Indigenous languages?

Activity: See, Think and Wonder

After watching the BTN Language App story, students will respond to the following questions:

- What did you SEE in this video?
- What did you LEARN from this story?
- What do you WONDER about this story?
- What QUESTIONS do you have about this story?

Activity: Class Discussion

Students will respond to one or more of the following questions after watching the BTN story:

- What do you know about Indigenous languages?
- What Indigenous language/s are spoken where you live?
- What has happened to many First Nations languages since European colonisation?
- Why do you think it's important to protect Indigenous languages?
- Why is preserving Indigenous languages difficult?
- What are the benefits of learning an Indigenous language?
- Who are the traditional custodians of the land in your local area?



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KEY LEARNING

Students will learn more about the local Indigenous languages where they live and the importance of maintaining them.

CURRICULUM

English – Year 5

Identify aspects of literacy texts that represent details or information about historical, social and cultural contexts in literature by First Nations Australian, and wide-ranging Australian and world authors.

HASS – Year 4

The diversity of First Nations Australians, their social organisation and their continuous connection to Country/Place.

Activity: Local Indigenous Languages

Students will learn more about their local Indigenous languages by exploring the [Gambay – First Languages Map](#). As a class or in small groups, students can investigate the following:

- On the Gambay map type in the area where your school is situated.
- What is the local Indigenous language in your area?
- Do your own research to learn more about the local language. Find out the local language words for hello and goodbye.
- Look for stories by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples valuing their oral traditions. Can you find stories told through dance, song and other art forms as well as through text?



Many of the languages have videos or resources to support students to learn more about the language. Here are the [Teachers Notes](#) to support teachers.

50 Words Project

Learn words in your local Indigenous language! The [50 Words Project](#) provides words in Indigenous languages and includes audio provided by a language speaker. Use the map to search the local language and learn 50 words. Here are the [Learning Materials](#) to support teachers.



Further Learning

Invite an Indigenous language speaker to your school to learn more about the local languages.

Mamutjitji Story

Mamutjitji Story is the first ever app in the Ngalia language. The resource tells the Mamutjitji Story, a Dreamtime story about the life cycle of a common desert insect, the antlion, to teach Aboriginal and Western Science concepts. Download the app for Apple and Android mobile devices from your usual app stores.



This Place

Around Australia, many places are known by their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander names. Indigenous communities share the stories behind place names of their country in the [This Place](#) digibook. Do you know the meaning of the place names where you live?



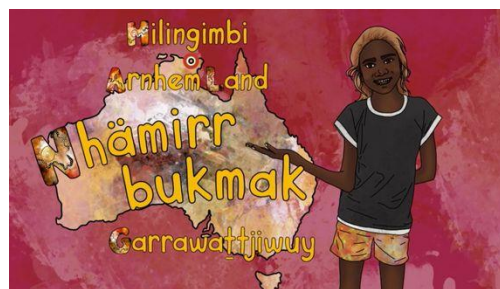
Included in the resource are questions for students to respond to.

Good Mornings

How would you greet someone in the language of the land on which you live? In these [ABC Education videos](#), children from around Australia encourage you to join them as they share greetings in their Indigenous languages.

Meet Garrawattjiwuy and learn how to say hello in the local language in Arnhem Land.

[Link to iView videos](#)



Little J and Big Cuz

Watch an episode of the ABC's [Little J and Big Cuz](#) which are spoken in the Indigenous languages of Gija, Noongar, Torres Strait Creole, Palawa Kani, Warlpiri and Djambarrpuyngu. Find an episode in an Indigenous language local to your area. [Link to iView videos](#)



Activity: Indigenous Perspectives

There are a range of children's picture books which help us understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures. Introduce your students to Aboriginal perspectives by reading one of the following picture books and then discuss the themes in the books.

- *Young Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe
- *Took the Children Away* by Archie Roach
- *Hello, Hello* by Children from the Spinifex Writing Camp
- [Freedom Day: Vincent Lingiari and the Story of the Wave Hill Walk-Off](#) by Thomas Mayor and Rosie Smiler
- *Stolen Girl* by Trina Saffioti
- *Little Bird's Day* by Sally Morgan



Little Bird's Day by Sally Morgan, illustrated by [Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr](#)

Watch this video as a class to hear illustrator, [Johnny Warrkatja Malibirr](#), read his [Little Bird's Day](#) book to 'Bapi' class at Gapuwiyak School. Watch this video to hear [Johnny talk about his illustrations](#) that he made for the Little Bird's Day story.

After reading one of the books listed above, students will respond to the following:

- Who is the author and illustrator of the book?
- What traditional lands are they from?
- What is the theme of the book?
- What techniques does the author use to create suspense in the story? Think about the words and sounds that are used.
- What words or imagery are used in the book to convey feeling and emotion?
- What is the message of the book?
- Write down three things you would like to learn more about after having read the book.

BTN Indigenous Language Stories

Students can watch one or more of the BTN stories below to learn more about Indigenous languages.



[Indigenous Place Names](#)



[Palawa Kani](#)



[Reviving Indigenous Languages](#)



[Indigenous Language Lessons](#)



[Kaurna with Tiyana](#)



[Pitjantjatjara Book](#)

Useful Websites

- [App designed by Indigenous people in WA's northern Goldfields helps preserve language and culture](#) – ABC News
- [Reviving Indigenous Languages](#) – BTN
- [Indigenous Language Lessons](#) – BTN
- [Gambay First Languages Map](#) – First Languages Australia
- [Kaurna with Tiyana](#) – BTN
- [Palawa Kani](#) – BTN
- [Pitjantjatjara Book](#) – BTN