



Teacher Resource

NAIDOC Week

Focus Questions

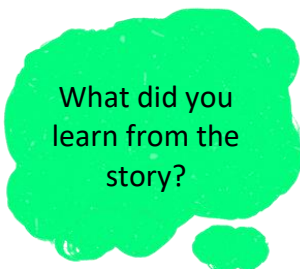
Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Summarise the BTN story in 2-3 sentences.
2. What is the theme for NAIDOC Week 2026?
 - a. 50 Years of Deadly
 - b. For Our Elders
 - c. Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!
3. What is the Day of Mourning?
4. What does NAIDOC stand for?
5. Who designed the poster for NAIDOC Week 2026?

Activity: Personal Response

After watching the BTN NAIDOC Week story, ask students to finish one or more of the following incomplete sentences:

- It was interesting to learn that...
- It's important to celebrate NAIDOC Week because...



Activity: Class Discussion

Hold a class discussion after watching the BTN story using the following questions as a guide. Record the main points of the discussion on a mind map with NAIDOC WEEK at the centre.

- What is NAIDOC Week?
- Why is NAIDOC Week important?
- How does your class celebrate during NAIDOC Week?
- Why do we have special days and weeks like Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day, Mabo Day and NAIDOC Week?

EPISODE 18

23 June 2026

KEY LEARNING

Students will explore the history of NAIDOC Week.

CURRICULUM

HASS – Year 3

Significant events, symbols and emblems that are important to Australia's identity and diversity, and how they are celebrated, commemorated or recognised in Australia, including Australia Day, Anzac Day, NAIDOC Week, National Sorry Day, Easter, Christmas, and other religious and cultural festivals.

The ways First Nations Australians in different parts of Australia are interconnected with Country/Place.

HASS – Year 4

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

HASS – Year 5 and 6

Develop appropriate questions to guide an inquiry about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

This document contains the names and images of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people now deceased. It also contains links to sites that may use images of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people now deceased.

Activity: Key Words

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN NAIDOC Week story. Here are some words to get them started.

NAIDOC Week

Native Title

First Nations peoples

Resilience

Country

Reconciliation

Protest

Community

Ask students to write what they think is the meaning of each word (including unfamiliar words). They will swap definitions with a partner and ask them to add to or change the definition. Check these against the dictionary definition.

Activity: NAIDOC Poster

The theme for NAIDOC Week 2026 is “50 Years of Deadly”, which marks 50 years of the NAIDOC movement. Each year NAIDOC Week has a theme that represents current issues important to First Nations peoples. These themes are reflected throughout the years in the different NAIDOC posters.

Students will look back on the history of NAIDOC Week and analyse how NAIDOC posters represent key events, achievements and moments in First Nations history.

Students will look at the [NAIDOC Poster Gallery](#) and choose one poster to analyse in more detail.

Students will then respond to the following:

- What year is the poster from?
- What are some of the images, symbols and colours used in the poster?
- Who designed it?
- What is the main message or theme of the poster?
- What historical issues or achievements are reflected in the poster?
- What does the poster tell us about Australia at that time?



[NAIDOC Poster 2026](#) “Paralpi” by Zaachariaha Fielding

Activity: Recognise and Celebrate First Nations

Discuss with students ways they could celebrate and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements during NAIDOC Week. Below are some ideas.



BTN [Indigenous Art & Language](#)

Celebrate the traditional custodians of the land where you live. Who are the traditional custodians and what language/s do they speak? Explore this [map of Indigenous Australia](#). Watch this BTN [Indigenous Art & Language](#) story to meet some kids who recorded their voices in Wiradjuri, the traditional language they learn at school. Those recordings were then played as an important part of an art exhibition.



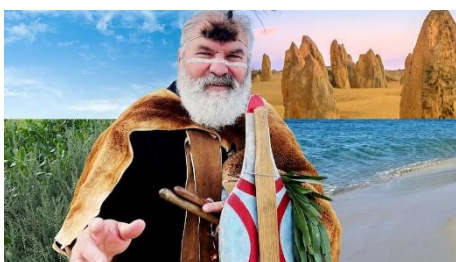
BTN [Bush Tucker Garden](#)

Create a bush food trail/indigenous garden in your school. Find out if you have an indigenous food trail near your school that you could visit for inspiration and to learn about indigenous plants local to your area. Meet some kids in BTN's [Bush Tucker Garden](#) story to learn about growing traditional Aussie foods and cooking them as well.



BTN [NAIDOC Indigenous Women](#)

Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who've made a difference and inspired others. Choose an Indigenous woman who inspires you and research in more detail. Share your findings with the class. Watch this BTN [NAIDOC Indigenous Women](#) story to learn more.



BTN [Welcome to Country History](#)

Have you held a Welcome to or Acknowledgement of Country at your school? Find out what the difference is between the two and why they are important in showing respect to and understanding First Nations people. Visit [Reconciliation Australia](#) for more info. [Read this ABC article](#) to find out why an Acknowledgement of Country is important (and advice on how to give one).



BTN [River Kids](#)

Learn more about the dreaming trails in your local area. Use the internet to find out if there are any dreaming trails in your area that explain the creation theories of the traditional owners of the land. Meet Rookie Reporter Tyrone in this [BTN story](#) to tell you what the river means to his people - the Ngarrindjeri.



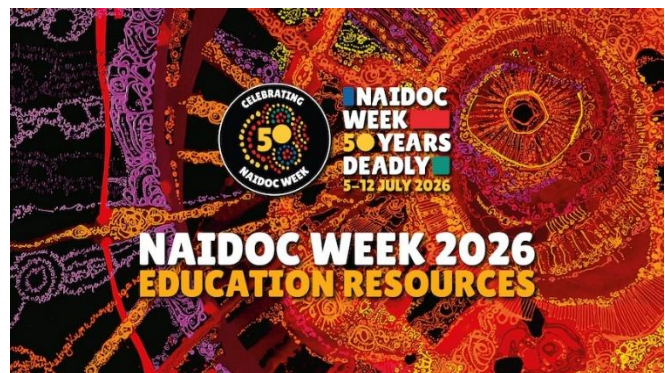
Learn about First Nations cultures through storytelling, language and listening. Students will partner with younger students (buddy classes) to listen to an episode of the [ABC's Little Yarns](#). What new Indigenous language words did they learn?

Education Resources

ABC Education and the National NAIDOC Committee have launched the official [NAIDOC Week Education Resources 2026](#), giving teachers the tools to bring this year's theme, "50 Years of Deadly", into Australian classrooms.

Available on the [NAIDOC](#) and [ABC Education](#) websites, the guide supports teachers to engage students and school communities with NAIDOC Week 2026.


The resources explore key moments across five decades of NAIDOC Week history, from land rights to the Stolen Generations and Reconciliation, alongside the music, art and culture that have defined Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories.



NAIDOC Week 2026 poster artwork: Paralpi, by Zaachariaha Fielding (NAIDOC)

BTN First Nations collection

Visit BTN's collection of stories which focus on First Nations.

Look for BTN stories with the pencil icon  to find supporting teacher resources all linked to the Australian Curriculum. [BTN – First Nations Collection](#)



Useful Websites

- [National NAIDOC Theme](#) – National NAIDOC Committee
- [NAIDOC Anniversary 2025](#) – BTN
- [NAIDOC history](#) – National NAIDOC Committee
- [NAIDOC Week Education Resources 2026](#) – ABC Education and the National NAIDOC Committee
- [First Nations Stories](#) – BTN
- [Deep Time](#) – ABC