

Teacher Resource

Reconciliation Week 2021

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. In your own words, explain what Reconciliation Week is.
- 2. What instrument are the students in the BTN story playing?
- 3. How are they used by Australia's First Nations people?
- 4. What are students at the school doing to celebrate Reconciliation Week?
- 5. The start of Reconciliation Week marks what important date in Australian history?
- 6. What does Mabo Day commemorate?
- 7. What is another important milestone for reconciliation in Australia?
- 8. How does your school celebrate Reconciliation Week or support reconciliation?
- 9. List 3 ways you think Australia could become a more equal and accepting place. Discuss your ideas with the class.
- 10. How did this story make you feel?

Activity: Class discussion

Hold a class discussion about reconciliation using the following questions as a guide. Record the main points of the discussion on a mind map with Reconciliation at the centre.

- What is reconciliation?
- Why is reconciliation important in Australia?
- What values are important to reconciliation?
- Why do we have special days or weeks like Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day, Mabo Day and NAIDOC Week?
- How does your class and/or school support reconciliation?
- What else could be done to support the reconciliation process?

EPISODE 14

25th May 2021

KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about key events in Australia's reconciliation history. Students will explore ways they can celebrate Reconciliation Week in their school.

CURRICULUM

HASS - Year 3

Days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia (including Australia Day, Anzac Day, and National Sorry Day) and the importance of symbols and emblems.

HASS - Year 5

How people with shared beliefs and values work together to achieve a civic goal.

HASS - Year 6

Experiences of Australian democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, migrants, women and children.

HASS - Years 5 & 6

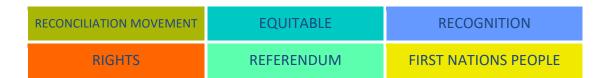
Examine different viewpoints on actions, events, issues and phenomena in the past and present.

HASS - Year 7

The process for constitutional change through a referendum.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Reconciliation Week 2021 story. Students will then use the words to write their own sentences about the issue. Here are some words to get students started.



Activity: Let's talk about reconciliation

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021 is *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action, which* urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

Discuss the theme as a class, using the following questions to get the discussion started:

- What does the theme for Reconciliation Week 2021 mean to you?
- What are some of the important issues that are talked about during Reconciliation Week?
- What actions does your school take to help support reconciliation? (For example, Welcome to Country, celebrate Reconciliation Week with school activities).
- Why is it important to take action?

After your class discussion watch this <u>BTN story</u>. In this story BTN finds out how some young people are working to bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous Aussies. Students will respond to the following focus questions after watching the story.

- 1. What action does Jasirah take to help the reconciliation process?
- 2. Why did Jasirah decide to conduct the hug test?
- 3. Explain why Jasirah wants to increase trust between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people?
- 4. How is the school class in the story celebrating Reconciliation Week?
- 5. How does your school celebrate Reconciliation Week?



Activity: Create a timeline

Next week (27 May to 3 June) is the beginning of Reconciliation Week in Australia, which starts on the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum and ends on Mabo Day. In this activity, students will create their own timeline which looks at key events in Australia's reconciliation history.

As part of their research students will make a list of significant events that have helped move Australia towards reconciliation. For example:

- Mabo decision
- Native title

- The 1967 Referendum
- Bridge walk
- National apology
- Close the Gap campaign
- The handing back of Uluru to its traditional owners
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples able to vote in Federal elections.
- Racial Discrimination Act

After creating their timelines, students will choose one key event to explore in more detail and write a summary, which answers the 5 W's – Who, What, Where, When and Why? To help with their research, students can explore the following BTN stories which look at significant events that have helped move Australia towards reconciliation. Students will then present their findings to the class.



1967 Referendum



What is a treaty?



Mabo Legacy



Bridge Walk Anniversary



Apology 10th Anniversary



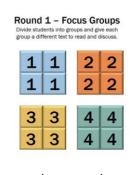
Constitutional Recognition

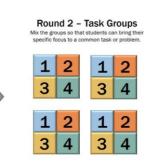
Further learning

The theme for Reconciliation Week 2021 is *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.* Ask students to think about what the theme means to them and then discuss as a class. Ask students the following question: "What future steps do you think Australia should take towards greater recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples?".

Activity: Jigsaw learning activity

In this activity students will work cooperatively to learn more about reconciliation in Australia. Each group will become experts and then share what they have learnt with other students.





Form groups

Divide the class into 6 x Focus Groups (or more depending on your class size). Each Focus Group will be assigned a different event that has helped move Australia towards reconciliation (for example the Mabo decision, Native title, the 1967

Referendum, the Bridge walk, National apology, the handing back of Uluru to its traditional owners).

Each group will need to decide how they will collect and communicate the information they find during their research.

Research

Each Focus Group will respond to the following questions to become experts:

- What is the event? Describe what happened.
- When did the event occur?
- What did the event achieve?
- Why is it significant?
- How does it recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples?
- Is there a special day to commemorate the event? Explain how people celebrate this day.

Share

Mix the Focus Groups to form Task Groups (Tasks Groups include one student from each of the Focus Groups) to share the information they have collected. Students will share the information they have collected and learn from one another.

Reflect

Students will reflect on the activity by responding to one or more of the following questions:

- What did you find surprising?
- What did you find challenging about this activity?
- What questions do you have?

Activity: Recognise and Celebrate Indigenous Culture

Discuss with students, ways they could recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture in their class or school. Some ideas are:



Celebrate the traditional custodians of the land where you live. Who are the traditional custodians and what language/s do they speak? Explore more using 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.



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 <u>Bush Tucker Garden</u> story to learn about growing traditional Aussie foods and cooking them as well.



Create a remembrance wall for the Anniversary of the National Apology. Use words to represent feelings, memories or write messages of commemoration for the Stolen Generations. Your artwork could be done in conjunction with an Indigenous artist in residence. Watch this BTN <u>Apology 10th Anniversary</u> story to learn more.



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.



Recognition can make you feel valued, respected and that you belong. What does recognition mean to you? Create a presentation explaining what it means to you to be 'recognised'. Constitutional recognition is something a lot of Indigenous people in Australia have been campaigning for, for a long time. But what exactly is it and why is it such a big deal? Watch BTN's Explainer on

Constitutional Recognition to learn more.



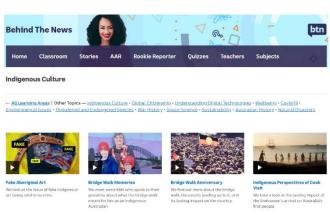
Have you held a Welcome to or Acknowledgement of Country at your school? Find out what the difference is between the two and why they are important in showing respect to and understanding First Nations people. Visit Reconciliation Australia for more info. Read this ABC article to find out why an Acknowledgement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



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 <u>BTN story</u> to tell you what the river means to his people - the Ngarrindjeri.

Activity: BTN stories - Indigenous Culture

Visit <u>BTN's collection of stories</u> which focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' culture and issues. After watching any one of the BTN videos ask students to respond to the discussion questions (to find the discussion questions and teacher resources go to the related BTN Classroom Episode and download the Episode Package). <u>Collection of BTN stories about</u> Indigenous culture



Useful Websites

- Bridge Walk Memories BTN
- National Reconciliation Week Reconciliation Australia
- Mabo Legacy BTN
- 1967 Referendum BTN
- Black Lives Matter BTN