



Teacher Resource

Referendum Campaign

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. To change the Constitution there needs to be a _____.
2. What did people vote on in the 1967 Referendum?
3. How many successful referendums has Australia had?
 - a. 8
 - b. 18
 - c. 28
4. What is the Uluru Statement from the Heart?
5. What has the new Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese said about supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart?

Activity: Class Discussion

After watching the BTN Referendum Campaign story, hold a class discussion using the following discussion starters.

- What is a referendum?
- What needs to happen for a referendum to be passed?
- Why was a referendum held in 1967?
- What is the Constitution?
- When was the Australian Constitution written?
- How you think being left out of the Constitution affected Aboriginal people?
- What is the Uluru Statement from the Heart?



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KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about the process of constitutional change through a referendum. They will explore the history of human rights for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

CURRICULUM

HASS – Year 6

Key figures, events and ideas that led to Australia's Federation and Constitution.

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

HASS – Year 7

Sequence information about events, developments, periods and phenomena using a variety of discipline-appropriate formats and conventions including chronological frameworks that use dating conventions.

Civics & Citizenship – 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 Referendum Campaign story. Here are some words to get them started.

REFERENDUM	CONSTITUTION	PARLIAMENT
CITIZENSHIP	RECOGNITION	REPRESENTATION

Activity: Referendum Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Referendum Campaign story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students' knowledge? The following KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic.

What do I <u>k</u> now?	What do I <u>w</u> ant to know?	What have I <u>l</u> earnt?	<u>H</u> ow will I find out?

Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below. Encourage students to collect and record information from a wide variety of sources and present the information they find in an interesting way.

- What is the Australian Constitution? When and why was it written?
- Were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples included in the process? Who wrote the Constitution? And who voted for it when it was first formed?
- What are the steps to change the Australian Constitution? Investigate what a referendum is and how it works. Use a timeline to highlight important referendums in Australia.
- What is meant by the term constitutional recognition? Explore the progress of constitutional recognition in Australia using a timeline to highlight important events.
- Why was the 1967 Referendum important in Australia's human rights history? Use the term constitutional recognition in your explanation.
- How many Indigenous Australian politicians have been members of the federal, state or territory governments?
- Who was the first Indigenous politician? Create a biography.
- How many Indigenous politicians are in office at the moment? Which state has had the most Indigenous politicians?
- Why is Indigenous representation in parliament important?

Activity: What is Constitutional Recognition?

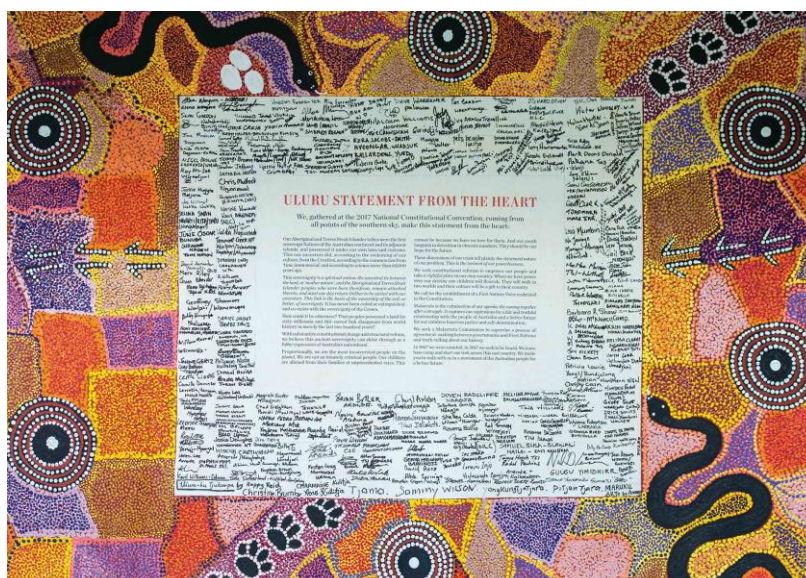
Constitutional recognition is something a lot of Indigenous people in Australia have been campaigning for, for a long time. But, what exactly is it and why is it such a big deal? Watch BTN's Explainer on Constitutional Recognition as a class and hold a class discussion to clarify terms and meanings. [Link to BTN Explainer](#)



Activity: Uluru Statement from the Heart

Students will learn more about the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its calls for changes to the Australian Constitution. More information about the statement can be found [here](#). Students respond to the following questions:

- What is the Uluru Statement from the Heart?
- What led up to the Uluru Statement from the Heart?
- The three main components of the Uluru Statement from the Heart are **Voice Treaty Truth**. Explain what is meant by each in relation to the statement.
- In the statement it says *In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard*. Why is being heard and having a voice important?

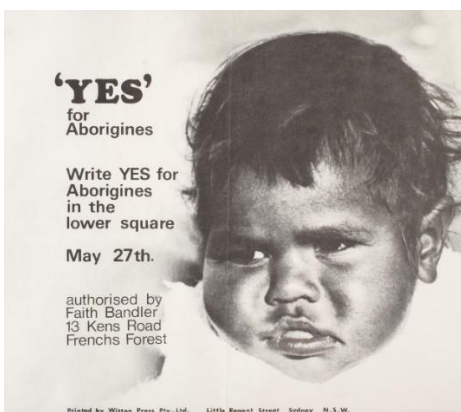


Activity: Visual Literacy

Below are photographs showing significant events in Australia's history of Indigenous citizenship rights. Look at the images below and then respond to the following questions:

- What is happening in the image?
- Describe the mood of the photograph.
- What message comes across in the image?
- What question/s would you like to ask the people in the image?
- Create a caption for each image.

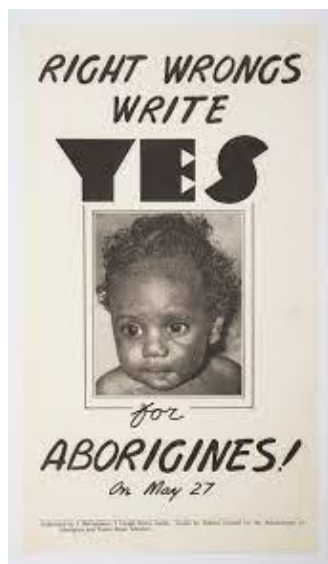
After you have responded to the above questions click on the link for each image to find out what is happening and compare to your responses.



[National Museum Australia](#)



[National Museum Australia](#)



[State Library NSW](#)



[National Museum Australia](#)

BTN Indigenous Rights Stories

Watch these BTN stories to learn about more about the fight for Indigenous rights and recognition.



[BTN 1967 Referendum](#)



[BTN Indigenous Recognition](#)



[BTN Constitutional Recognition](#)



[BTN Indigenous Parliament](#)

Useful Websites

- [Constitutional recognition](#) – BTN
- [What is constitutional recognition - Explainer](#) – BTN
- [1967 Referendum](#) – BTN
- [Constitution](#) - BTN
- [Indigenous Parliament](#) – BTN
- [Referendums and Plebiscites](#) - Parliamentary Education Office
- [The 1967 Referendum](#) – Reconciliation Australia
- [Uluru Statement from the Heart](#) – National Museum Australia