



Teacher Resource

Pinjarra Massacre Apology

Focus Questions

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

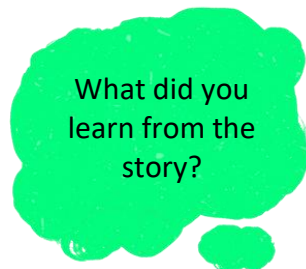
1. What year did the Pinjarra Massacre happen?
2. Where is Pinjarra located? Find on a map.
3. What is the meaning of Frontier Wars?
4. What questions do you have about the story?
5. How did this story make you feel?

This document may contain 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. It also contains some content that may be distressing.

Activity: Personal Response

After watching the BTN Pinjarra Massacre Apology story, ask students to finish one or more of the following incomplete sentences:

- It was interesting to learn that...
- Learning about the Frontiers Wars made me feel...
- It's important to learn about the Frontier Wars because...



Activity: Discuss

After watching the BTN Pinjarra Massacre Apology story students discuss the story in pairs, using the following questions to guide the discussion:

- Reflect on the apology by the Western Australian Governor. Why was it important? [Watch the Governor's apology.](#)
- What were the Frontier Wars?
- What were the reasons for frontier violence?
- Why is truth-telling important?

EPISODE 31

4 November 2025

KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about the Frontier Wars in Australia and why learning about them is an important part of truth-telling.

CURRICULUM

HASS – Year 5

The impact of the development of British colonies in Australia on the lives of First Nations Australians, the colonists and convicts, and on the natural environment.

HASS – Year 9

The causes and effects of European contact and extension of settlement, including their impact on the First Nations Peoples of Australia.

Activity: Glossary

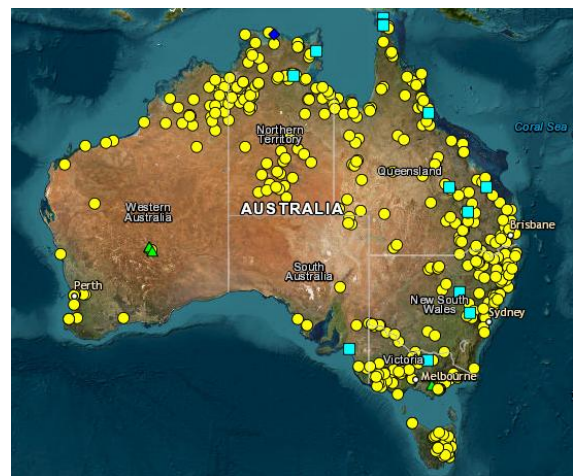
Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Pinjarra Massacre Apology story. Here are some words to get them started.

MASSACRE	RESISTANCE	TRUTH-TELLING
COLONISATION	DISPOSSESED	RECONCILIATION

Activity: Researching Frontier Wars

Students will choose one or more of the questions below to explore in more detail or they can develop their own questions to research.

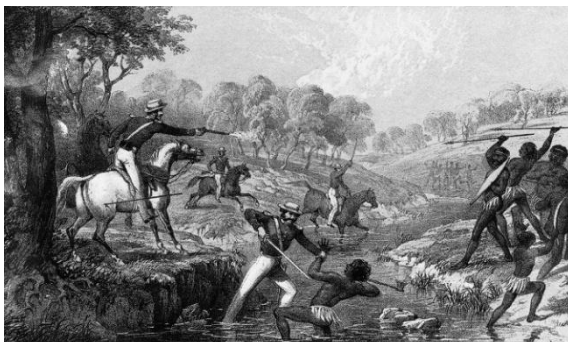
- What were the Frontier Wars and what was the cause of the violence?
- What happened in Myall Creek in 1838?
- What is truth-telling? Why is learning about the Frontier Wars an important part of truth-telling?
- How should these events be recognised or commemorated?
- Look at the [map](#) created for the **Colonial Frontier Massacres Project**. Why is it important to document these events? Use the interactive map to learn about sites that are near you.



Activity: Visual Literacy

Below are images that relate to the Frontier Wars. Students look at the image and then respond to the following questions:

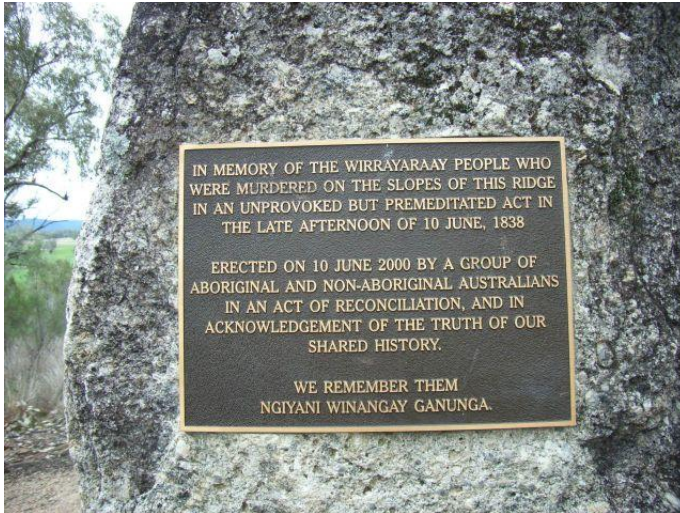
- What do you see in this image?
- What does the image tell you about the Frontier Wars?
- How did the image make you feel?
- What question/s would you like to ask about the image?



[Waterloo Creek massacre](#)



[Bulla, Queensland 1861](#)



[Myall Creek memorial plaque](#)

Myall Creek Memorial

Working in pairs, students read the Myall Creek memorial plaque and respond to the following questions:

- Which groups worked together on the Myall Creek memorial?
- How is the Myall Creek remembered today?
- Why is the memorial important part of reconciliation?

Activity: BTN Stories

Visit BTN's collection of stories which focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' history, 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).

[Collection of BTN stories with a focus on Indigenous culture](#)

Indigenous Culture



Victoria Treaty

Tue 10 Sep 2025 at 12:00am



Vincent Lingiari

Why this famous photograph sparked a movement for Aboriginal rights across the country.

Tue 19 Aug 2025 at 12:00am



UNESCO Rock Art

The rock art of Murupuga in WA has been recognised as a world heritage site.

Tue 22 Jul 2025 at 12:00am



Ngiyampaa Dictionary

Mikayla has been helping to keep an endangered Australian language alive.

Tue 26 Aug 2025 at 12:00am



First Nations Seasons

Melbourne's Lord Mayor has suggested adopting a six-season Wurundjeri calendar.

Tue 19 Aug 2025 at 12:00am



NAIDOC Anniversary

Celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Tue 24 Jun 2025 at 12:00am



Racism Report

Racism is still a pretty common experience for Indigenous Aussies.

Tue 3 Jun 2025 at 12:00am

Useful Websites

- [WA Governor Chris Dawson apologises to descendants of Pinjarra Massacre, almost 200 years later](#)
– ABC News
- [Myall Creek Memorial a symbol of reconciliation as descendants of victims and perpetrators gather](#)
– ABC News