

Books and website recommendations

Learn more about our shared histories, cultures and achievements.

Websites

TITLE	ABOUT
https://www.snaicc.org.au/	National Voice for our Children – advocating for the rights of Aboriginal children to ensure their safety, development and well-being.
https://www.humanrights.gov.au/about/news/videos/bringing-them-home-1997	Bringing them home report
http://shareourpride.reconciliation.org.au/	Share Our Pride - Reconciliation Australia
https://ictv.com.au/	Indigenous Community TV
https://australianstogether.org.au/	Australians Together

YouTube - TEDx

TITLE	ABOUT
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHVbVBLIhCM	Myth Debunking (Sydney University)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1XUOj13yuY	Ingrid Cumming - Two Worlds
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p7FU8zuHaHg	Cally Jetta - Australia, we need to talk.
https://www.ted.com/talks/dean_parkin_the_uluru_statement_from_the_heart_an_idea_whose_time_has_come	Dean Parkin - The Uluru Statement from the Heart - an idea whose time has come
https://youtu.be/msCumIKU-Rg	Yakanarra Song Book Album Launch

Books

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<p><i>I Saw We Saw</i></p> <p>By Yolŋu students at Nhulunbuy Primary School, with Ann James and Ann Haddon.</p> <p>(ILF Book)</p>	<p>With its stunning illustrations and intriguing text, <i>I Saw We Saw</i> provides a fascinating glimpse into the world of Yolŋu students at Nhulunbuy Primary School. There's much to see on every page, with the opportunity to learn some Yolŋu Matha words, the authors' first language, making this book a delight to read and explore.</p>
<p><i>Deadly Sisters of Worawa</i></p> <p>Written by thirteen young women from Worawa Aboriginal College with Anita Heiss and Shelley Ware.</p> <p>(ILF Book)</p>	<p><i>Deadly Sisters of Worawa</i>, written by thirteen young women from Worawa Aboriginal College, was produced during a writing workshop that was facilitated by our Lifetime Ambassador Anita Heiss and the equally passionate literacy advocate Shelley Ware. In their book, the students write about themselves, their families, their sacred places and the things they've achieved that make them proud. They've also written some powerful and moving poetry, and created some amazing artwork, all of which combined reveals how deadly these Worawa sisters are.</p>
<p><i>Japarripa</i> (series)</p> <p>Written by senior students of Tiwi College in collaboration with David Lawrence and Shelley Ware.</p> <p>(ILF Project, PRH Book)</p>	<p>Kay-Bell loves to play footy. All she wants to do on the field is make her family and the Tiwi people proud. But when Aunty B gets in the way of her dream of kicking goals for the Tiwi Warriors, Kay-Bell must enlist the help of her friends and brother on a wild journey ... Will she survive the water buffaloes, dugongs, crocodiles and stormy weather to make it to the big game?</p> <p>A powerful story about finding the courage to believe in yourself.</p>
<p><i>Two Ways Strong</i></p> <p>By the Deadly Mob from Concordia Lutheran College, with Claire Scobie and Kristine Ellis.</p> <p>(ILF Book)</p>	<p>Going to boarding school can be a difficult transition for many students, but for Indigenous students from remote communities, it can be quite a culture shock. In <i>Two Ways Strong</i>, Indigenous students from Concordia Lutheran College have combined to tell their experience in a story about Jaz a young girl from Palm Island who goes to boarding school at the age of fourteen.</p> <p>Jaz has many challenges to face, not least having to speak English and make herself understood. Her fellow Indigenous students help to ease the way for her but ultimately it's up to Jaz to make the most of what boarding school has to offer.</p> <p>As she becomes accustomed to school life, has fun with her friends and has academic success, Jaz realises just how much she has gained and grown in the time she's been at school. She's no longer just one way strong like she was on Palm Island, she's now two ways strong and ready to take on the world.</p>
<p><i>Wamparla Apira</i> (Possums and Tall Trees)</p> <p>Written by Syd Strangways and illustrated by Kathy Arbon.</p> <p>(ILF Book)</p>	<p>Told in Arabana and English by Elder Thanthi Syd Strangways, this fascinating story is beautifully illustrated by Kathy Arbon, and is also an important addition to the Arabana Wangka or language resources for the Arabana people of northern South Australia. As a child, Thanti Syd travelled the region with his grandmother and other Arabana tribespeople, camping and hunting for possums for food and clothing.</p>

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<i>Nginingawila Ngirramini – Our Story</i> (ILF Book)	<i>Nginingawila Ngirramini</i> – Tiwi language – for ‘Our Story’ was written by nine students from Tiwi College (Tiwi Islands, NT) with Anita Heiss and Pamela Freeman. The book is a celebration of these girls’ lives. It traces their heroes, sacred places, and happiest memories.
<i>Growing up Aboriginal in Australia</i> – edited by Anita Heiss	What is it like to grow up Aboriginal in Australia? Showcases as many diverse voices, experiences and stories as possible in order to answer that question. Each account reveals, to some degree, the impacts of invasion and colonisation – on language, on country, on ways of life, and on how people are treated daily in the community, the education system, the workplace and friendship groups.
<i>Dark Emu</i> - Bruce Pascoe https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqgrSSz7Htw	<i>Dark Emu</i> argues for a reconsideration of the ‘hunter-gatherer’ tag for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians and attempts to rebut the colonial myths that have worked to justify dispossession. Accomplished author Bruce Pascoe provides compelling evidence from the diaries of early explorers that suggests that systems of food production and land management have been blatantly understated in modern retellings of early Aboriginal history, and that a new look at Australia’s past is required.
<i>Young Dark Emu</i> - Bruce Pascoe	Bruce Pascoe has collected a swathe of literary awards for <i>Dark Emu</i> and now he has brought together the research and compelling first person accounts in a book for younger readers. Using the accounts of early European explorers, colonists and farmers, Bruce Pascoe compellingly argues for a reconsideration of the hunter-gatherer label for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians. He allows the reader to see Australia as it was before Europeans arrived – a land of cultivated farming areas, productive fisheries, permanent homes, and an understanding of the environment and its natural resources that supported thriving villages across the continent. <i>Young Dark Emu - A Truer History</i> asks young readers to consider a different version of Australia’s history pre-European colonisation.
<i>Artweyenhenge</i> - Family Amanda Turner, Anna Maria Palmer & Janine Turner	<i>Artweyenhenge</i> is a cross-cultural educational resource developed and written by Arrernte Educators to combine Arrernte language learning around family and relationships with English numeracy. This book merges both First Nations values and world view with Western numeracy learning. Pre-colonisation, there was no need in the thriving and highly functional Arrernte societies to develop any numbers beyond three, other than arrunthe meaning ‘many
<i>My Country</i> - Sally Morgan	Written by a mother and son duo, this brightly illustrated picture book is a jubilant journey through a child’s home country that celebrates the joys of nature and emphasizes forming a connection with place. In simple and lyrical prose, this narrative offers an indigenous Australian perspective of life as it connects traditional and contemporary experiences in ways that children can understand.

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<i>Annie's Story - Growing up strong on Boandik Country</i> - Aunty Michelle Jacquelin -Furr	<i>Annie's Story – Growing Up Strong On Boandik Country</i> is my first children's book about aboriginal culture in the South East of South Australia. The stories are inspired by my great grandmother and her life growing up as a young Aboriginal girl on Boandik country when her traditional ways were disappearing as the white man's culture took over.
<i>Nintirringanyi Ngurra Ku: Learning on Country</i> - Annette Robinson, Roxanne Sharpe	This book is a collaboration between mothers and grandmothers, representing Luritja, Warlpiri, and Eastern Arrernte language groups in Central Australia. The story depicts the kinds of learning that take place when First Nations kids are out bush with their families, and aims to enrich reading and literacy as a culturally relevant experience for First Nations children
<i>My Culture and Me</i> - Gregg Dreise	A stirring story about pride, respect and maintaining culture. Feel the rhythm of the music, from your heart down to your feet. Enjoy the movements of melodies, as clapsticks keep a strong beat. This is my culture. This is me.
<i>Sally's Story</i> – Sally Morgan	<i>My Place</i> is Sally Morgan's rich, zesty and moving story of her childhood and growing up in Perth, Western Australia. It tells how she gradually came to realise the truth about her family and their heritage. In its original edition, <i>My Place</i> was warmly and enthusiastically received by readers and critics. This new edition has been adapted for younger readers.
<i>The Girl from the Great Sandy Desert</i> - Jukuna Mona Chuguna, Pat Lowe	<i>The Girl from the Great Sandy Desert</i> is the remarkable account of the life of Mana, a young Walmajarri girl and her family in the desert country of north-west Australia. A collection of accessible stories that elucidate the rich cultural lives of pre-contact Aboriginal Australians, this book is a valuable resource for educators and young readers, and is accompanied by beautiful black and white illustrations.
<i>Jandamarra and the Bunuba Resistance</i> A True Story By: Banjo Woorunmurra, Howard Pedersen	The thrilling story of the great warrior, Jandamarra, who turned from police assistant to resistance fighter. Thought to be unstoppable, he led the Bunuba against the forces invading their land. A legend, forever etched into the history of the Kimberley, Jandamarra's courage and fighting spirit made him one of the region's most wanted men. <i>Jandamarra and the Bunuba Resistance</i> is a grand story with a grand theme. A powerful collaboration between a non-Indigenous historian and the Indigenous custodian of the Jandamarra story.

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<p><i>The Little Red Yellow Black Book: An introduction to Indigenous Australia - Aiatsis</i>, With Bruce Pascoe</p>	<p>Originally published in 1994, <i>The Little Red Yellow Black Book</i> has established itself as the perfect starting point for those who want to learn about the rich cultures and histories of Australia's First Peoples. Written from an Indigenous perspective, this highly illustrated and accessible introduction covers a range of topics from history, culture and the Arts, through to activism and reconciliation. In this fourth edition, readers will learn about some of the significant contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made, and continue to make, to the Australian nation. Common stereotypes will be challenged, and the many struggles and triumphs that we've experienced as we've navigated through our shared histories will be revealed. Readers will also learn about some of the key concepts that underpin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander worldviews including concepts such as the Dreaming, the significance of Ancestral Heroes and Country.</p>
<p><i>Our World - Bardi-Jaawi Life at Ardiyooloon</i></p> <p>By: One Arm Point Remote Community School</p>	<p>Ardiyooloon is home to the Bardi-Jaawi people and sits at the end of a red dirt road at the top of the Dampier Peninsula, 200km north of Broome in the north-west of Western Australia. <i>Our World: Bardi-Jaawi life at Ardiyooloon</i> takes readers inside the lives of the children of a remote Indigenous community — lives very different to those experienced by most Australians. The children take readers camping and fishing, share traditional stories and dances, show them how to find a waterhole, track, cook and eat bush tucker and animals such as turtles, crabs, oysters and clams, and make spears, boomerangs, bough shelters and bush brooms. Created by the children themselves, it is full of colourful illustrations and amazing photographs of the students experiencing their world and keeping alive the age-old traditions of their people.</p>

Movies

TITLE	ABOUT
In My Own Words http://blackfellafilms.com.au/project/in-my-own-words/	Raw, heartfelt, sometimes painstaking but often funny, In My Own Words follows the journey of adult Aboriginal students and their teachers as they discover the transformative power of reading and writing for the first time in their lives.
Rabbit Proof Fence	This true story about three Aboriginal girls from the Stolen Generation. Taken from their home and separated from their mothers, they are sent to a remote settlement 1,500 miles away. In response they attempt the impossible and embark on a daring escape and epic journey to find their way back home - across an unforgiving landscape that will test their very will to survive.
Mabo	Mabo is the story of how one man fought the system and won, how one man affected the lives of all his people. Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo was shocked to discover that the ownership of land his ancestors passed down on Murray Island in The Torres Strait Islands for over 15 generations was not legally recognized. Rather than accept this injustice he began an epic fight for Australian law to recognise traditional land rights.
The Sapphires	1968 was the year that changed the world. And for four young Aboriginal sisters from a remote mission this is the year that would change their lives forever. Around the globe, there was protest and revolution in the streets. Indigenous Australians finally secured the right to vote. Based on a true story
Utopia	Utopia represents a long journey through the 'secret country' of John Pilger's homeland. It is his fourth film about Indigenous Australia, the oldest, most enduring human presence on Earth. Released in 2013 and filmed over two years, Utopia breaks what amounts to a recurring national silence about the brutalising of Indigenous people. One of the film's striking elements is the trust given to Pilger by so many indigenous Australians to 'voice their voices'. The point is made that little has changed for many of those excluded from white Australia's wealth, regardless of an official apology for 'wrongs past and present'.
In My Blood It Runs https://inmyblooditrans.com/	When Dujan cannot run nor fight alone, he faces the history that runs straight into him and realised that not only has he inherited the trauma and dispossession of his land, but also the resilience and resistance of many generations of his people.