

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATORS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RECONCILIATION IN AND OUT OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The journey of building greater knowledge and understanding, value and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders - our first Nations peoples is that we can make progress in reconciliation.

It is important that educators take time to learn about other people's reconciliation journeys as they can be inspired and use this to reflect about their own journey, as genuine engagement in reconciliation involves personal and professional learning.

Starting a cultural awareness journey may involve visiting Reconciliation Australia's online resource: *Share Our Pride* to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories and cultures.

Cultural competence

Much more than awareness of cultural differences. It is the ability to understand, communicate with and effectively interact with people across cultures. Cultural competence encompasses: • being aware of one's own world view • developing positive attitudes towards cultural differences • gaining knowledge of different cultural practices and world views • developing skills for communication and interaction across cultures.' — Early Years Learning Framework, P16

OTHER RESOURCES TO MAKE CONNECTIONS

Seek out and attend other cultural awareness training or events with the children – connect with your local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, invite them to the centre for conversations.

Develop a personal *Acknowledgement of Country & RAP* during a staff meeting – check out the resource on the Narragunnawali Platform.

Use your social media to Like, Follow or sign up for a newsletter from Reconciliation Australia or Narragunnawali News. <https://www.facebook.com/ReconciliationAus/>

Watch a video on *Building Positive Relationships with children*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQixEKut8bM>

Watch this video *Our History, Our Story, Our Future*. The video and the five dimensions of reconciliation outlined guide your yarning circle conversation. They are: 1. Race relations 2. Equality and equity 3. Institutional integrity 4. Unity 5. Historical acceptance. <http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw>. This can be then taught to the children and demonstrated every-day.

The *Early Years Learning Framework* is centred on the pedagogical practices that informs curriculum planning and enhances children's learning. (DEEWR, 2010, p24). 8 Ways to start the process... Tell a story. Make a plan. Think and do. Draw it. Take it outside. Try a new way. Watch first, then do. Share it with others
Aboriginal perspectives are not found in Aboriginal content, but Aboriginal processes...

Online webinars

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REFLECTION -

Consider family and community engagement in your school or early learning service

EARLY YEARS LEARNING FRAMEWORK IN

ACTION - Examine case studies and consider best practice avenues for simultaneously embedding the EYLF and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions into their teaching.

CELEBRATING YOUR RAP – SCENARIO - Staff and/or RAP Working Group members discuss this scenario to explore the importance of acknowledging the effort required to implement meaningful and sustainable reconciliation initiatives.

ATTEND OR HOST A MEETING WITH ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER

REPRESENTATIVES - Attend or host a meeting with organisations that already have strong Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation on their committees to learn about the importance of such representation. For all Australians, this ancient land connects the stories of our past, our present and our future.