

ISLANDER DATES

KOORICURRICULUM.COM

2024 Key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dates



26 January

Day of Mourning

13 February

Apology Day

21 February

International Mother Language Day

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17 March

Close the Gap Day

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26 May

National Sorry Day

27 May

1967 Referendum Anniversary

27 May-3 June

Reconciliation Week

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3 June

Mabo Day

7-14 July

NAIDOC Week

2024 Key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dates



4 August

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

9 August

UN International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples

23 August

Anniversary of the Wave Hill Walk-Off

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4 September

Indigenous Literacy Day

13 September

Anniversary of The UN Declaration On The Rights of Indigenous People

October

Indigenous Business Month

20-27 October

Aboriginal Languages Week

26 October

Anniversary of the Uluru Handback

10 December

Human Rights Day

.

20 December

Anniversary of the Barunga Statement

24 December

Anniversary of the Native Title Act

All dates were correct at the time of creating this guide

26 JANUARY DAY OF MOURNING

Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people feel that this day marks the commemoration of a deep loss – loss of their sovereign rights to their land, loss of family, loss of the right to practice their culture. This day is therefore also known as 'Invasion Day', 'Day of Mourning', 'Survival Day' or, since 2006, 'Aboriginal Sovereignty Day'. The name Survival Day emphasises that Aboriginal culture is still strong and that many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' identities are positive and alive, despite all that has happened since colonisation.

I know many educators think that the inclusion of Invasion Day in early childhood programs is too political and pushes adult agendas onto young children. Whilst I understand this view and way of thinking I also believe that by not doing something we are marginalizing Aboriginal people and catering to a mainstream way of thinking and being.



EDUCATE DON'T CELEBRATE: 26 WAYS AND WHYS TO CHANGE THE DATE

The time to begin critically reflecting on what the 26th of January means and how your team will respond is now.

Koori Curriculum has developed free resources and provocations to help aid pedagogical debate and discussion with your colleagues and ignite change.

Scan the QR code to get access to this free series









Books to learn about the 26th of <u>January</u>



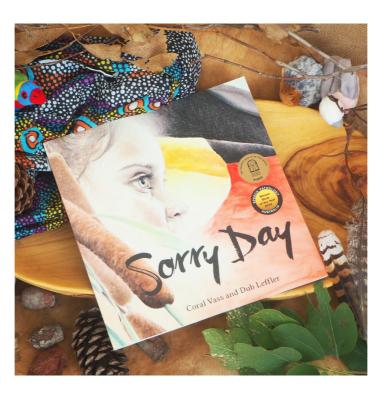
13 FEBRUARY **NATIONAL APOLOGY** DAY This event marks the anniversary of the Apology in 2008 to Australia's

This event marks the anniversary of the Apology in 2008 to Australia's Indigenous peoples in the House of Representatives. The apology was made by former Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd for past laws, policies and practices that have impacted on Australia's First Nations Peoples, particularly members of the Stolen Generations.

The motion was supported by the Opposition and passed through both houses of Parliament. Many members of the Stolen Generations were present in the Chamber to hear the Apology and thousands more filled the Great Hall of Parliament House and flowed out onto the lawns to watch it on big screens.



RESOURCE FOR 13 FEBRUARY



Sorry Day by Coral Vass and Dub Leffler



17 MARCH NATIONAL CLOSE THE GAP DAY

In 2006, more than 40 national organisations came together to form Close the Gap - Australia's largest ever campaign to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Every year, Australians are encouraged to hold their own event on National Close the Gap Day to raise awareness about the life expectancy gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Since 2006, the Close the Gap campaign has achieved an enormous amount through community support.



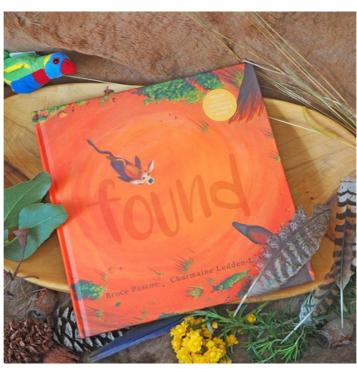
26 MAY NATIONAL SORRY DAY

This is a significant day for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and particularly for Stolen Generations survivors. Commemorating 'Sorry Day' was one of the recommendations of the Bringing Them Home report, which was tabled in Parliament on 26 May 1997. This report was the result of a National Inquiry into the forcible removal of Indigenous children from their families, communities and cultural identity.

The first 'Sorry Day' was held in Sydney in 1998 and is now held nationally with memorials and commemorative events that honour the Stolen Generations.







Found by Bruce Pascoe



27 MAY 1967 REFERENDUM ANNIVERSARY

other Australians, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples would be counted as part of the population and the Commonwealth would be able to make laws for them. A resounding 90.77 per cent said 'Yes' and every single state and territory had a majority result for the 'Yes' vote. It was one of the most successful national campaigns in Australia's history.

On 27 May 1967, Australians voted to change the Constitution so that like all

Thousands of people worked on the campaign and achieving the 'yes' was a huge victory, signalling a change in the mindset of Australia's majority. It opened the door to First Nations Australian agency, bringing to light many strong leaders and organisations, and the expectation that things could be different. Change was possible, and they were willing to fight for it. In many ways, that fight continues today







Say Yes: A Story of Friendship,
Fairness and a Vote for Hope By
Jennifer Castles



27 MAY-3 JUNE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

This week is an ideal time for everyone to join the reconciliation conversation and reflect on shared histories, contributions and achievements. It is held annually and is a time to celebrate and build on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. Preceded by National Sorry Day on 26 May, National Reconciliation Week is framed by two key events in Australia's history, which provide strong symbols for reconciliation:

- 27 May 1967 the referendum date when more than 90 percent of Australians voted to give the government power to make laws for Indigenous people and recognise them in the census.
- 3 June 1992 the historic Mabo decision



3 JUNE **MABO DAY**

Mabo Day marks the anniversary of the High Court of Australia's judgement in 1992 in the Mabo case. This is a day of particular significance for Torres Strait Islander Australians. Eddie 'Koiki' Mabo's name is synonymous with native title rights. His story began in May 1982 when he and fellow Murray (Mer) Islanders David Passi, Sam Passi, James Rice and Celuia Salee instituted a claim in the High Court for native title to the Murray (Mer) Islands in the Torres Strait.

The decision overturned a legal fiction that Australia was terra nullius (a land belonging to no one) at the time of British colonisation.

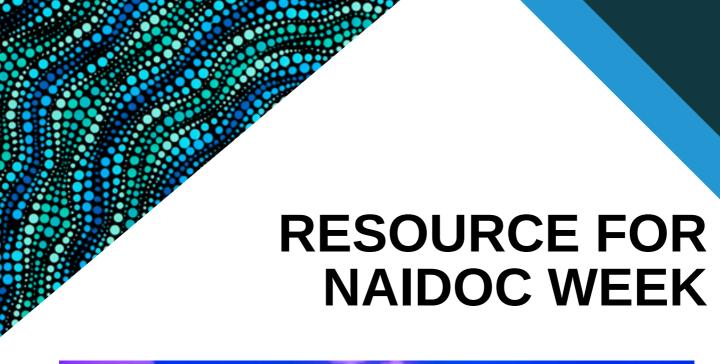


7-14 JULY NATIONAL NAIDOC **WEEK**

NAIDOC (National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee) week celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and recognises the contributions of Indigenous Australians in various fields. Its origins can be traced to the emergence of Aboriginal groups in the 1920s which sought to increase awareness of the status and treatment of Indigenous Australians. All Australians are encouraged to participate.

NAIDOC Week 2023 will be held from Sunday 7 July to Sunday 14 July







Play School: Acknowledgement of Country



4 AUGUST NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day is a celebration

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day is a celebration of Indigenous children. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day was first observed by the Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care in 1988. Each year Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Care produces and sends out resources to help celebrations for National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day.



RESOURCE FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY



9 AUGUST INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE **WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**

The United Nations' (UN) International Day of the World's Indigenous People was first proclaimed by the General Assembly in December 1994 and is observed on 9 August each year to promote and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues such as environmental protection.



AUGUST 23 ANNIVERSARY OF THE **GURINDJI WAVE HILL WALK-OFF** In August 1966, Vincent Lingiari, a Gurindji spokesman, led a walk-off

In August 1966, Vincent Lingiari, a Gurindji spokesman, led a walk-off of 200 Aboriginal stockmen, house servants, and their families from Wave Hill as a protest against the work and pay conditions. The strike was part of a widespread campaign begun by workers on Brunette Downs Station and supported by non-Aboriginal people, including unionists and the author Frank Hardy.

The protesters camped at Wattie Creek (Daguragu) and sought the return of some of their traditional lands to develop a cattle station.



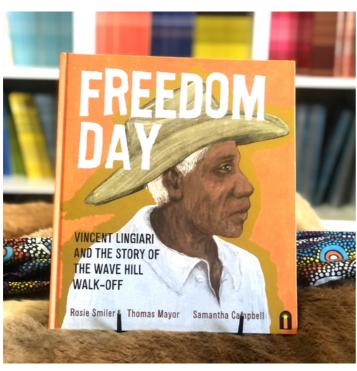
AUGUST 23 ANNIVERSARY OF THE **GURINDJI WAVE HILL WALK-OFF** They petitioned the Governor-General in 1967, and leaders toured

They petitioned the Governor-General in 1967, and leaders toured Australia to raise awareness about their cause. In 1972, Prime Minister Whitlam announced that funds would be made available for the purchase of properties that were not on reserves, and Lord Vestey offered to surrender 90 square kilometres to the Gurindji people.

Daguragu was acquired by the Aboriginal Land Fund Commission and, on 16 August 1975 at Daguragu, Prime Minister Whitlam transferred leasehold title to the Gurindji, symbolically handing soil to Vincent Lingiari.







Freedom Day by Thomas
Mayor, Rosie Smiler &
Samantha Campbell





Taking place on the first Wednesday of September each year, the event raises awareness of the educational struggles facing many Indigenous groups in Australia, while also serving as a fundraiser to collect literary resources for children living in more isolated areas of the country.

Providing more than just books, Indigenous Literacy Day celebrates Aboriginal culture and the stories and languages that helped to build the country we know today. Indigenous literacy is important not just for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, but for everyone who believes in preserving our unique heritage and creating opportunities for fellow Australians.



13 SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY OF THE UN DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

The UNDRIP was brought to General Assembly on Thursday the 13th of September 2007. It was passed by a majority of 144 states in favour, 4 votes against (Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States) and 11 abstentions.

The Declaration establishes a universal framework of minimum standards of

fair treatment of Indigenous peoples as they relate to their vast



circumstances.

OCTOBER INDIGENOUS BUSINESS MONTH

Indigenous Business Month is an initiative driven by the alumni of Melbourne Business School's <u>MURRA</u> Indigenous Business Master Class Program, who see business as a vehicle towards self-determination, a way of providing positive role models for Indigenous Australians and improving quality of life in Indigenous communities.

Since its establishment in 2015, Indigenous Business Month is an annual celebration that occurs every October and 2024 marks its 10th year.



OCTOBER 20-27 ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES WEEK

Aboriginal Languages Week coincides with the anniversary of the passing of the Aboriginal Languages Act through the NSW parliament in October 2017

The Act, which seeks "to promote, reawaken, nurture and grow Aboriginal languages across NSW", is the only one of its kind in the country, and one of few across the world.

The 7-day festival is a project of the Aboriginal Languages Trust (ALT), and highlights the ongoing efforts to revitalise and support Aboriginal languages.







Our Top Resources That Include Aboriginal Language



OCTOBER 26 ANNIVERSARY OF THE ULURU HANDBACK

The ceremony to handback the title took place at the base of Uluru on 26 October 1985. Hundreds of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people looked on as Governor-General Sir Ninian Stephen passed over the title deeds to Uluru–Kata Tjuta.

The traditional owners then signed an agreement to lease the park back to the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service for 99 years. A board of management was established with a majority of Anangu members. The park continues to be jointly managed.

The Uluru climb was permanently closed after a ceremony at Uluru on 26 October 2019, exactly 34 years after the government officially returned the lands to the Anangu.



10 DECEMBER HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Human Rights Day is observed every year on 10 December — the day the United Nations General Assembly adopted, in 1948, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

The UDHR is a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Available in more than 500 languages, it is the most translated document in the world.



DECEMBER 20 ANNIVERSARY OF THE BARUNGA STATEMENT The Barunga Statement is one of several significant painted documents

Painted during the 1988 Barunga Sport and Cultural Festival, it was the culmination of years of engagement and discussion between Aboriginal

that Aboriginal people have presented to the Australian Government.

groups in the Northern Territory and the Australian Government.

The statement combines Aboriginal symbolism from northern and central Australia and a translation of these into English language text, signalling collaboration and communication across cultures and languages.



24 DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIVE TITLE ACT

In 1992 the High Court of Australia recognised the common law doctrine of native title that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people may continue to hold rights to their land and waters, which come from their traditional laws and customs.

The Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (the Native Title Act) recognises and protects native title in Australia. Native title claimants can make an application to the Federal Court of Australia to have their native title recognised by Australian law.



24 DECEMBER ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIVE TITLE ACT

Native title rights and interests differ from statutory land rights in that the source of statutory land rights is a grant of title from government.

approximately 2,469,647 km2 or about 32% of the Australian land mass.

At 30 September 2015, native title has been recognised over

The source of native title rights and interests is the system of traditional laws and customs of the native title holders themselves.



KOORI Cup

In the Koori Curriculum Club you'll get amazing support to assist in the development of your centres Aboriginal programs.

Watch the video to preview the Koori Curriculum Club learning platform



Each month will bring new content on various topics that will inspire educators to think critically and creatively on the many ways that they can embed Aboriginal perspectives in their program as well as demonstrate culturally safe practices.

The KC Club includes master classes from guest speakers on topics such as; anti bias and culturally safe practices, connecting with Country, significant dates, art and music, partnerships with families, connecting with community and pedagogy.

The Koori Curriculum Club provides lesson plans on common topics and interests such as transport, belonging and animals to provide ideas and insight on ways educators can include intercultural ways of knowing, being and doing in their curriculum.

Members can also apply for a live mentoring session where Director of the Koori Curriculum Jessica Staines will offer advice and custom strategies to help overcome challenges that they may face.





To help you get the most out of the Koori Curriculum Club membership we have created "learning pathways" that allow you to focus on one topic or area of interest.

These learning pathways can include masterclasses, lesson plans, fact sheets, book club notes, webinars, storytime videos, children's books in focus and podcast episodes of Educator Yarns.

Learning pathways are updated every six months to ensure all new content added to the Koori Curriculum Club is included.

Let's dive into some of the learning pathways already available in the Koori Curriculum Club membership.

To learn more about the KC Club or to become a member scan the QR code





Learning Pathways



Pedagogy Learning Pathway:

Masterclasses:

- ✓ Liliology, Playing in the Space Between with Dr Nerida Blair
- ✓ The Power of Collective Truth with Dr Tyson Yunkaporta
- ✓ 8 Ways of Learning with Sally Lawrence

Webinar:

✓ Aboriginal Storytelling in Early Childhood

Book Club:

- ✓ Teaching Indigenous Students by Thelma Perso
- ✓ Privileging Australian Indigenous Knowledge by Dr Nerida Blair



Reconciliation Learning Pathway:

Masterclasses:

- ✓ Narragunnawali: From Safe to Brave with Esma Livermore & Tessa Keenan
- ✓ Reconciliation: Truth, Equity, Healing with Tristan Tipps-Webster & Joshua Mark Gilbert

Webinar:

✓ Reconciliation Action Plan

Fact Sheets:

- ✓ More than a word (National Reconciliation Week 2021 Theme)
- ✓ Be Brave. Make Change. (National Reconciliation Week 2022 Theme)





PROGRAMMING,



& PEDAGOGY



The Koori Curriculums "Programming, Planning & Pedagogy" series are interactive sessions for educators who are responsible for guiding their teams Aboriginal programs.

In this four-part series Director of the Koori Curriculum Jessica Staines will support educators to:

- Plan for the inclusion of Aboriginal perspectives in their curriculum
- Explore Aboriginal pedagogies
- Create reconciliation commitment statements
- Develop a community connections list and understand the respectful protocols and processes for community engagement.

These sessions can be seen as a train-the-trainer program and will support Educational Leaders to:

- Get their team on the same page
- Use goal setting as an effective tool to help with accountability and share responsibilities
- Revisit and get the most out of their RAP
- Develop programming and planning processes to successfully embed Aboriginal perspectives in their curriculum.
- Understand and use Aboriginal pedagogies to shape and inform practice.

There are limited spaces available for this training, so get in quick to join Jess and build your ability to lead your team in being able to successfully embed Aboriginal perspectives throughout your school or early learning service.

Included in the ticket price is the Koori Curriculum yearly digital planning guide containing information about culturally important dates and all the templates that will be used throughout the session. This will be sent to you at no additional cost.

Scan the QR code to purchase tickets





There is no universal approach to Aboriginal programs in Education. Each team and educator enters this space having had unique relationships, experiences and opportunities which shape their confidence and capacity to connect with community and develop respectful programs with Aboriginal perspectives embedded. Koori Curriculum Coaching is tailored mentoring for individual educators or teams wanting specific support to overcome challenges or guidance in delving deeper into Aboriginal programs.

Educators who can benefit from mentoring with the Koori Curriculum:

- Have already taken personal accountability and responsibility to source information e.g. they have engaged in professional learning.
- Are able to commit to and prioritise Aboriginal programs for a period of time to gain momentum and lay foundations.
- Are open to feedback, unlearning and relearning. They acknowledge that not all conversations will be comfortable and not all roads are easy to travel down.
- Are able to dedicate time between sessions to implement strategies.

What can be covered in a KC Coaching session?

- Mentoring sessions can be used to create a Reconciliation Action Plan from scratch and/or discuss specific actions.
- Reconciliation Action Plan working group participation. It is recommended that RAP working groups have Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander representation on them. Koori Curriculum mentoring sessions can be used to have the Koori Curriculum guide and support your RAP working group.
- The creation of a "Community Connections List".
- Supporting relationships and connections between educators and their local Aboriginal community.
- Support in the development of cultural learning plans for children.
- Curriculum support and development.

Mentoring sessions are delivered virtually and sold in packages that can be individually booked in as required. However, we do suggest that if sessions are intended to be used for RAP working groups that you pre book and lock in dates ASAP to ensure availability.

Enquire about Koori Curriculum Coaching by scanning the QR code and booking your seat



The Koori Curriculum strongly recommends whole team training to get everyone on the same page regarding Aboriginal programs. Holding a professional development session for your team allows for collective pedagogical discussion, debate and critical reflection in a culturally safe space.

Director of the Koori Curriculum Jessica Staines delivers workshops on a range of different topics such as:

- Embedding Aboriginal Perspectives
- Aboriginal Art and Storytelling
- Building Community Connections
- Caring for Country
- Anti Bias Practices
- Exploring and Understanding Aboriginal Pedagogies
- Understanding EYLF Principle Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives

Jessica also curates customised sessions to suit teams specific needs and interests.

Team training can be delivered both in person or online and sessions range in duration from two hours to a whole day.

To learn more and receive a quote set up a call with a member of our team by scan the QR code below.











KOORI CURRICULUM Jarning irules

Koori Curriculum Yarning Circles are a space for like minded educators to connect and continue to build their cultural confidence and capacity.

Our Yarning Circles take place virtually once per month from March - August.

Educators will be joined by Director of the Koori Curriculum Jessica Staines and guest speakers who will provoke pedagogical discussions and respectful debates.

- Facilitated by Jessica Staines, Director of Koori Curriculum
- Yarns guided by Aboriginal thought leaders in education
- Six interactive sessions over six months
- Providing insight on different challenges and topics
- Curated cultural content for educators wanting to delve deeper into Aboriginal Education

Yarning Circle guests:

- Belinda Huntriss, Cultural Safety
- Michelle King, Early Years Learning Framework
- Aunty Nerida Blair, Aboriginal Pedagogy
- Jessica Staines, Director Koori Curriculum

Our Yarning Circles are interactive and we therefore ask that educators have their own device equipped with a working camera and microphone. If you prefer not to interact with others we suggest not choosing this offering and instead consider one of our pre recorded webinars.

In order to create a culturally safe space for educators to share the decision has been made not to record the sessions. We encourage you to take note of the days and times the sessions will be taking place and consider your availability to participate before registering.

Scan the QR code to reserve your spot at the Koori Curriculum Yarning Circles



The Yarning Circle Sessions:

28th March @6:30pm - Session Outline: Our yarning circle will begin by connecting with one another and learning about each others journeys so far. We will be exploring place based pedagogies and discussing programming and planning tools that educators can use to foreground their curriculum in culture.

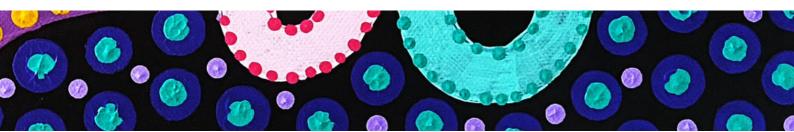
18th April @6:30pm - Session Outline: In this session we will be joined by Belinda Huntriss who will lead a discussion regarding culturally safe practices. Educators will be guided to critically reflect on their curriculum, policies, practices and procedures to determine what they do well and where there are opportunities for improvement.

16th May @6:30pm - Session Outline: Educators will be invited to explore Reconciliation in the Education. Jessica will highlight several mandatory actions that are part of Narragunnawalis Reconciliation Action Plan and provide insight and ideas on what works, what doesn't and how educators can delve deeper and move from "safe to brave".

13th June @6:30pm - Session Outline: Yarning Circle participants will be joined by guest speaker Michelle King who will lead a discussion about the Early Years Learning Framework and My Time Our Place Principle "Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives".

11th July @6:30pm - Session Outline: Educators will be joined by guest speaker Aunty Nerida Blair who will lead a discussion about Aboriginal pedagogy.

15th August @6:30pm - Session Outline: In our final Yarning Circle educators will be encouraged to reflect on our collective learning experience and develop a plan for what will come next.





Family Day Care Challenge



Are you a Family Day Care Educator seeking ways to meaningfully embed an Aboriginal perspective in your program? The Koori Curriculum has developed a tenday challenge to help lay a strong foundation and get you off and running.

Our ten-day challenge:

- Supports educators to unpack why embedding Aboriginal perspectives is important
- Assists educators to create a meaningful Acknowledgement of Country
- Demonstrates how Aboriginal perspectives can be embedded within children's interests
- Tips for creating a bush tucker garden
- Provides prompts and templates that can be used for reflection such as the Koori Curriculum Resource Audit
- Support in goal setting and writing a Reconciliation Statement

And much more!

Our Ten Day Family Dare Care Challenge is a combination of guides, resources and videos developed by Director of the Koori Curriculum Jessica Staines specifically for Family Dare Care Educators.

This program is being run exclusively on Facebook where educators will gain LIFETIME ACCESS to the content and community all for the cost of only \$10.

The content is available for self-paced learning. Educators may wish to complete the ten steps in ten days or in a time frame that is better suited to them.

Access the Family Day Care 10-Day Challenge by scanning the QR code



1st January: New Year's Day

14th February: Valentine's Day

3rd March: World Wildlife Day

3rd March: Clean Up Australia Day

8th March: International Women's Day

21st March: Harmony Day

21st March: International Day for the Elimination

of Racial Discrimination

21st March: International Day of Forests

22nd March: World Water Day

23rd March: World Mathematics Day

7th April: World Health Day

22nd April: World Earth Day

23rd April: World Book Day

25th April: ANZAC Day

2nd May: Baby Day

11th May: Hairy-Nosed Day

12th May: Mother's Day

20th May: World Bee Day

23rd May: Turtle Day

24th May: Brothers Day

5th June: World Environment Day

8th June: Best Friends Day

8th June: World Oceans Day

29th June: International Day of the Tropics

7th July: Tell the Truth Day

16th July: World Snake Day

29th July: Rain Day

30th July: International Friendship Day

31st July: National Tree Day

August: Platypus Month
9th August: Book Lovers Day
10th-18th August: Science Week
17th to 23rd August: Book Week
21st August: Senior Citizens Day
30th August: Wear it Purple Day

1st September: Father's Day 7th September: Threatened Species Day 26th September: World Maritime Day

7th October: World Habitat Day
4th-8th October: Australian Wildlife Week
15th October: International Day of Rural Women
16th October: World Food Day
17th October: International Day for the
Eradication of Poverty
21st-27th October: National Bird Week
21st-27th October: Aussie Backyard Bird Count

October (3rd Week): National Water Week

Please note: care has gone into checking these dates, however, some may change without notice

November: Pollinator Week

November (2nd Week): National Recycling Week

10th November: World Science Day for Peace and

Development

11th November: Remembrance Day

13th November: Kindness Day

15th November: Anniversary of Marriage Equality

Vote

20th November: Universal Children's Day

1st December: World AIDS Day

2nd December: International Day for the

Abolition of Slavery

3rd December: Let's Hug Day

5th December: World Soil Day

10th December: International Animal Rights Day

Please note: care has gone into checking these dates, however, some may change without notice