

# SA Aboriginal Contexts in Science initiative: Indigenous cultural and intellectual property

A guideline for teaching South Australian Aboriginal historical and cultural contexts within the Australian Curriculum science units

## What is the initiative?

The South Australian Aboriginal Contexts in Science is an initiative of the SA Department for Education, aligned with the Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019 to 2029. This initiative contextualises Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) Science elaborations. These examples draw on the science knowledge of multiple South Australian Aboriginal Nations. Curriculum Development representatives worked closely with Aboriginal community members to support them to share, where appropriate and with permission, their science knowledge, and ways of knowing for inclusion within Australian Curriculum: Science 7-10 units of work.

## How were the resources developed to respectfully and accurately capture Aboriginal knowledges and ways of knowing?

Cultural and Intellectual Property Protocols (ICIP Protocols) were developed in conjunction with Terri Janke and Company (True Tracks®) to acknowledge the cultural value in the knowledge and cultural expression shared by representatives from SA Aboriginal Nations.

These protocols consultation and consent processes were followed when developing the teaching and learning resources with community representatives to:

- support the rights of Aboriginal Nations to control and protect their knowledge and cultural expression
- collect and record scientific knowledge, and adapt knowledge and collected materials into teaching and learning resources
- obtain consent for the use of the developed teaching and learning resources in schools.

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Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Education

## Using the teaching and learning resources

The Aboriginal content developed with SA Aboriginal Nations within the Australian Curriculum Science units has been approved for the purpose of teaching and learning within schools.

Teachers may not use the ICIP knowledge for their own purposes without the prior written permission of the Department for Education and the relevant Aboriginal Nation. This includes:

- adapting the ICIP knowledge or making other resources
- exploring commercial opportunities such as books and/or films, develop pharmaceuticals or other products.

### Useful links

Video: True Tracks: Create a culture of innovation with Indigenous knowledge, Terri Janke, TEDxJCUCarins <[www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfS11\\_Dl6ew](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfS11_Dl6ew)>.

What is Indigenous knowledge?: <<https://www.ipaustralia.gov.au/understanding-ip/indigenous-knowledge-ip>>.

Department for Education Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019 to 2029, Department for Education, Government of South Australia <<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/department/strategies-and-plans/aboriginal-education-strategy-2019-2029>>.