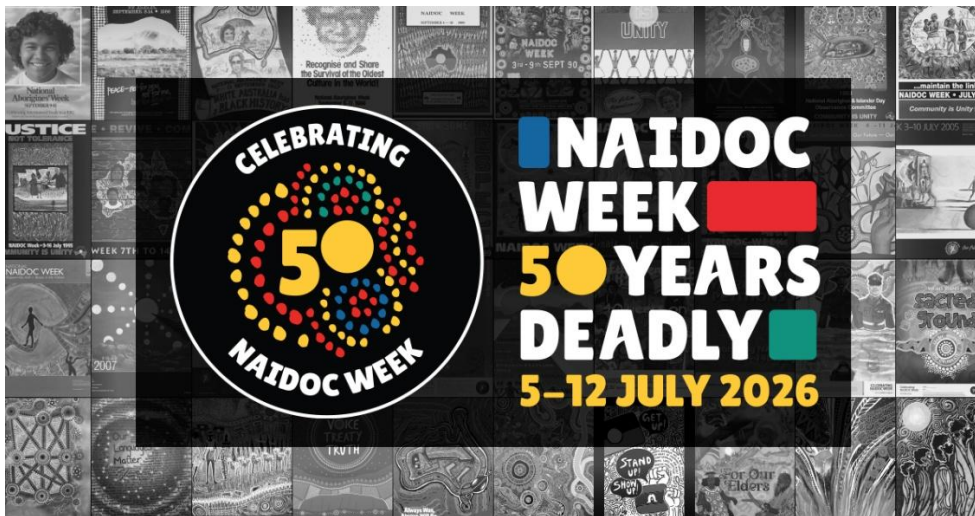


2026

NAIDOC WEEK



An Annotated Bibliography

‘The National NAIDOC Committee has today unveiled its 2026 national theme, [50 Years of Deadly](#), marking five decades of NAIDOC Week, a week dedicated to amplifying and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures. For fifty years, NAIDOC themes have spoken to survival, resistance, culture and pride. They have honoured Elders and leaders, celebrated creativity, and challenged the nation to listen, reckon and act. Each theme has marked a moment in time, capturing where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were, and where the country needs to pay attention.

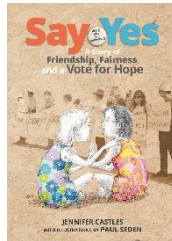
50 Years of Deadly is both a reflection and a declaration. It acknowledges the strength it has taken to reach this milestone, not by chance, but because generations of people refused to be silenced. It recognises the organisers, artists, activists and communities who carried NAIDOC forward year after year, ensuring it remained grounded in culture and community.’

© National NAIDOC Committee

National Indigenous Times 22 June 2026 ‘Explainer: What is NAIDOC Week’
<https://nit.com.au/22-06-2026/24810/explainer-what-is-naidoc-week>

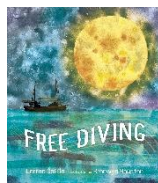
This bibliography was created for the 2026 NAIDOC Week – ‘50 Years of Deadly’. It tries to capture books that reflect and also celebrate Australia’s First Nations history and Culture.

Where available links have been provided to the entries in NCACL’s *Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Resource*.



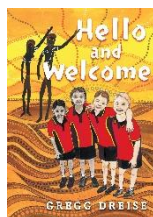
1. CASTLES, Jennifer. Illustrated by Paul Seden
Say Yes. A Story of Friendship, Fairness and a Vote for Hope. Allen & Unwin, 2017. ISBN: 9781760294670.

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/say-yes-a-story-of-friendship-fairness-and-a-vote-for-hope/



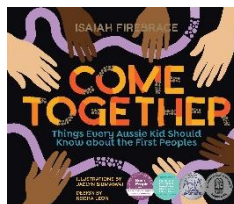
2. COFFIN, Lorrae. Illustrated by Bronwyn Houston
Free Diving. Magabala Books, 2027. ISBN: 9781925360738

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/free-diving/



3. DREISE, Gregg.
Hello and Welcome. Puffin Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781760898328

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/hello-and-welcome/



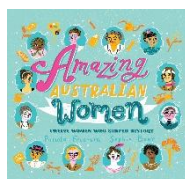
4. FIREBRACE, Isaiah. Illustrated by Jaelyn Biumaiwai
Come Together: Things every Aussie Kid Should know about the First People. Hardie Grant Explore, 2022. ISBN: 9781741178166

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/come-together-things-every-aussie-kid-should-know-about-the-first-peoples/



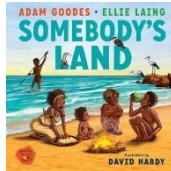
5. FIREBRACE, Isaiah. Illustrated by Jaelyn Biumaiwai
Come Together: A Celebration of First Nations Music, Song and Dance. Hardie Grant Explore, 2024. ISBN: 9781741179019

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/come-together-again-a-celebration-of-first-nations-music-song-and-dance/

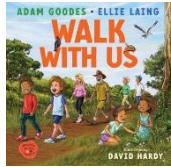


6. FREEMAN, Pamela. Illustrated by Sophie Beer
Amazing Australian Women: Twelve Women Who Shaped History. Lothian Children’s Book, 2018. ISBN: 9780734418456

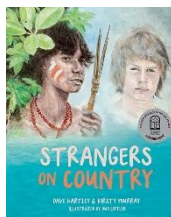
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/amazing-australian-women-twelve-women-who-shaped-history/



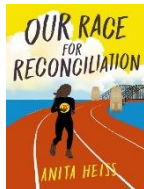
7. GOODES, Adam & LAING, Ellie. Illustrated by David Hardy
Somebody's Land. Allen & Unwin, 2021. ISBN: 9781760526726
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/somebodys-land/



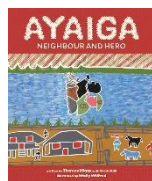
8. GOODES, Adam & LAING, Ellie. Illustrated by David Hardy
Walk with Us. Allen & Unwin, 2023. ISBN: 9781761065071
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/walk-with-us/



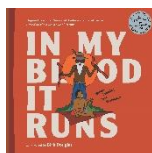
9. HARTLEY, Dave & Murray, Kirsty. Illustrated by Dub Leffler
Strangers on Country. NLA Publishing, 2020. ISBN: 9780642279552
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/strangers-on-country/



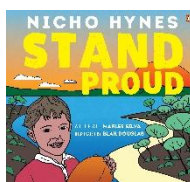
10. HEISS, Anita
Our Race for Reconciliation. Omnibus Books, 2017. ISBN: 9781760276119
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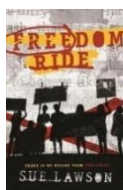
11. HIGGS, Thomas with HALL, Colin. Illustrated by Wally Wilfred
Ayaiga: Neighbour and Hero. National Library of Australia Publishing, 2026. ISBN: 9781922507785
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/ayaiga-neighbour-and-hero/



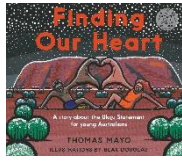
12. HOOSAN, Djuuan. Anderson, Margaret & Turner, Carol. Illustrated by Blak Douglas
In My Blood It Runs. Pan Macmillan Australia. ISBN: 9781761263774
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/in-my-blood-it-runs/



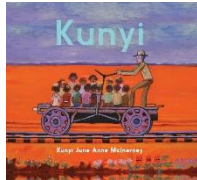
13. HYNES, Nicho & SILVA Marlee. Illustrated By Black Douglas
Stand Proud. Penguin Random House, 2024. ISBN: 9781761341335
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/stand-proud/



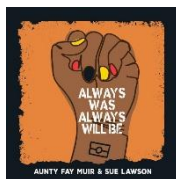
14. LAWSON, Sue
Freedom Ride. Black Dog Books, 2015. ISBN: 9781925126365
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/freedom-ride/



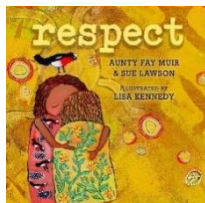
15. MAYO, Thomas. Illustrated by Black Douglas
Finding Our Heart: A story about the Uluru Statement for young Australians. Hardie Grant Travel, 2020. ISBN: 9781741177176
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/finding-our-heart/



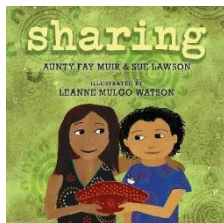
16. McINERNEY, Kunyi June Anne
Kunyi. Magabala Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781925936575
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/kunyi/



17. MUIR, Aunty Fay & LAWSON, Sue.
Always Was Always Will Be. Magabala Books, 2024. ISBN: 9781922777614
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/always-was-always-will-be/



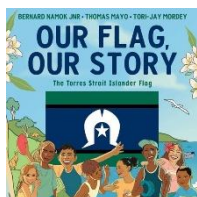
18. MUIR, Aunty Fay & LAWSON, Sue. Illustrated by Lisa Kennedy
Respect. Magabala Books, 2020. ISBN: 978192
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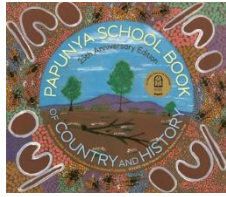
19. MUIR, Aunty Fay & LAWSON, Sue. Illustrated by Leanne Mungo Watson
Sharing. Magabala Books, 2021. ISBN: 978192568749
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/sharing/



20. NAMATJIRA, Vincent
Albert Namatjira. Magabala Books, 2021. ISBN: 978925936216
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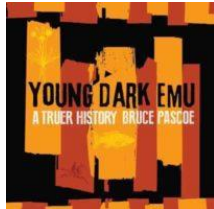


21. NAMOK, Bernard Jnr & MAYO, Thomas. Illustrated by Tori-Jay Mordey
Our Flag, Our Story; The Torres Strait Islander Flag. Magabala Books, 2024. ISBN: 9781922613509
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/our-flag-our-story-the-torres-strait-islander-flag/



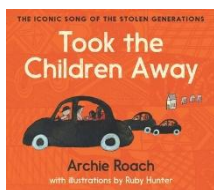
22. PAPUNYA SCHOOL. Illustrated by Mary Malbunka & Punata
23. Stockman
Papunya School Book of Country and History. Allen & Unwin, 2001.
ISBN: 186508526X

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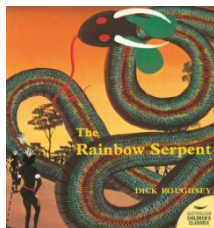
24. PASCOE, Bruce
Young Dark Emu. Magabala Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781925360844

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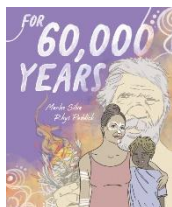
25. ROACH, Archie. Illustrated by Ruby Hunter
Took the Children Away. Simon & Schuster, 2020. ISBN:
9781760857219

https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/took-the-children-away/



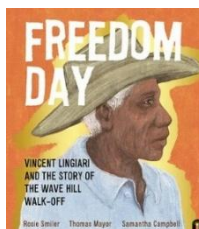
26. ROUGHSEY, Dick
The Rainbow Serpent. Angus & Robertson, 2011. ISBN:
9780207174339

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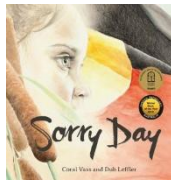
27. SILVA, Marlee. Illustrated by Rhys Paddock
For 60,000 Years. Scholastic Press, 2024.

Created as a poetic response to the 26 January arrival of British colonists to Australia. Told from an Indigenous perspective, it tells of the impact the colonists had on Aboriginal people taking their land, their Culture and their children. Despite this Indigenous people have survived and thrived and will continue to do so for 60,000 years more.

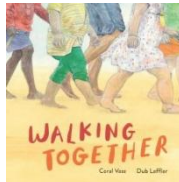


28. SMILER, Rosie & MAYOR, Thomas. Illustrated by Samantha Campbell
Freedom Day. Bright Light, 2021. ISBN: 9781760508562

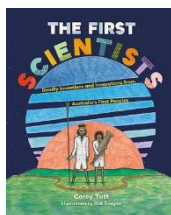
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/freedom-day-vincent-lingiari-and-the-story-of-the-wave-hill-walk-off/



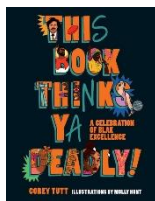
29. VASS, Coral. Illustrated Dub Leffler
Sorry Day. NLA Publishing, 2018. ISBN: 9780642279033.
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/sorry-day/



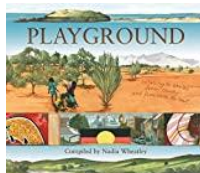
30. VASS, Coral. Illustrated by Dub Leffler
Walking Together. Scholastic Press, 2024. ISBN: 9781761126260.
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/walking-together/



31. TUTT, Corey. Illustrated by Blak Douglas
The First Scientists : Deadly Inventions and Innovations from Australia's First People. Hardie Grant Explore, 2021. ISBN: 978174177527
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/the-first-scientists-deadly-inventions-and-innovations-from-australias-first-people/



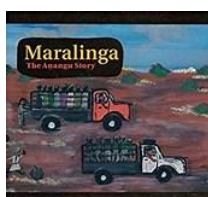
32. TUTT, Corey. Illustrated by Molly Hunt
This Book Thinks Ya Deadly!: A Celebration of Blak Excellence. Hardie Grant Explore, 2023. ISBN: 9781741178159
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/this-book-thinks-ya-deadly-a-celebration-of-blak-excellence/



33. WHEATLEY, Nadia (Compiler). Illustrated by Ken Searle
Playground: Listening to Stories from Country and from inside the heart. Allen & Unwin, 2011. ISBN: 9781742370972
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/playground/



34. WYLD, Karen. Illustrated by Jaelyn Biunaiwai
Heroes, Rebels and Innovators: Inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People from History. Lothian Children's Books, 2021. ISBN: 9780734419835
https://www.ncacl.org.au/atsi_resource/heroes-rebels-and-innovators-inspiring-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-people-from-history/



35. YALATA and OAK VALLEY Communities with Christobel Mattingly.
Maralinga: The Anangu Story. Allen & Unwin, 2009. ISBN: 97817417556210