

Life on the Murray River

Activity 1

View the 'Life on the Murray River' VR tour at www.lsv.com.au/vr

LEVELS 3 & 4



Key Learning

During this activity, students will read a story from Ngarrindjeri Country, which is located close to the mouth of the Murray River in South Australia. Students will then consider the main ideas and sequence of events to create a storyboard for 'The Ngurunderi Dreaming'.



Resources

- Appendix A: *The Ngurunderi Dreaming* – Storyboard Template



Engage

- Explain to students that cultures all around the world use stories to entertain or explain.
- Ask them to THINK (think alone), PAIR (discuss with a partner), SHARE (share their thoughts with the group) about stories that are told in their family or community and whether the purpose is to entertain or to explain something.



Explore

- Read [The Ngurunderi Dreaming](#) together as a class.
- Discuss as a whole group:
- What was the purpose of this story?
 - What does the story show us about the relationship between the Ngarrindjeri people and the river/land?
 - Can you give any examples from the story that demonstrate this relationship? For example, using bark to build canoes.



Curriculum

History – Historical Knowledge

Community, remembrance and celebrations

Levels 3 & 4

- One significant narrative, myths or celebration from the past ([VCHHK075](#))

Reading

Interpreting, analysing, evaluating
Level 3

- Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning and begin to evaluate texts by drawing on a growing knowledge of context, text structures and language features ([VCELY257](#))

Level 4

- Use comprehension strategies to build literal and inferred meaning to expand content knowledge, integrating and linking ideas and analysing and evaluating texts ([VCELY288](#))



Explain

- As a class, identify the most important events and parts of the story. List these on the whiteboard for the class to see. In pairs, students are to select and write down the six main events in their books to assist with their storyboard activity later.



Elaborate

- Students work independently, using Appendix A: *The Ngurunderi Dreaming – Storyboard Template* and their notes to create a storyboard.



Evaluate

Students share their storyboards with classmates or a younger/buddy class. Later, discuss as a group:

- What went well? What was difficult or a challenge?
- Do you think it is important to share stories like this today? Why/why not?



References

Discover Murray River, 2009-2018. *Ngurunderi - Dreaming of the Ngarrindjeri People Murray River*, <http://www.murrayriver.com.au/about-the-murray/ponde-dreamtime> [viewed 05 July 2021]

Appendix A The Ngurunderi Dreaming – Storyboard Template

Create a storyboard by drawing the main events from the story in the boxes below and including a short caption for each.

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