



Working Together

**WE ARE THE
WORK
FORCE
COUNCIL**

ENERGISING HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SINCE 1992

**Intentional
Yarns**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



**WELCOME TO
COUNTRY**



**FIRST
CUSTODIANS**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Today's session

- What is culture?
- What's your intention? What's your motivation?
- Role of the educator
- Connection through yarning

A tool for today – Deadly Cards

- Action Research project -> *“what is at the heart of acknowledging Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples and embedding cultural practices in our community?”*
- Enabled connections with local traditional custodians, elders and community
- Educators critically reflected upon assumptions, bias, cultural competence and ideology
- Pedagogy of storytelling

A tool for today - Yarning

“A credible process of teaching, learning, engaging and sustaining connections.”

(REF)

What is culture?

“ a very broad definition of culture is that it refers to the things we do to negotiate our identities. It is a process, a lived experience and an ongoing practice. Culture is created by individuals and groups and is passed on in some form from generation to generation. Culture can differ from group to group but also from person to person based on beliefs, values, attitudes and social structures.

These might include: thinking, talking, acting, access to resources, beliefs, faiths, practices, customs, way to live, art, sport, language, food, geographical region, education, laws, class, country of birth, mass culture, media culture to name a few! In other words, culture is everything we do and are!”

Miriam Giugni, 2007,

Exploring Multiculturalism, Anti Bias and Social Justice In Children’s Services pp6-7



Beyond Culture (1976) by Edward T. Hall.

Implications of our own connection to culture

“Culturally competent individuals are likely to have, among other things, a strong knowledge of how their own culture shapes their attitudes, perceptions and behaviour and an awareness of the limited value of stereotyping”.

Educators Guide to the Early Years Learning Framework (2010)

What's intentionality got to do with it?

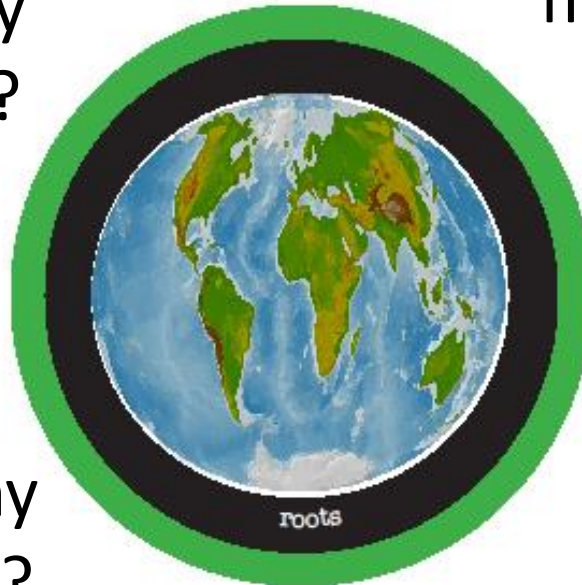
*“Explaining to somebody of a different culture how your own culture exists and works is not easy. It is like explaining how your language works to somebody who doesn't speak it and whose own language works very differently. We are programmed as children to soak it all in from our family, friends and neighbours... **we take our culture for granted. It permeates our very being, it sits in our bellies rather than our heads. It is just there... in our subconscious.** It is much more about emotions and feelings than about rational thinking”*

B and D Nungarrayi Price, 'Cross-cultural Issues – A practical approach to working with and managing Aboriginal employees in the work place'

Roots

Where is my connection?

What are my family ways?



What are my roots?

What is my knowledge to share?



Connections

Find a card that gives a glimpse of what connection looks like to you

“Through yarning, reflecting and adapting our current world views; new insights, awareness, purposeful action and new practices becomes possible”

Margie Carter, 2014

Yarning About Connection...

- Why did you choose this card?
- Explore the other questions on your card
- Do any of the prompts make you think about application of inclusive practices to your work, or current practices that you need to rethink?

The role of the educator

- Understands the context of their community
- Has considered the impact their own identity and connection to country might have on connections with others
- Is able to engage in meaningful dialogue with others (yarning) – this includes skills like using open ended questions, active listening and following up

The role of the educator

- Willing to look engage with literature and reflective practice
- Views community as a strong resource, not a deficit
- Proactive in their inclusive practice
- Has genuine intention and motivation
- Must be willing to action new insights or understanding

First Steps

From little things
big things grow

Getting started
is a process



What am I
doing?

Change involves
taking a leap of
faith

What are my journey's first steps?

HEALTHY EARLY CHILDHOOD
HOSPITALS DISABILITY
AND HEALTHY FAMILIES
INDIGENOUS SERVICES
CHILDHOOD
AGED CARE
COUNSELLING
HEALTH AND MENTAL
COMMUNITY HEALTH
SERVICES
ORAL HEALTH DISABILITY



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The Workforce Council
acknowledges Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander peoples as the
original inhabitants of Australia and
recognises these unique cultures as part
of the cultural heritage of all Australians.
We pay our respect to the Elders
of this land, past, present
and future.

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