

Topic I: Appendix I

Students' Special Places

My Special Place

My special place is under the house in the cellar. It is very quiet. The light is dim, but it will do. It is cold and damp but it helps me think. Sometimes it heats up from the stove above. So this is my special place. It's dark and gloomy and it keeps me quite in touch. I like it very much.

Lachlan Mitchell, 9
Swan Hill Primary School, Swan Hill, Vic

Water = Life, Murray-Darling Basin Commission & Primary English Teaching Association, 2002

My Favourite Place

My favourite place is the banks of the Murray River. Sometimes on Friday night after school I like to go down to the river banks with my dad and Uncle Martin.

I like to lie on the grass and look at my surroundings. The sorts of things I can see are reeds gently swaying in the breeze. I also can see boats gently floating by. I like to watch the pelicans land because they tuck in their wings, stick out their feet and skid to a halt.

I close my eyes and can hear the peaceful sounds of the waves lapping the shore and rustling of the reeds. I can hear merry sounds of children laughing and playing.

I like this spot because it is normally peaceful and quiet

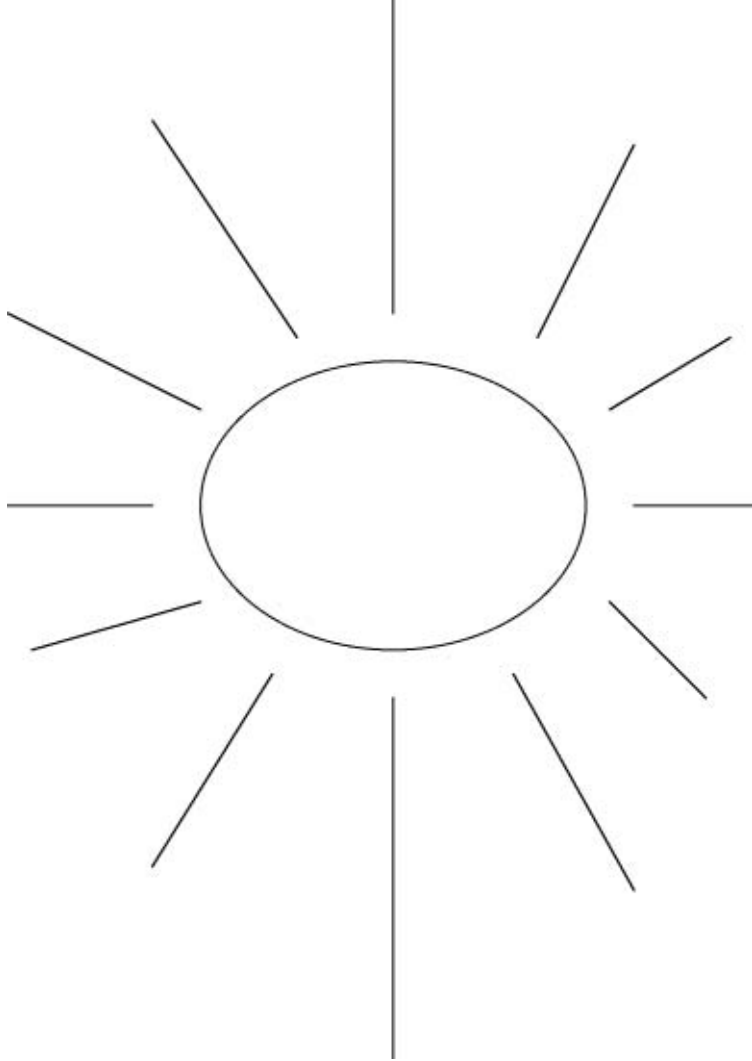
Amanda Pengilly, 8
Goolwa Public School, Goolwa, SA

Rivers Forever, Murray-Darling Basin Commission & Primary English Teaching Association, 2000



Sample mind map

Add words



Caring for Place – Caring for Country



Topic 2: Appendix 3

My Country by Connie Ah See – Part 1

All Aboriginal people belong to a place they call Country.



The Pinnacles Desert in Nambung National Park WA which belongs to the Yuat and Wajuk language groups

The area of land, river and sea is the traditional land of each Aboriginal Language group or community.



Topic 2: Appendix 3 continued

In Australia there are around 300 Aboriginal Countries.

These Countries have their own Language.



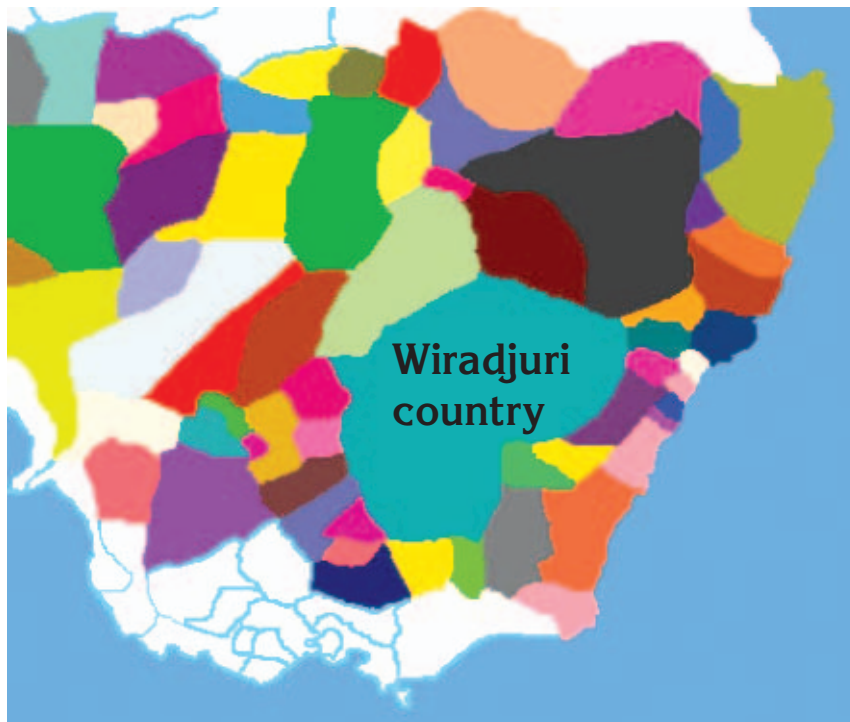
Caring for Place – Caring for Country



Topic 2: Appendix 3 continued

Koori is another word for Aboriginal. Other words Murri and Gurri. Find out what the word is for your area.

Kooris from my part of NSW call their Place where our spirit lives, Wiradjuri. Wiradjuri is our Language too.



This is our Country, our Place.



Topic 2: Appendix 3 continued

At the moment I do not live in my Country. In 1997 I moved from my Country to work in the city.



Paul and Connie

Eora is the name of the Aboriginal people that belong to the Country where I live now.

It is known as Eora Country.

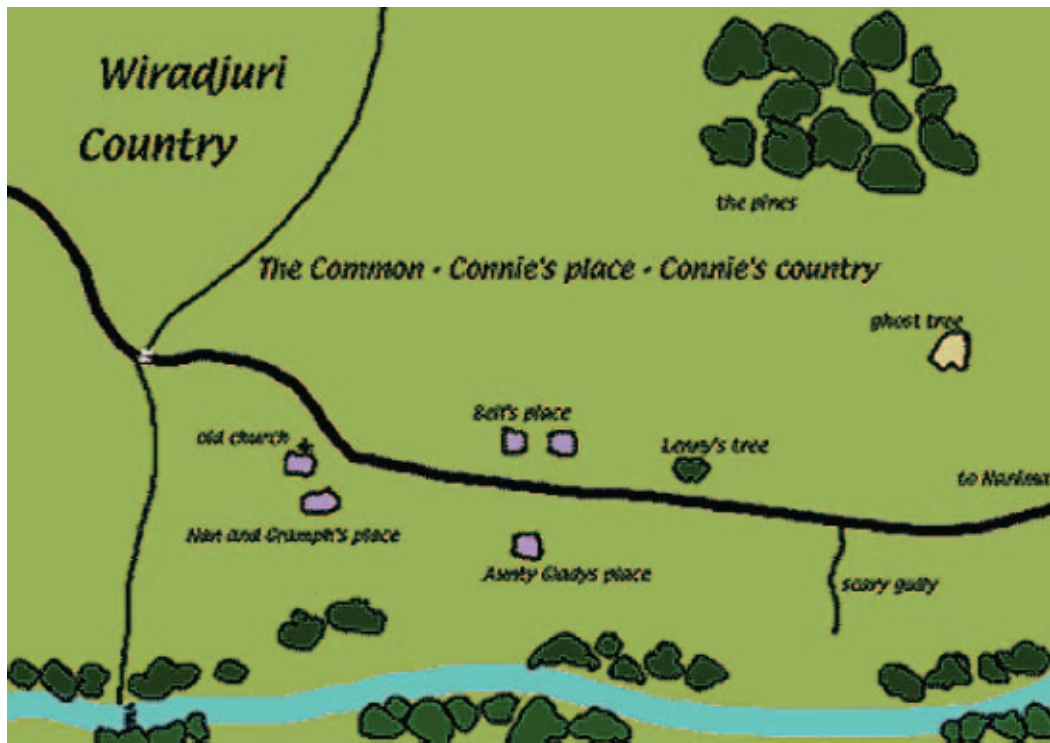
Caring for Place – Caring for Country



Topic 2: Appendix 3 continued

My work means that I need to stay in Eora Country for a while.

But I visit my Country whenever I can.



That way, my family and I can take the children to our special place to learn about the old ways.



Topic 2: Appendix 3

Part 2

1. We look after our Country in special ways. Sometimes, 'looking after Country' means just going back there to clean the bush and the river. It means looking after my people too. Looking after Country means, most importantly, to keep the special connection with my Country - my special Place and my people.

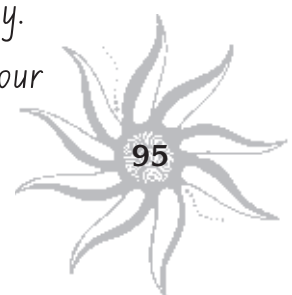
2. Sometimes when I am sitting alone, I start to think of my Country ... I think of my family, about the kids playing by the river and going fishing. I think about Mum talking to us about the old times, about our people, and the stories they used to tell.

3. But there won't be any fishing or playing by the river if we don't look after our Country. There won't be any stories to tell.

4. Often I visit other places. While in these places I can still see things that remind me of my country: the landscape, the rivers, the trees. Mountains and hills surround my Country; it has lush bushland all around.

5. Talking to other Kooris in the city makes me think of my family back in our Country, our Place.

6. As a small girl, I was shown special places in my Country. My Nan used to tell me stories about those places in our Wiradjuri Country. She would tell all of us about the importance of the old people, our Elders, and the Dreaming.



7. The Dreaming to us is all about who we are, how we began and how we have survived.

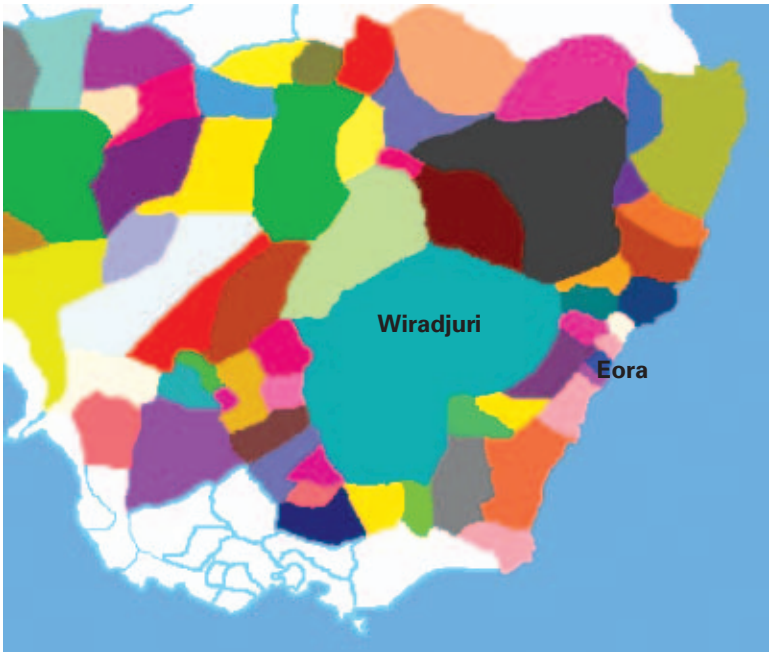
8. One day I might tell you about some of these Dreaming stories and then you can help look after my special Place as well as your own special place.



Topic 2: Appendix 4

Language maps

Indigenous Nations map of Australia



Aboriginal NSW map

Caring for Place – Caring for Country



Topic 2: Appendix 5

Aboriginal languages and Countries in NSW

Bagandji	also spelt	Barkindji Bagandji Paakantyi Baakantji
Gamilaroi	also spelt	Kamilaroi Gamilaraay Gamilroy
Dharug	also spelt	Dharuk
Tharawal	also spelt	Dharawal

Note: The language map used on this page to identify Aboriginal Nations is one of many Aboriginal language maps available. Consult with your local Aboriginal community to ensure accuracy of information and preferred spelling for local Aboriginal language.

