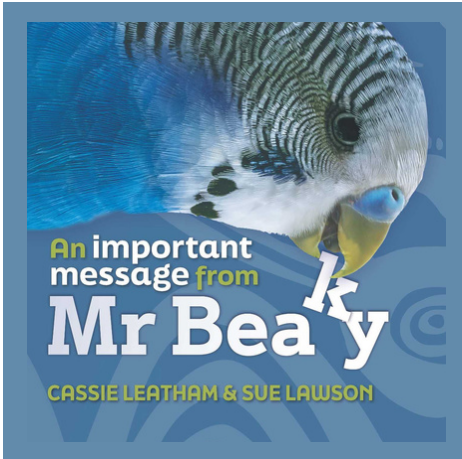


An important message from Mr Beaky



An important message from Mr Beaky by **Cassie Leatham** and **Sue Lawson** is a book about identity and heritage and being confident in your skin.

Mr Beaky is a native budgie who has an important message to share about what it means to be an Aboriginal person in Australia today. Join Mr Beaky as he shares some words in Taungurung language and stories about caring for Country.

Curriculum Links: HASS, Literacy, Intercultural Understanding, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

Age Range: K-Year 6



ACTIVITY: SEE, CONNECT, GROW

What important message can we learn from Mr Beaky?

This activity invites students to look closely and extend on their thinking by asking questions.

Read

Read *An important message from Mr Beaky*. Discuss the big ideas in the book with students. What does the story make them think about or wonder? Extend students to consider what else is going on here in the story.

See

Select a page in the book to analyse more closely. Give students time to observe, re-read the text, and look closely at the illustrations.

- Ask:**
- What do you **see**?
 - Identify five things you notice.
 - Look again, find another five.

Connect

Invite students to expand on their observations to encourage deeper thinking and connections.

- Ask:**
- What do you think about that?
 - What **connections** are you making?

Grow

Encourage students to consider where do we go from here. How can students grow their knowledge and understanding after reading this book?

- Ask:**
- What can we **learn** from this book?
 - What can we **do now**?



An important message from Mr Beaky

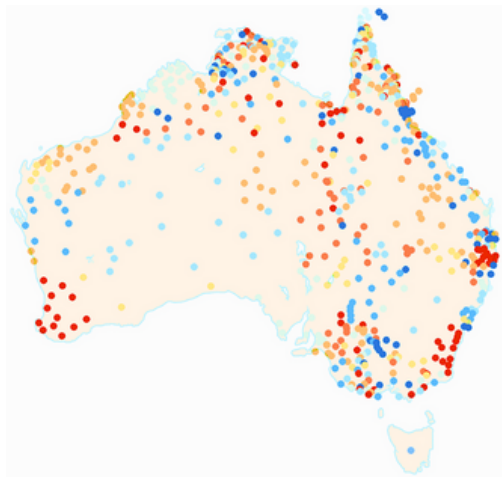
EXTENSION ACTIVITY: LOCAL LANGUAGES

Language helps people to connect to the world around them and develop relationships with other people. It is important to recognise that Indigenous languages are threatened in Australia and affirmative action is needed to preserve this rich cultural history.

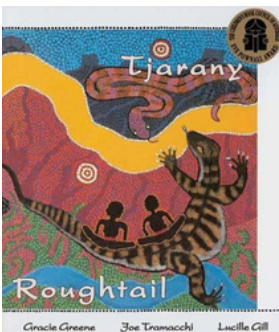
This activity explores the significance of first languages and invites students to look deeper into their local community.

1. Using the Glossary page at the end of the book, **explore the language that is used in the book** and how Mr Beaky is helping to revive First Nations languages.
2. Ask students if they know what language is spoken by the traditional custodians of the **local area where they live**. If no, direct the class to the Gambay- First Languages Map (<https://gambay.com.au/>) to discover the local language.
3. **Research** the local language, students to come up with a list of words they could incorporate into their daily lives, e.g., doing an acknowledgement in language, greetings, saying please and thank you.

- *How can students promote reconciliation and continuation of Indigenous cultures?*
- *How can we celebrate each other's differences and heritage?*



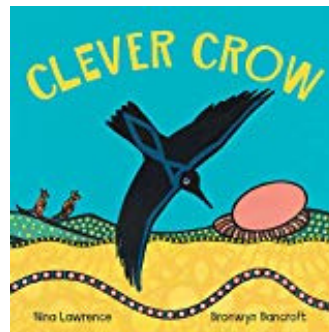
Other texts that focus on First Nations languages:



Tjarany Roughtail
Gracie Greene Joe Tramacchi
Illustrated by Lucille Gill



Our Dreaming
By: Kirli Saunders,
Dub Leffler (Illustrator)



Clever Crow
Nina Lawrence Illustrated
by Bronwyn Bancroft



Ngana ngai - Who Am I
by Susan Hall & Susan
Hallityanungku