

Embedding Aboriginal perspectives into your National Tree Day event

for secondary teachers

With National Tree Day coming up, there's no better time than now to make your event a 'deadly' one (in a good way, we promise).

Teaching Aboriginal perspectives should form a crucial part of your National Tree Day event, as caring for Country and sustainable land practices has been a part of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander cultures in Australia from the start of time here.

Fortunately, Planet Ark has teamed up with us at Deadly Ed to ensure all teachers and educators have the confidence, knowledge and resources to include Aboriginal perspectives across their National Tree Day initiatives.

Follow these free activities as outlined below, we have sorted into what to do before, during and after your National Tree Day event to ensure you and all your students have a 'deadly' learning experience

DEADLY (*definition*)

In our mob, deadly doesn't mean dangerous. It means everything good, awesome, and wicked.

For more on National Tree Day, follow Planet Ark on Instagram & Facebook:

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IN THE LEAD UP TO NATIONAL TREE DAY

1. Get your students in the zone of understanding the connections between land sea and sky of your local area with our lesson [here](#)
2. Introduce [yarning circles](#) to your classroom
3. Download and have your students complete our '[Yarning about Country in the Classroom](#)' activities
4. Download our [Native garden starter kit](#) to teach your students about how First Nations cultures categorise native plants into these uses. Get them outside to find what native plants you may already have in your school and what categorise they might fit into
5. Have your students create your garden space with native plants they would like to plant for your National Tree Day event. Either design a trail or a space that's segmented with plants from the 3-4 different categories
6. Think about inviting your local Aboriginal community in for your National Tree Day event. See [this guide](#) on how to respectfully communicate with Elders



ON NATIONAL TREE DAY

1. Start your event with either you or a keen student to do an Acknowledgement of Country. If you haven't done so, develop your own [here](#)
2. To make your National Tree Day even more 'deadly', get your students to create a recipe using native foods. Get them to make up a [damper](#) and try with some native jams
3. After you've got all the plants in the ground, get your students to do our [paper pots activity](#). That way they can grow their own native plant at home!



AFTER NATIONAL TREE DAY

1. Download and have your students complete the [Native Plant hunt lesson](#)
2. Be sure to checkout our [school cultural immersions](#) and other cultural programs for more ways we can support you and your students in learning more about our Aboriginal cultures!
3. To continue your students learning of connecting with country, including the history & significance of a Welcome to Country and acknowledging country, watch this [video](#) from Back to Nature