

**Did you
know?**

**Aboriginal
Languages are
diverse and
represent different
lands and People.**

**There are over 100
Aboriginal Languages
and dialects* that come
from the land we now
call NSW.**

*Source: AIATSIS Austlang database
<https://collection.aiatsis.gov.au/austlang/search>

NSW Aboriginal Languages Week

20 - 27 October 2024

#LANGUAGESALIVECULTURETHRIVES



Did you know?

From 1909 to 1969 government policies on Aboriginal education stopped Aboriginal children from speaking their Languages.

As a result, many Aboriginal Languages in NSW fell silent.

Today, Aboriginal Communities are reclaiming their Languages by sharing knowledge, teaching and learning, and accessing archived Language materials like recordings.

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Did you know?

Aboriginal Languages are embedded in kinship, songs, stories and ceremony.

These are considered a sacred expression of Country and Dreaming.

Aboriginal Language Groups express their stories in their Languages through song and dance.

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Did you know?

Aboriginal Languages use different sounds and pronunciations to Australian English.

For example, many Aboriginal Languages roll the letter 'rr' to make a trill sound. This is done by vibrating the tongue behind the top of the teeth.

Other Languages use the 'ng' sound found in words like 'singer' at the start of their words.

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**Seven years
ago, on 24
October 2017**

**The NSW
Aboriginal Languages
Act was passed through
NSW Parliament.**

**This notable legislation
was the first in Australia to
acknowledge the significance of
First Languages and seeks to promote,
nurture and grow Aboriginal
Languages across NSW.**

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