

'8 Ways' Indigenous Learning Framework and ReadingOURWay

The "8 Ways" Aboriginal pedagogy framework is expressed as eight interconnected pedagogies involving narrative-driven learning, visualised learning processes, hands-on/reflective techniques, use of symbols/metaphors, land-based learning, indirect/synergistic logic, modelled/scaffolded genre mastery, and connectedness to community. But these can change in different settings. Every place, every People, has its own unique pedagogies. These 8 simple ones are merely a starting point for dialogue. Each area can produce its own unique frameworks for Aboriginal education through dialogue with the community about local ways of doing things.

"8 Ways" is a pedagogical framework that seeks to include aboriginal perspectives through indigenous learning techniques.

As the framework states, pedagogies such as 'visualised learning processes' and 'use of symbols/metaphors' and 'modelled/scaffolded genre mastery' would all be supported through the inclusion of the 'Reading Our Way' program.

'Reading Our Way' supports visual learners through the 'whole word' approach to reading. Students learn to read the whole word, visually identifying the shape of the word to make a link with the word it represents. 'Reading Our Way' uses a series of familiar and commonly used words in flash card form to teach reading through a variety of activities. The Foundation set of words are accompanied by pictures and symbols to aid in word learning, context and connection to self.

The extension kit allows students to learn words that are relevant to their area of study, by supplying blank flash cards for teachers to give a more specific educational word bank.

These are just a few ways that 'Reading Our Way' would assist the indigenous Australian community to learn to read based off the "8 Ways" learning framework.

