

Activity Vibe

Activity Vibe is a monthly activity sheet available on line at vibe.com.au for use in classrooms, homework centres and at home.

Issue 90

Years 5-6

Pick up a copy of this month's *Deadly Vibe* magazine, the special protest issue, and complete the following activities.

★ READING

Bridge walk a milestone

The "Walk for Reconciliation" in 2000 was an historic moment in black-white relations.

On May 28, 2000, a milestone was reached in the process of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

On a crisp, windy autumn day, 250,000 people turned out for the Walk for Reconciliation across Sydney's Harbour Bridge, showing the huge amount of support that was behind reconciliation in this country.

For five-and-a-half hours, a continuous stream of people made their way across the famous Sydney landmark, making it the largest political demonstration ever to be held in Australian history.

The event took place as part of Reconciliation Week, which was dubbed "Corroboree 2000".

The week was framed by two important dates in our nation's history, both of which mark significant turning points in the reconciliation process.

The first is May 27, which marks the anniversary of the 1967 referendum in which more than 90 per cent of Australians said they wanted the Government to "make laws with respect to Aboriginal people wherever they lived in Australia, and to include Aboriginal people in national censuses".

The second important date is June 23, which marks the anniversary of the 1992 High Court decision in the Mabo case, which recognised the native title rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. The decision also overturned the myth of terra nullius, the notion that assumed that Australia was an empty land when Captain Cook arrived in 1788.

People from all walks of life made their way across the bridge in 2000. There were middle-class and professional people, working-class families, students, politicians, young people, immigrants and Indigenous Australians from every part of the country.

While some people marched behind banners from government departments, schools, universities, unions or political parties, most people walked proudly over the bridge with their family and friends.

More recently, in May this year, the former governor-general Sir William Deane unveiled a plaque at the southern end of the bridge to commemorate the Walk for Reconciliation.

Speaking at the unveiling ceremony, Sir William, a dedicated supporter of reconciliation, said a lack of cohesion had stalled the movement since the walk across the bridge four years ago.

Sir William claimed that "since that time, we seem to have reached a dead-end, or a blind alley."

"At the grassroots level, reconciliation has never really faltered ... but the time has come to harness the grassroots strength and again to set out on a national journey," he said.





COMPREHENSION

★ On what date was the 'Walk for Reconciliation' across Sydney Harbour Bridge?

★ Answer True (T) or False (F) to the following statement.

The 'Walk for Reconciliation' in 2000 was the largest political demonstration ever to be held in Australian history. _____

★ Circle the correct answer.

Those people who made their way across the bridge in 2000 were:

- a. Middle-class and professional people.
- b. Working class families, students and politicians.
- c. Young people, immigrants and Indigenous Australians from all over the country
- d. All of the above.

★ The 'Walk for Reconciliation' in 2000 took place as part of Reconciliation Week. What other name was this week known as?

★ What did former Governor-General Sir William Deane do in May of this year to commemorate the 'Walk for Reconciliation'?



HYPHEN (-)

The hyphen is a punctuation mark that indicates when a word is divided. The hyphen is placed between syllables, between numbers written as words, between fractions, between colours, to join two surnames or, in the case of compounds, to form compound words.

★ Following is a list of words from the 'Walk for Reconciliation' passage. Circle the words that use the hyphen correctly. Check the words against the text in the passage.

Non-Indigenous	high-court	Governor-General
five-and-a-half	terra-nullius	Sir-William
re-conciliation	middle-class	un-veiled
90-per-cent	working-class	dead-end



COMMON NOUNS

Common nouns are the names of ordinary people, places and things, such as brother, water hole and kangaroo. Common nouns only begin with a capital letter when they are the first word in a sentence.

★ Circle all of the common nouns in the following list.

May	framed	walk
country	government	important
Australians	significant	university
school	speaking	bridge

★ PROPER NOUNS

Proper nouns are used to name people, places or things. They begin with a capital letter.

★ Make a list of five proper nouns from the 'Walk for Reconciliation' passage.

★ CONTRACTIONS

Contractions are joined words with a letter or letters missing. An apostrophe is put in the place of the missing letters.

Eg: she will ==> she'll

★ Write the contractions of the following words on the lines below.

has not	_____	cannot	_____
will not	_____	he will	_____
there is	_____	I am	_____
you are	_____	they would	_____
I have	_____	there is	_____
should not	_____	you will	_____

★ SPEAKING & LISTENING

★ As a class, discuss events that have occurred in your own community that have had a positive impact. It may be the opening of a health centre, a community radio station or the establishment of an annual festival. Who are the people who work in your community that are involved in these projects?

★ DESIGN A POSTER

★ Design a poster on the positive changes that have occurred in your community.