

# THE WHITE DOTTED STINGRAY



## WORKSHEET 1 – VIDEO ACTIVITY

The video introduces you to a young Aboriginal boy, Gabirri. Look at the video and answer these questions.



- 1 Find on the map where Gabirri lives. Draw an arrow to show the direction from there to the Arabian Gulf country where you live.
- 2 What are the 'two worlds' that Gabirri lives in?

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- 3 Give three examples of Gabirri's life in his traditional world, and three examples of his life in the modern Australian world.

Traditional	Modern

- 4 Why does he need to balance his life between these two worlds?

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- 5 What does 'Gabirri' mean in his Aboriginal language?

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- 6 Why is the white dotted stingray especially important to him?

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- 7 Gabirri tells a story from the 'Dreamtime'. This is a way of referring to a complex set of Aboriginal traditions, beliefs, customs, laws and attitudes that have developed and influenced Aboriginal people's lives over many thousands of years. They have been passed on by stories, dances, paintings, songs and ceremonies. Why would it be important for Gabirri to hear these stories, and for him to pass them on to others?

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- 8 What are some of the problems that have resulted for some Aboriginal people from the meeting of the two worlds?

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- 9 Why will Gabirri have special responsibilities as he grows up?

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## WORKSHEET 2 – THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA

Australia's Indigenous population consists of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people.

The people on the mainland and Tasmania are known as Aboriginal people; those on the islands at the north-east tip of Australia are known as Torres Strait Islanders.

There are more than 372 000 Indigenous Australians, spread throughout all states and territories, but with the largest numbers living in Queensland and New South Wales.

Indigenous people are found in all walks of life and in all population centres. A number, however, live in outback areas in their traditional lands.

DISTRIBUTION OF ALL AUSTRALIANS:



DISTRIBUTION OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS:  
(ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE)



Source: 2001 Census

From the information in these maps we can conclude that:

- 1 A majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live in urban areas  
A — True    B — False    C — Cannot tell from the information
- 2 Many Aboriginal people live in remote areas of Australia  
A — True    B — False    C — Cannot tell from the information
- 3 Aboriginal people are only found in desert areas  
A — True    B — False    C — Cannot tell from the information
- 4 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people all have exactly the same culture  
A — True    B — False    C — Cannot tell from the information
- 5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are more likely to live in smaller communities that non-Indigenous Australians.  
A — True    B — False    C — Cannot tell from the information