

Culture Celebration

First Nations Incursions' **Culture Celebration** program aligns with the **Australian Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF V2.0)** and the **Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)**. This alignment is based on the program's rich cultural content and its alignment with both national and state-level early learning goals.

Program Highlights – Culture Celebration

- Begins with a Welcome to Country by a senior clan elder, setting a respectful tone of cultural connection.
 - Followed by interactive storytelling accompanied by the mystical sound of the didgeridoo.
 - Transitions into a tribal didgeridoo and beats dance frenzy, inviting children to participate through rhythm and dance.
 - Delivered by two performers—an Aboriginal elder and world-renowned didgeridoo virtuoso (Ganga Giri) - with amplification to engage the entire centre.
 - Designed for whole-centre participation
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Alignment with EYLF V2.0

1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives (Principle)

This program foregrounds Indigenous voices and cultural authenticity through ceremonial welcome, storytelling, and performance, embodying EYLF's call for respectful cultural inclusion.

2. Learning Outcomes

- **Outcome 1 – Children have a strong sense of identity**
Engaging with cultural ceremonies and traditional storytelling nurtures a sense of belonging and respect for country and culture.
- **Outcome 2 – Children are connected with and contribute to their world**
Through participation in cultural dance and music, children actively connect with First Peoples' perspectives and contribute to inclusive cultural experiences.

- **Outcome 4 – Children are confident and involved learners**
The dynamic, multisensory nature of the dance and music experience fosters curiosity, engagement, and active participation.
- **Outcome 5 – Children are effective communicators**
Music, dance, and storytelling offer rich non-verbal and verbal avenues for children to express, interpret, and respond.

3. Principles & Practices

- Cultural responsiveness: Centering a senior elder and First Nations artist fosters cultural safety, authenticity, and respect.
- Play-based and intentional learning: Rhythmic dance, communal storytelling, and music-based routines support intentional engagement through joyful, embodied learning experiences.

Alignment with VEYLDF

- **Identity & Community:** Strongly supports children’s sense of belonging by linking them directly to First Nations culture and Country.
- **Communication:** Enhances expressive modes through shared movement/dance, and cultural storytelling.
- **Wellbeing & Engagement:** Encourages emotional resonance, connection, and joyous participation through inclusive, celebratory experiences.

Summary Table

Program Feature	EYLF / VEYLDF Alignment
Welcome to Country & storytelling	Embeds Indigenous perspectives; builds identity and connection with a traditional elder
Didgeridoo and dance participation	Encourages sensory, embodied learning and communal engagement

Whole-centre format with elder & musician	Supports cultural safety, inclusivity, and shared community experience
Dynamic musical storytelling through rhythm & sound	Enhances expressive communication and reflective cultural awareness
Live performance by First Nations educator	Ensures cultural authenticity and supports reconciliation-informed practice

Final Reflection

The **Culture Celebration** program is a **vibrant, community-themed celebration** of First Nations culture. It embodies EYLF outcomes—especially identity (Outcome 1), connectedness (Outcome 2), learning (Outcome 4), and communication (Outcome 5)—and aligns strongly with VEYLDF’s focus on cultural identity, emotional engagement, and inclusive learning. By blending tradition, music, and movement, this program offers **a holistic, culturally grounding experience for young learners.**