

Celebrating The Freedom Ride and Aboriginal Activism.



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The Freedom Ride occurred on 12 February 1965. It involved a group of students from the University of Sydney, who started a bus tour of Western and Coastal NSW. The Freedom Ride was inspired by equal rights activism and led by Aboriginal activist Charles Perkins. The Freedom Ride has a prominent place in the history of Australia and is celebrated every February for fostering Aboriginal activism and raising attention on issues Aboriginal people continue to face today. See this [AIATSIS website](#) for more information on The Freedom Ride.

Every child will have their own experiences and interpretations of The Freedom Ride and Aboriginal activism. Some children may descend from a line of strong Aboriginal activists and may be involved with their family in current activism. To understand the best way to celebrate this day, work with staff, children, families and significant community members. Of particular importance is working with Aboriginal children, families and communities.

The Good for Kid's team have a couple of suggestions to celebrate The Freedom Ride and Aboriginal Activism. These suggestions promote healthy eating and physical activity, and do so by embedding Aboriginal perspectives. Remember to work with local Aboriginal people to ensure the following activities (or others) are authentic and meaningful.

Re-enact the Freedom Ride

Share stories about the Freedom Ride and then re-enact the journey in an outdoor play setting. Get Children to work together to build one or several buses out of cardboard boxes. Create a mud map of the bus ride. For example, the front gate might be Walgett or the big tree might be Moree. Then drive around to the different towns. Don't forget to stop for petrol, healthy food snacks a walk on Country, and more!

Learn about local Aboriginal activists

Organise an excursion 'on Country' and with local Elders and/or local Aboriginal organisations to learn about Aboriginal activism in the community.



Artwork: 'Heart of a child'
Worimi Artist Lara Went