

The word game

Ask your students if they know any Aboriginal words. There may be a degree of difficulty, depending on where you live. It may be best to focus on animals in particular but there are many place names that have an Aboriginal origin. Once they have a list, they can be encouraged to use good dictionaries to see what the origin of the name is – some will have Aboriginal origins, e.g. kangaroo is an Aboriginal word but echidna comes from the Greek word for 'spiny'. You may have to borrow some better dictionaries which indicate the origin of the words and there are dictionaries of Aboriginal words.