

National Reconciliation Week 2025

Community Installation Activity Learning Guide

The [National Reconciliation Week 2025](#) design and artwork represent the theme, *Bridging Now to Next*, which reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

Bridging Now to Next urges us to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us. The beautiful artwork by Kalkadoon woman [Bree Buttenshaw](#) shows that now is a time for growth, reflection, and commitment to walking together.

The NRW *Bridging Now to Next* community installation activity can be created in schools, early learning services, disability services, at work, home or at your NRW event.

Community installation: individual commitment to collective action

This activity is an opportunity for individuals to reflect on what their reconciliation efforts up to now have looked like, express what action they can take towards a reconciled future, and to come together as a community to make a collective commitment to walking together.

To activate the #NRW2025 theme *Bridging Now to Next*, invite members of your community to contribute to an art installation in the shape of a bridge to celebrate and reflect on your workplace, school or service's ongoing journey and commitment to reconciliation.

Instructions/how to do it:

- Print out copies of the NRW leaf templates in A4, or a size that is appropriate for the final collaborative installation piece.
- The group template can also be printed up to A2 for a group or whole class to participate in as a collective call to action to make a larger community installation.

You can respond to the following prompts individually or as a group.

Individual prompt:

In Australia's reconciliation journey, NOW I... NEXT I...

Collective prompt:

In Australia's reconciliation journey, NOW we... NEXT we...

- Engage with the activity, through artmaking, drawing, writing reflections and calls to action with text or as a prompt for reflective conversations.
- Each leaf can be placed (pinned, taped, etc) on a large surface such as a wall in a foyer, classroom, staffroom, or a fence for the public to view.



- The installation is displayed as a bridge, representing the theme *Bridging Now to Next*. The bridges can be constructed from as little as five leaves or more, depending on the printout size and number of people participating. You may find the leaves slightly overlap and rotate to fit into your bridge design.

Discussion guide

Use the discussion questions below for different age groups to guide conversations while engaging with the community installation activity.

While constructing your bridge installation consider the purpose of a bridge. You might consider researching the **reconciliation bridge walks** that happened in the year 2000 in your community and use the shape of that bridge to design your community installation. Alternatively, use a bridge walk from the year 2000 that inspires you to grow, reflect and commit to walking together to 'bridge now to next' in your community.

Ages 0-5

Reflective questions to consider:

- How does it feel to spend time with your friends on a project?
- What would you do to get your friends to join in?

Ages 5-18

Reflective question to consider:

- How can you be inspired by past and current reconciliation initiatives to support the reconciliation movement into the future?
- What action can you take to support reconciliation?

Adults

Reflective questions to consider:

- What past reconciliation events are you aware of, or have participated in?
- What are your next steps to progress reconciliation in Australia in your sphere of influence?