Living Black - For Our Elders Series

Ernie Dingo: Storyteller and icon



Student Name: Class:



Host Karla Grant of Living Black © NITV 2023

Yamatji man Ernie Dingo AM reflects on the importance of sharing stories and his extensive career onscreen. When first on television, Ernie Dingo was one of very few First Nations people represented onscreen for a national audience but is now recognisable in households across the continent. Watch the following classroom clip and then complete the activities below.



WATCH

Watch the SBS Learn classroom clip on Ernie Dingo and then complete the activities below



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Do you recognise Ernie Dingo? List the TV shows or movies you have seen him.
- Why does Ernie Dingo think it is important for people to share and tell their stories?
- Ernie Dingo has been on screen in Australia since the 1980s. What impact do you think seeing a First Nations man on Australian TV and movies had on society? Guide students to think about how media representation can shape the way people see themselves and who they might be in the future.

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THINK/PAIR/SHARE

- How does it feel to see cultural diversity onscreen or in the public arena?
- Why is representation of First Nations peoples on screen important?
- How can using humour be an effective way of storytelling?



PROFILE ACTIVITY

Create a profile for Ernie Dingo's contributions to Australian TV and cinema. In this profile you should include information on:

- His most important onscreen performances
- His contributions to the Australian film industry
- The importance of storytelling to First Nations cultures.



DID YOU KNOW?

"You may hear the term Blackfella/Blakfulla being used by First Nations people to refer to themselves or other First Nations people. This is considered acceptable in many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, however, it is not appropriate for non-Indigenous people to use, as it has been historically used in derogatory ways towards First Nation peoples."

- Kyarna Cruse (Yuin woman and educator)

- Yarning is a term used by many First Nations people to describe having a conversation.
- Mob is a word which refers to a group of First Nations people. It can represent a family group, clan group or wider First Nations community.
- Originating from Britain, crikey is slang term used as an expression of surprise.





Head to SBS On Demand for personal viewing of the full episode Season 28 Episode 1: Ernie Dingo - The Consummate Performer. For classroom viewing of whole episodes, please visit ClickView, or your school's resource centre (for example Wingaru, Informit etc). Teachers are encouraged to view the full episode to decide whether it is appropriate viewing