



Aborigines and the land

Most Aboriginal people have a very close relationship with the land, especially the land of their ancestors. The land provides the link between the people and the Dreaming. Read the Dreaming story about Narran Lake on page 55 of the *Jacaranda Primary Atlas Second Edition*.

1 According to the Dreaming story, how was Narran Lake formed?

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2 What is Narran Lake like today?

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3 Why might local Aboriginal groups want to protect Narran Lake?

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4 Find Narran Lake on page 54 of the atlas (grid reference D5). Use the map of Aboriginal language groups on page 37 to work out which Aboriginal group lives in the Narran Lake area.

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5 Refer to the map titled 'Aboriginal People 1788' on page 32 of the atlas to help you complete the Aboriginal population figures (in 1788) in the table below.

Environment	Population	Types of food found in environment
Dry country	_____ square kilometres per person	Acacia seeds, roots, grasses, emu eggs, emus, kangaroos, wallabies
River country	_____ square kilometres per person	Fish, crayfish, various fruits and roots, kangaroos, wallabies
Coastal areas	_____ square kilometres per person	Turtles, crabs, crocodiles, water fowl, vegetables, possums, native cats

6 Explain why you think some Australian environments supported more Aboriginal people than others.

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7 Refer to the timeline at the bottom of page 32 of the atlas. How did Aborigines change the land or adapt to it?

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