



The Australian Journal of **INDIGENOUS EDUCATION**

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I go to English and Maths classes at the library. These subjects have helped me to help the kids in these subjects at school. I am also learning to type and it is really good. I am doing teachers' aide training, learning about Aboriginal culture, public speaking, health, welfare and child development. I enjoy it very much.

Being a home visitor is good because I have learnt a lot of things I did not know before.



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LITERACY WORK AT THE TRAINING CENTRE

*Mary Ross

I would like to talk about my work. I am working as a literacy teacher at the Aboriginal Health Worker Training Centre. I am employed by the Institute of Aboriginal Development to work there.

I can't say very much, because I haven't been working as a teacher for long. But, I think we would all like to read and write. I know it's not very nice to go along to a meeting where there are a lot of Whites, when you can't understand what they are talking about. As we all know, they tend to talk in great big words which we cannot understand. I think we should learn a bit of reading and writing to understand what is going on around us. I think it's important that our children learn English so that they can help us later on, and also help themselves in the future years.

We want to see our own children controlling different things in the years to come. The only way we are going to do that is by sending them to school and having interest in what they are doing; not only to learn White ways, but also to learn about their own culture. At least one Aboriginal language should be taught, not only to Aboriginal children, but also to White children. They should be able to learn our language, so that people could get on better with each other and so that they could understand the ways of our people, as well as their own.

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