



Indigenous Language Wordlists Gooreng Gooreng Body Parts

all yours

Gooreng Gooreng language is spoken in the Bundaberg region inland towards Monto, Mt Perry and Eidsvold and along the coast to Gladstone. Gooreng Gooreng is also documented as Gureng Gureng, Gurang Gurang, etc.

The following Gooreng Gooreng language words are included on the *Gambara Gamu Biyu* body chart poster – use the language pen to hear and practise saying the words.

Aboriginal sounds

In pronouncing Aboriginal words, there are some sounds which are quite different to English and require practice.

'dh' is different to English - it is pronounced with the tongue at back of teeth.

'dj' is similar to English - it can be between 'j' and 'ch'.

'ng' is one sound in Aboriginal languages and is different to the 'n' sound in English - it is closest to the 'ng' sound found in singer.

'nh' is different to English - it is pronounced with the tongue at back of teeth.

'ny' is one sound in Aboriginal languages and is different - it is closest to the 'n' sound found in onion.

'rr' is a rolled 'r' sound similar to a Scottish 'r'; at the end of a word it may sound like 'd'.

This wordlist is drawn from historical and published sources and identifies language words for the parts of the body and their suggested pronunciation.

Note: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages were oral-based; there may be several variations in spelling and pronunciation. The following list should be seen as a guide – check with local language speakers/custodians as to the preferred local pronunciation.

English	Gooreng Gooreng
Ankle	wugul
Arm	gini
Belly	bulu
Belly button	wogoo
Blood	dii
Bone	daigil
Bottom	mundi
Chin	yinboo
Ears	bina
Elbow	goomoo
Eyebrow	teeping
Eyes	mil
Face	gun gun
Feet/foot	djina
Hair	gubu
Hand	biru

Head	wurul
Heart	dulgu
Hip	gaman
Knee	bii
Leg	djanyar
Lip	yillim
Liver	gana
Mouth	geem
Neck	wandal
Nose	murru
Shoulders	gilun
Skin	yulan
Teeth	dira
Toes	mundoie
Tongue	dunga

Learn more about the Gooreng Gooreng language!

Watch a digital story of Uncle Merv Johnson and the Gooreng Gooreng Dancers:
<http://vimeo.com/9779746>

For items in the State Library collections relating to Gooreng Gooreng, click [here](#).

Further information

To discover more about the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander languages on the Body Chart, contact your local Library or Indigenous Knowledge Centre.

Language Centre

Central Queensland Language Centre (Bundaberg): This centre supports language activities in Central Queensland from Rockhampton to Maryborough and west to Longreach and the NT border.

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SLQ Indigenous Languages Webpages: www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages

SLQ Indigenous Languages Blog: <http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/ilq/>

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