



Yr 7 PBL  
The 4PM Project  
**The Whip Around Segment**

Driving Question:

How many seasons are there?

Purpose:

To investigate and communicate different points of view, past and present, about the seasons of Australia. Explore and explain how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups have used observational knowledge to inform their understanding of the seasons and food cycles and the different climate conditions experienced in different regions of Australia. Communicate how Indigenous models of climate and seasons are both similar and different to the European model.

Description:

You are a field climate scientist working in one of five different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities around Australia. The television program "The 4pm Project" is trying to challenge the Australian public about their understanding of Indigenous scientific knowledge. You are required to report from your region during the live cross to your location. You will need to write a script include:

1. Briefly describe and explain the different seasons of your assigned Indigenous Group
  - a. Where is the Indigenous group's traditional lands
  - b. How many seasons are there
  - c. What are the names of the seasons
  - d. What type of weather they experience in each season
  
2. Select one of particular season of your assigned group and explain:
  - a. What time of year is this season
  - b. How do they know when the season begins/ends?
  - c. What weather conditions are experienced in this season
  - d. What are the behaviours of animals
  - e. What food/plants are in season and available

The regions that need to be reported from are:

- Gooniyandi
- Gulumoerrgin
- Kunwinjku
- Ngurrungurrudjba
- Tiwi

## Script

*Where is the group's traditional lands?*

I'm **Eric Juanta** reporting from the traditional land of the **Kurna People** in the Morphett Vale region of South Australia.

*How many seasons? What are the names of the seasons? What type of weather is experienced?*

The Kurna people have **4 different seasons** and each one represents the different weather and environmental changes that they experience in the region. **The 4 seasons of the Kurna Calendar are Woltatti (the hot season), Parnatti (which is autumn), Kudlilla (which is winter) and Wulutti (which is spring).**

*Select one season to focus on. How do they know when the season begins?*

At this time of year in the month of March it is autumn in the southern hemisphere, for the **Kurna people it is the season of Parnatti. The start of this Kurna season is marked by the appearance of the Parna star in the night sky.**

*What weather conditions are experienced in this season*

**The weather during Parnatti is usually calm and mild, with cool mornings and nights. Also the mornings start to be marked with fog or dew on the ground**

*Animal behaviours*

**The start of Parnatti means that soon the blue crabs and garfish will be less abundant in the shallows. Instead you will see mullet ready for netting in the shallows during high tides**

*What food/plants are available during this season*

**In this season small stone fruits like woodni and miranda are ripe and ready to be eaten. Kappi (wild tobacco) leaves and flowers also become available for chewing.**

*(Add anything else that is relevant, interesting or funny before crossing back to the studio)*

**As we can see, there is still so much for us to learn from traditional knowledge of the Kurna people. Their understanding of their traditional lands provides us a fantastic resource to help our understanding of Australia and its diverse landscape and ecosystem.**

**That's all from me, back to you in the studio!**