



Gambara Gamu Biyu Kala Kawaw Ya

Kala Kawaw Ya

Kala Kawaw Ya is spoken in the Torres Straits, particularly the top Western Islands group of Saibai, Dauan and Boigu, as well as the communities of Bamaga and Seisia at the tip of Cape York, which were originally settled by people from Saibai in the 1950s.

The following Kala Kawaw Ya language words are included on the Gambara Gamu Biyu body chart poster – use the language pen to hear and practice saying the words.

English	Kala Kawaw Ya
Ankle	danakuku
Arm	geth
Belly	maytha
Belly button	maythakup
Blood	kulka
Body	gamu
Bone	ridh
Bottom	kup
Chest	da
Chin	ibu
Ears	kawra (singular) kawral (plural)
Elbow	kudu
Eyebrow	boeybasam
Eyes	purka (sg) purkal (pl)
Face	paru
Feet/foot	san

English	Kala Kawaw Ya
Finger/s	dhimur(sg) dhimural(pl)
Forehead	poewth
Hair	yalbup
Hand	geth
Head	kuyk
Heart	ngoenakap
Hip	pasikap
Kidney	pulipul
Knee	kulu
Leg	ngar
Lip	iragud
Liver	sib
Mouth	gud
Neck	mudul
Nose	piti
Nostril	koerab
Shoulders	thabay
Skin	goengaw
Teeth	dhang (sg) dhangal (pl)
Thigh	dokap
Thumb	kuyku dhimur
Toes	sanaw dhimur(sg) sanaw dhimural (pl)
Tongue	noey
Wrist	pertha

Learn more about Kala Kawaw Ya

Listen to stories in Kala Kawaw Ya at *Retold*:

www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/contemporary-stories/retold

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. The following pages provide details on additional sources of information regarding the Kala Kawaw Ya language.

References and Further Reading

Selection of resources on Kala Kawaw Ya language available through State Library; some of these may also be available in your local Library or IKC.

Babia, M. and Day, E. (1989) *Torres Strait Picture Dictionary*. Thursday Island: Thursday Island State High School. **JUVQ 499.1503 tor**

Edwards, R. (2001) *Some songs from the Torres Strait*. Kuranda: Rams Skull Press. **Q 782.5162 SOM**

Ford, K. Ober, D. (1991) "A sketch of Kalaw Kawaw Ya". In *Language in Australia*, ed. Romaine, S. 118-142. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. **G 409.94 1991**

Haddon, A. (1971) *Reports of the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Strait*. New York: Johnson Reprint Corporation. **Q 994.38 CAM**

Holmer, N. (1988) *Notes on Some Queensland Languages*. Australian National University: Canberra. **J 499.15 HOL**

Lawrie, M. (1970) *Myths and legends of the Torres Strait*. St Lucia: University of Queensland Press. **Q 398.2099438 MYT**

McGilvray, J. (1967) *Narrative of the voyage of H.M.S. Rattlesnake*. Adelaide: Libraries Board of South Australia. **J 919.04 M'GI**

Ray, S. (2003) *Dictionary of Torres Strait Languages*. Kuranda: Rams Skull Press. **Q 499.1503 RAY**

Scragg, S. (2010) *Retold: A retelling of stories and songs from Myths and Legends of the Torres Strait by Margaret Lawrie*. DVD **27464**

Sharp, N. (1993) *Stars of Tagai: the Torres Strait Islanders*. **G 994.38 1993**

Shnukal, A. (1988) *Broken: an introduction to the Creole language of Torres Strait*. Canberra: Australian National University. **J 427 SHN**

Shnukal, A. (2004) *A Dictionary of Torres Strait Creole*. Kuranda: Rams Skull Press. **Q 427.99438 SHN**

Singe, J. (1979) *The Torres Strait: people and history*. Brisbane: University of Queensland Press. **G 994.38 1989**

Community Organisations

There are several local Torres Strait Islander Community organisations working with language and cultural heritage in the Torres Strait region and NPA, including the following:

- The Torres Strait Island Regional Authority (TSRA) PO Box 261. Thursday Island Q. 4875. Phone: (07) 4069 0700 Email: info@tsra.gov.au Website: www.tsra.gov.au
- Gab Titui Cultural Centre, PO Box 261. Thursday Island Q. 4875. Phone: (07) 4069 0888 Email: info@gabtitui.com.au Website: www.gabtitui.com.au
- Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council (NPARC), 180 Adidi Street, Bamaga Q. 4876. Email: info@nparc.qld.gov.au Website: <http://www.nparc.qld.gov.au/>

State Library of Queensland

For further information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages at the State Library of Queensland, please contact:

kuril dhagun, State Library of Queensland

Stanley Place, South Brisbane Qld. 4101.

PO Box 3488, South Brisbane Qld. 4101.

Telephone: (07) 3842 9836 Fax: (07) 3842 9893

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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