Townsville Community Learning Centre

Country Provides

Country Provides celebrates the enduring relationship between First Nations peoples and Country, recognising Country as teacher, provider, healer and home. The work reflects an ancient understanding of living with Country—knowing its seasons, plants, animals and waterways, taking only what is needed and caring for what sustains future generations.

Created for a special school community, this wearable artwork was intentionally designed as a tactile sensory experience for students of all abilities, inviting touch, curiosity and exploration. The garment incorporates artistic interpretations of native bush foods, native plants and flowers, seeds, feathers and natural fibres, using texture, colour and form to create opportunities for students to engage with and experience the richness of Country through multiple senses.

The staff represents guidance, strength and the passing of knowledge through generations, while the natural and organic elements woven throughout the garment celebrate the diversity and interconnectedness of Country.

At its heart, *Country Provides* speaks of reciprocity: Country provides for us, and in return we have a responsibility to care for Country. The work honours the resourcefulness, knowledge and ingenuity of First Nations peoples and invites us to remember that when we care for Country, Country will continue to provide.

Country Provides 2026

Clay, feathers, artificial and real native flora, various materials, beads, snake skin shedding, crab carapaces, bones, and shells found on Country