

# Language and culture

Liz Arcus - St Georges Road Primary School, VIC



**'Culture and Language'**

**Gardening and Nature Play program**

**by Liz Arcus, Hub leader.  
Shepparton, Victoria.**

**The Community Hub of  
St Georges Road Primary School &  
the Shepparton English  
Language Centre**



# Who attends our hub?

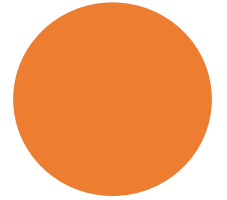
**Women and young children**

- mostly refugee and asylum seekers  
+ volunteers

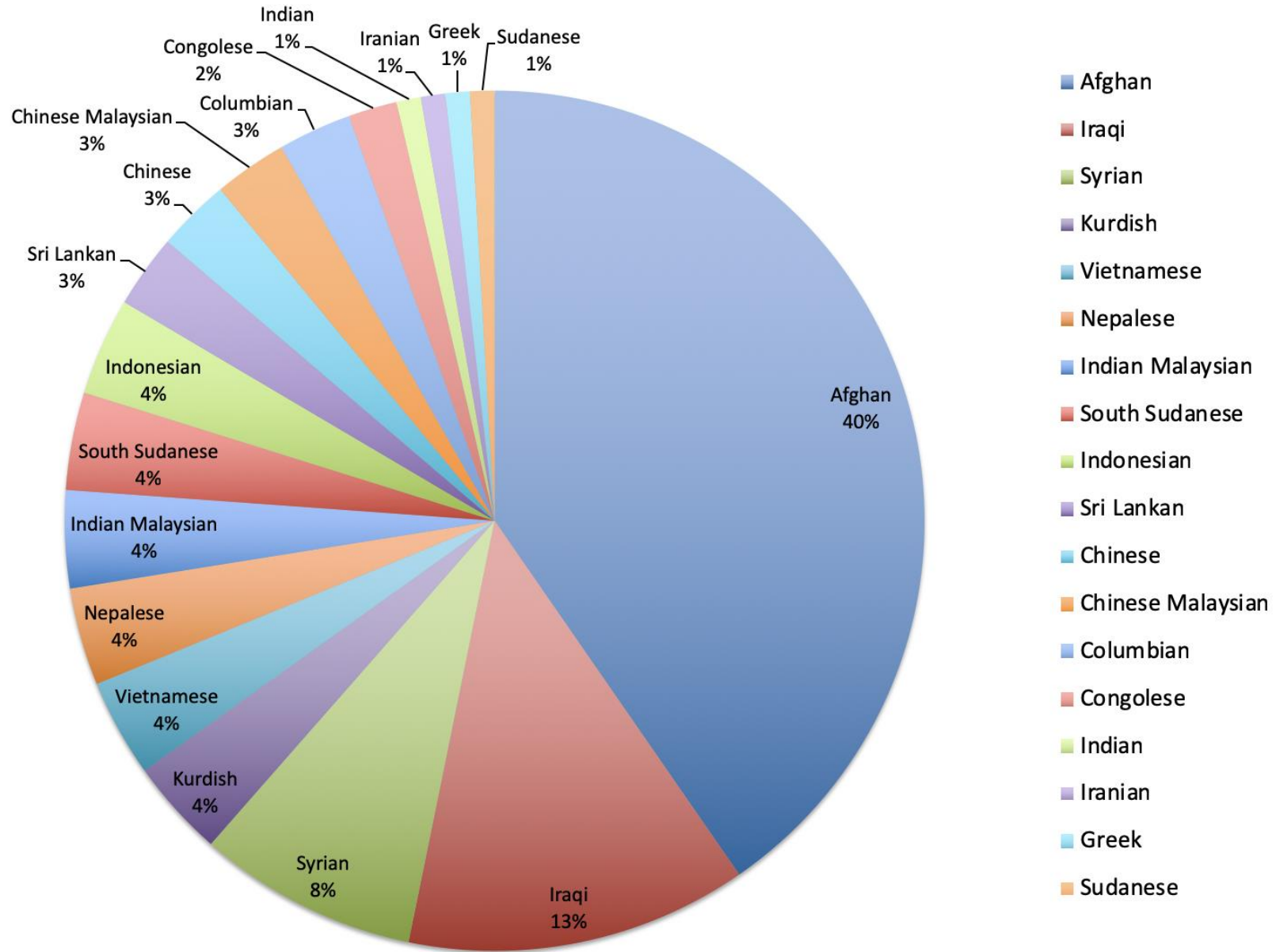
**18 cultural identities**

Most common languages

- Hazaragi and Arabic



# Community Hub of St Georges Rd PS and Shepparton English Language Centre Cultural Identity May 31st 2023





**First ever hub session  
September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**





June 2021

We extended existing garden to grow edible plants that needed more sunlight



\* Garden beds at height suitable for early years



# Work is play





***“ What day is it? ”***

***“ Friday. ”***

***“ Good! I need to do my cooking! ”***



**Culturally familiar edible plants**

**We learn many languages in the garden**

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**Sharing cultural practices  
and stories builds stronger  
connections**



**Sorghum display crop**



**Tulsi**





***“In my country we grow this.  
This is kangkong.  
This is how I cook it”***



***Trying new foods***



# Dolma







**\* Support families to understand the value of maintaining their first language.**

***“How many eggs today?”  
“1,2,3,4..... ”***

***“Now it’s our friends turn in their languages too”***



***“In Afghanistan - one hundred chickens.”***

***“How do you say chook in your language?”***



***“Children need nature for the healthy development of their senses,  
and therefore, for learning and creativity.” Richard Louv***





# Art in the Garden



# Celebrations in the garden



and everywhere in our hub



- The hub is a place we share many things & support each other.
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It is a second home  
- a family to many.

