

AUSTRALIA IN THE CLASSROOM

STUDYBRIS



**a little bit of
everything
down under**

KEIJI HSU

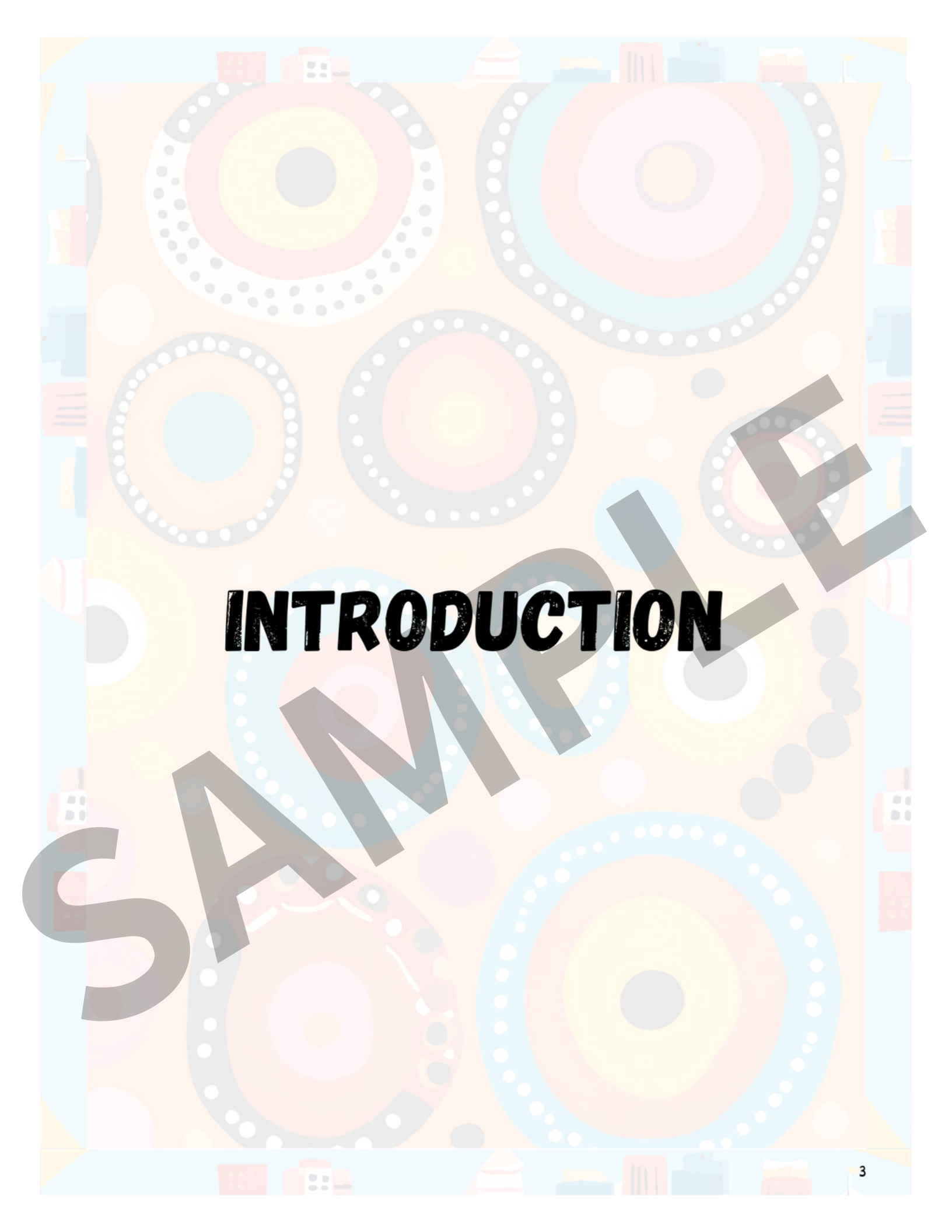
IDEAL FOR CHILDREN, TEACHERS, AND ANYONE EAGER TO LEARN ABOUT AUSTRALIA

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INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE & GOALS

Welcome to Straya!



G'Day Mate! Welcome to Australia! This book is your personal guide to discovering all the amazing things about the land down under. With just about every little thing covered, this book is great for those who are new to Australia, or just curious to learn more. So get all your mates, get ready, and enjoy your exciting journey through its unique culture, interesting history, stunning landscapes, and vibrant wildlife.

Our goal is to show you what makes Australia so amazing. We want you to look beyond just the famous sights and learn about the stories, people, and places that make this country special. By the end of this book, we hope you'll love Australia even more and appreciate its rich history, stunning nature, and the many cultures that have made it their home for thousands of years.

In this book, you'll discover about Australia's identity and symbols and what it means to be Australian. You'll also learn about the Indigenous culture and a brief history of Australia. In a short time, you'll dive into the stories of the first people who lived here, and understand Australia in the past and present-day Australia.

But hold on, the diverse animals that call down under home, and the secrets of famous landmarks like the Great Barrier Reef and Uluru, are waiting to be uncovered. Plus, you'll get a quick taste of Aussie life- everything from the food people eat, to the sports they love, and even some of the cool jobs that are unique to this land down under.

We've also included fun facts and lots of interesting topics throughout the book that'll help you understand what makes Australia so special. This book is packed with information, but don't worry, it's designed to be fun and easy to read. Whether you're a student, a teacher, or just a kangaroo that loves learning new things. There's so much to discover, and we're stoked to have you on this journey with us. Get ready to learn, laugh, and be amazed by all the incredible things Australia has to offer! So, what are you waiting for, grab your explorer's hat, and let's get cracking into the wonders of Straya!



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

How To Use This Book

This book is designed to be your guide to exploring the wonders of Australia. Whether you're a student, a teacher, or just someone curious about this amazing country.

Here's how to make the most of the information inside:

1. **Start Where You Like:** You don't have to read this book from start to finish. Feel free to jump to any section that interests you, whether it's Australian animals, history, or sports. Each section stands alone, so you can explore the topics in any order you choose.
2. **Use the Table of Contents:** The table of contents at the beginning of the book will help you find exactly what you're looking for. Each topic is clearly listed with its page number, so you can quickly navigate to the section that grabs your attention.
3. **For Teachers and Students:** This book is a great classroom resource! Teachers can use it to introduce different aspects of Australia in a fun and engaging way. Students can use it for research, projects, or just to learn more about Australia's culture, history, and environment. Designed in A4 size, it is printable for easy classroom use, providing ample space for interactive activities and detailed exploration.
4. **Look for Fun Facts:** Throughout the book, you'll find fun facts that make learning about Australia even more interesting. Keep an eye out for these gems—they're great for sharing with friends and family!
5. **Learn at Your Own Pace:** There's no rush to get through the book. Take your time with each section, and don't be afraid to revisit topics that interest you the most.
6. **Get Inspired:** This book is full of stories, information, and ideas that are meant to inspire you. Whether you're learning about the Dreamtime, the Great Barrier Reef, or modern Australian inventions, let your curiosity guide you.
7. **Share and Discuss:** After reading, share what you've learned with others. Discussing the topics with friends, family, or classmates can deepen your understanding and make learning even more fun.

Remember, this book is just the beginning of your journey into Australia. Let it spark your curiosity and inspire you to learn even more about the fascinating land down under!



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Acknowledging the Traditional Owners

As we explore the wonders of Australia in this book, it's important to take a moment to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this land—the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. They have lived on this land for over 60,000 years, long before any cities were built or flags were raised. Their deep connection to the land, water, and skies has shaped Australia's history, culture, and identity in profound ways.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have rich traditions, languages, and stories that have been passed down through generations. These stories, often shared through art, dance, and music, teach us about the land and how to care for it. Many of the places we'll learn about in this book, like Uluru and the Great Barrier Reef, hold special significance in these cultures. They're not just landmarks; they are part of the living history and spiritual landscape of Australia.

In writing this book, we respect and honor the Traditional Owners of Australia. We recognize that their history, culture, and contributions are a vital part of the Australian story. When we talk about the land, animals, and even the foods of Australia, we're also talking about the rich heritage that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have nurtured for thousands of years.

We encourage you to approach this book with an open heart and a curious mind. As you read about the many wonders of Australia, remember the Traditional Owners and the ongoing connection they have to the land. Let's learn together, not just about Australia's natural beauty and history, but also about the First Nations peoples who have cared for and loved this land for so long.

This book is a way for all of us to celebrate Australia, and part of that celebration is recognizing and respecting the incredible cultures that were here long before any of us.



AUSTRALIA'S IDENTITY & SYMBOLS

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY

AUSTRALIAN STATES AND CITIES

The Land Down Under
Australia is known as "The Land Down Under" because it is located entirely in the Southern Hemisphere.

THE OUTBACK

Remote areas that are so far away from towns and cities!

Australia is the only country in the world that is also a whole continent!

GUESS WHICH ANIMAL'S FOOTPRINT THIS BELONGS TO

Facts About Australia

Australia is a large, multicultural country located in the **Southern Hemisphere**. It has a population of approximately 25 million people. The capital city of Australia is Canberra, which is located in between the states of New South Wales (NSW) and Victoria (VIC). The main language spoken is English.

Australia is divided into **six states** and **two territories**:

New South Wales (NSW)
Victoria (VIC)
Queensland (QLD)
South Australia (SA)

Western Australia (WA)
Tasmania (TAS)
Northern Territory (NT)
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

AUSTRALIAN FLAGS

AUSTRALIAN FLAG

UNION JACK



COMMONWEALTH
STAR

SOUTHERN
CROSS



What Do the Features of the Flags Symbolize?

AUSTRALIAN FLAG

Union Jack: Shows Australia's historical connection to the United Kingdom.

Commonwealth Star: Represents the six states and the territories of Australia.

Southern Cross: The five white stars form the Southern Cross constellation, a group of stars visible in the southern sky, which is important to Australians.

ABORIGINAL FLAG

Black: Represents the Aboriginal people of Australia.

Red: The red stands for the earth and the strong connection Aboriginal people have to the land. It also reminds us of the struggles and bloodshed during conflicts with colonizers.

Yellow: Represents the sun, which is seen as a giver of life and a protector in Aboriginal culture.

POPULAR DEBATE...

Some people in Australia think the flag should be changed to better show respect for Indigenous people and the many different cultures in the country. They think the flag might look different without the Union Jack. What do you think about this idea? If you could design a new flag for Australia, what would it look like?

History of Australian Flag

A long time ago, right after Australia became a united country in 1901, there was a big contest to design a new flag. Designers from all over Australia sent in their flag ideas, and the winning design was chosen by the new government. They picked this new flag because it showed Australia's connection to Britain and its place in the southern part of the world.

The new flag was then approved by King Edward VII in 1901. Since then, the flag has been Australia's national flag, with just a few changes made to the stars.

Today, the Australia flag is an important symbol because it shows the unity of the states and territories, as well as the history as part of the British Commonwealth. This new flag makes people proud to be Australian!

ABORIGINAL FLAG

SUN



ABORIGINAL
PEOPLE

EARTH &
SPIRIT



History of the Aboriginal Flag

Artist Harold Thomas designed the Aboriginal flag in 1971. It quickly became a powerful symbol for the Aboriginal rights movement. It was first flown in Adelaide during National Aborigines Day in 1971. Since then, it has been used in many celebrations and protests. It was officially recognised by the Australian government as a "Flag of Australia" in 1995. Since then, it is given the same importance as the national flag. The flag represents the deep and lasting culture and history of the Aboriginal people and their strong connection to the land.

The background of the page is a stylized illustration. In the foreground, there is a desert landscape with sandy ground, small green bushes, and several tall, thin, reddish-brown rock formations. In the middle ground, there are more green bushes and small trees. In the background, a city skyline is visible with various buildings of different colors (red, blue, yellow) and shapes. The sky is light blue with several white, fluffy clouds. A large, semi-transparent watermark with the word "SAMPLE" in a bold, sans-serif font is oriented diagonally across the entire page, from the bottom left towards the top right.

INDIGENOUS CULTURE & HISTORY

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Who are the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders?



The Aboriginal People

The Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of Australia. Their culture dates all the way back over 65,000 years ago. This means that their history and culture is one of the oldest in the world!

Their unique cultures, languages, and traditions have been passed down from generation to generation. They did this through beautiful artwork, telling interesting stories known as "Dreamtime Stories", and ceremonies. They have created a rich culture with strong spiritual connections to the land.

Throughout the years, they have adapted to different environments such as deserts, rainforests, and knew a lot about the stars, medicine, and how to live sustainably.



Torres Strait Islander People

The Torres Strait Islanders are the Indigenous people from the Torres Strait Islands, which are located between the northern tip of Queensland and Papua New Guinea. Their culture is known for their close ties with the sea and their abilities to seafaring. Their language and traditions are separate from the Aboriginal people. Just like the Aboriginal people, they also have rich culture and have celebrations that include music, dance and ceremonies. Storytelling is also a big part of their culture as a way for them to teach lessons, explain the natural world, and keep the history and laws. As they are connected with the land and sea, traditional practices such as fishing and hunting are still practiced today.



SHORT HISTORY

65,000+ YEARS AGO



ANCIENT TIMES



A long, long time ago, the first Aboriginal people came to Australia. They were the very first people to live on the land. They had amazing skills and traditions, like making beautiful art, telling important stories, and celebrating special ceremonies. They learned how to live in many different places, like hot deserts and lush rainforests. They knew a lot about the stars, how to stay healthy, and how to take care of the environment. The Aboriginal people have one of the oldest cultures in the world!

EUROPEAN EXPLORATION

Captain James Cook was an explorer from Britain who sailed to Australia on a ship called the HMS Endeavour. On April 29th, 1770, he and his crew landed at a place called Botany Bay, which is near Sydney today. They looked at the plants and animals there and made maps of the land. Captain Cook's maps showed that Australia could be a good place for people to live. On August 22, 1770, he claimed the eastern part of Australia for Britain and named it New South Wales. This was the start of a big interest in Australia by people from Europe.

1770



1788



EARLY SETTLEMENTS



In 1788, eleven ships from Britain, called the First Fleet, arrived in Australia. They were led by Captain Arthur Phillip and carried around 1,500 people, including prisoners, soldiers, and officers. They first tried to settle at a place called Botany Bay but found it wasn't right. So, they moved to Port Jackson and set up the first European settlement at Sydney Cove on January 26, 1788. This date later becomes Australia Day. The new settlement had many problems like not enough food, sickness, and disagreements with the Indigenous people. Even with these challenges, the colony grew and started the story of modern Australia.

GOLD RUSH AND GROWTH

In 1851, people found gold in New South Wales and Victoria, starting a big gold rush. Edward Hargraves discovered gold near Bathurst, New South Wales. Soon, gold was also found in Victoria, especially in places called Ballarat and Bendigo. This made lots of people from all over the world come to Australia. The gold rush helped Australia grow quickly, especially Melbourne, which became a big city for money and culture. Even though there were some problems and arguments, especially with Chinese miners, the gold rush changed Australia a lot and made it more diverse.

1851



THE FIRST FLEET OF CONVICTS ARRIVED IN AUSTRALIA IN 1788 WITH 11 SHIPS FROM BRITAIN.





NATURE & ENVIRONMENT

AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS

Kangaroo



Baby kangaroos are called joeys!

Joey

Description

Kangaroos are large marsupials known for their powerful hind legs, long feet, and tail.

Habitat

Found across Australia in various habitats, from grasslands to forests.

Interesting Fact

Kangaroos can cover over 25 feet in a single leap and travel at speeds up to 35 miles per hour.

Koala



Description

Koalas are tree-dwelling marsupials with thick, grey fur and large noses.

Habitat

Eucalyptus forests in eastern Australia.

Interesting Fact

Koalas sleep up to 18-20 hours a day and eat mainly eucalyptus leaves.

Echidna



Description

Echidnas are spiny anteaters with a long snout and covered in spines.

Habitat

Forests, deserts, and grasslands across Australia.

Interesting Fact

Echidnas are one of the few egg-laying mammals, known as monotremes, along with the platypus.

Platypus



Description

The platypus is a unique egg-laying mammal with a duck-like bill, webbed feet, and a beaver-like tail.

Habitat

Freshwater rivers and streams in eastern Australia and Tasmania.

Interesting Fact

Platypuses are one of the few venomous mammals, with males having venomous spurs on their hind legs.

Wombat



Description

Wombats are sturdy, burrowing marsupials with short legs and a compact body.

Habitat

Forests, mountains, and heathland in southeastern Australia.

Interesting Fact

Wombats have backward-facing pouches to avoid filling them with dirt while digging.

Description

Wallabies are small to medium-sized marsupials similar to kangaroos but generally smaller.

Habitat

Various habitats including forests, grasslands, and rocky outcrops.

Interesting Fact

Wombats have backward-facing pouches to avoid filling them with dirt while digging.

Wallaby



Did you know?
The Australian Shepherd is actually a dog breed from the United States.



AUSTRALIAN LANDMARKS

Great Barrier Reef

Information

The Great Barrier Reef is located off the coast of Queensland. It is known as the largest coral reef in the world! It is home to a diverse range of marine life, and also popular for diving and snorkeling. It was formed over millions of years and is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981.



Did you know?

The Great Barrier Reef is so large, it can be seen from outer space!



Uluru (Ayers Rock)

Information

Uluru, also known as Ayers Rock, is located in the Northern Territory (NT). It is a massive sandstone monolith that is sacred to Aboriginals. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that holds significance to Aboriginals for thousands of years. Uluru changes its colour at different times of the day!



Did you know?

Uluru is taller than the Eiffel Tower at 348 meters.



Sydney Opera House

Information

The Sydney Opera House is located in Sydney, New South Wales (NSW). It is an iconic performing arts center known for its unique design. It was designed by Jørn Utzon and opened in 1973. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that hosts over 1500 performances annually!



The background is a stylized illustration of an Australian desert landscape. A large, bright yellow sun is in the center of the sky. To the left, there is a tree with a thick trunk and sparse green leaves. In the center-right, there is a large, rounded rock formation. The ground is reddish-brown with some green bushes and small plants. The sky is a mix of yellow and orange. The entire illustration is framed by a light blue border with small, colorful buildings and structures along the top and bottom edges.

AUSTRALIAN LIFE & CULTURE

AUSTRALIAN FOODS

Meat Pie



A classic Australian snack, meat pies are savory pastries filled with minced meat, gravy, and sometimes onions or mushrooms.

Lamington



A dessert consisting of sponge cake squares coated in chocolate sauce and rolled in desiccated coconut.

Vegemite



A dark, salty spread made from brewer's yeast extract, commonly enjoyed on toast or crackers.

Milo



A chocolate and malt powder that is mixed with milk or hot water to create a nutritious, energy-giving drink.

Sausage Sizzle



Sausages that are barbequed and served with bread and sauce.

Fairy Bread



A children's party treat made by spreading butter on white bread and covering it with colorful sprinkles.

Macadamia Nuts



Round, creamy nuts that taste super creamy and buttery. They have a hard shell on the outside, but they are soft in the inside.

ANZAC Biscuits



Crunchy cookies made from rolled oats, flour, sugar, butter, golden syrup, and desiccated coconut, traditionally associated with ANZAC Day.