

AUSTRALIA

Australia is in the Southern Hemisphere and is the only country that is also its own continent.

We have a democratic system of government lead by a Prime Minister and we are members of the British Commonwealth and Queen Elizabeth II is our head of state.

We use the Australian dollar.

Australia is made up of 6 states and 2 territories and is very large. Great Britain would fit inside Australia approximately 32 times.

Australia has a variety of landscapes from tropical rainforest and beaches to desert, snowy mountain ranges and open plains.



Song: Kookaburra

Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree,
Merry, merry king of the bush is he,
Laugh kookaburra, laugh kookaburra,
Gay your life must be.

Kookaburra sits on the rusty nail,
Got a splinter in his tail,
Laugh kookaburra, laugh kookaburra,
Sore your tail must be.

Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree,
Eating all the gum leaves he can see,
Stop kookaburra, stop kookaburra,
Leave some there for me.

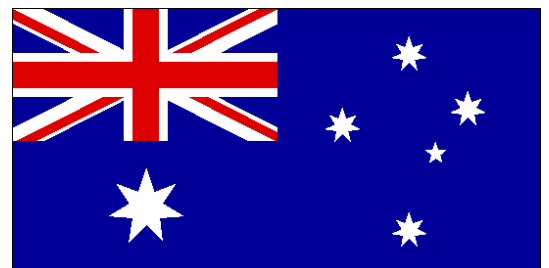


Girl Guides Australia celebrated the Centenary of Guiding in 2010. Guiding has been active in every Australian State and Territory for over 85 years. Girl Guides Australia was a founding member of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 1928. Over a million Australian women have been or are still Guides.

Girl Guides Australia has 5 age groups. Gumnut Guides aged 5-6 years, Brownie Guides aged 7- 11 years, Girl Guides 11-14 years, Ranger Guides 14-18 years and Rangers 18-25 years

Each of the states and territories have their own emblem:

- The Magpie is the emblem of South Australia
- The Southern Cross is for Victoria
- The Platypus is Tasmania
- The Black Swan is Western Australia
- The Waratah is New South Wales & the Australian Capital Territory
- The Black Cockatoo is Northern Territory
- The Koala is Queensland



Australian Guide Promise

I promise that I will do my best:
to do my duty to God, to serve
the Queen and my country;
to help other people; and
to keep the Guide Law.

Lamingtons

185g butter; 185g sugar; 3 eggs, well beaten; 6 tbslp milk; Vanilla essence; 315g self-raising flour; Pinch of salt

Icing Icing sugar; Warm water; Cocoa; Coconut

Cream butter and sugar. Beat in the eggs gradually; then the milk and essence. Lightly fold in the sifted flour and salt. Pour into a greased slab-tin. Bake for about 35mins in a moderate oven. Allow to cool completely. Cut into squares, dip in chocolate icing and then in coconut. Leave to set.



Aboriginal dot painting

Aborigines are the indigenous population of Australia. Their traditional form of artwork is dot painting.

Why not cut out animal shapes or a map of Australia and do dot painting on them.



Australian themed memory

Create a few sets of memory cards with pictures of Australian animals and icons.

Set a challenge to see which group can match all the icons first.

Some animals and icons you could possibly include are:

Kangaroo, koala, platypus, echidna, dingo, snake, gecko, emu, kookaburra, cockatoo, barramundi, crocodile, brolga, Sydney Opera House, Uluru, Great Barrier Reef, The Olgas, 12 Apostles, flip flops (thongs), esky, lifesaving flags, meat pies, lamingtons, venemite, the Ute.



Song: Waltzing Matilda

Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong,
Under the shade of a Coolibah tree,
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boil,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me,
And he sang as he watched and waited till his billy boil
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Down came a jumbuck to drink at that billabong
Up jumped the swagman and grabbed him with glee,
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me,
And he sang as he shoved that jumbuck in his tucker bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Up rode the squatter mounted on his thorough-bred
Down came the troopers One Two Three
Whose that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me
Whose that jolly jumbuck you've got in your tucker-bag
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Up jumped the swagman sprang in to the billabong
You'll never catch me alive said he,
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.

Waltzing Matilda Waltzing Matilda
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that billabong
You'll come a Waltzing Matilda with me.