

AUSSIE CLUE CRACKER



Aussie Clue Cracker Activity – Explore what Australia Day means and how this has changed over time

Explore what Australia Day means and how this has changed over time – what might Australia Day look like in the future?

Outline	Inquiry approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students explore the meaning and history of Australia day and envisage its possible future iterations Students will gain an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Days and weeks celebrated or commemorated in Australia (including Australia Day, Harmony Week, ANZAC Day, NAIDOC week) and the importance of symbols and emblems (Australian Curriculum, History, Year 3, ACHHK063)</i> This is an individual activity. 	<p>ASK: Tune In</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce and discuss the inquiry question: What does Australia Day mean to you? How has it changed over time and what might a future Australia Day look like? Engage your students in learning by brainstorming with them how they feel about Australia Day, what happens on Australia Day and what the focus of the event is. Encourage your students to articulate what they know about Australia Day and get them to share their own experiences and emotions. (Refer to Worksheet 1 to help get you started – read this with your students and discuss with them the different elements that go to make up Australia Day.) Explore with them what they would like to learn and know about through this activity. <p>INVESTIGATE: Find Out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your students will gather information from the Aussie Clue Cracker, from web links and other resources such as Worksheet 2 – an Australia Day Timeline. As they gather this information, encourage your students to think specifically about how and why Australia Day has changed over the years. They may refine the inquiry question or follow a new path that the original question did not-or could not-anticipate. <p>CREATE: Sort Out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your students need to organise the information gathered and synthesise what they find out. Discuss with them how understanding the history of what has happened in relation to Australia Day might inform how they imagine it might change in the future. Ask them: <i>How has Australia changed since you were</i>

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born? How might this affect how we celebrate Australia Day? What changes can you imagine in the future?

- Give your students time to brainstorm their imaginings and share these with their peers.

DISCUSS and Make Connections

- Encourage your students to make connections with information they have gathered in the Aussie Clue Cracker, through their own investigations and class discussions and their own prior knowledge.
- Your students will begin to shape their new thoughts and ideas about a possible future Australia Day and will begin to develop a learning artefact to represent what they have learned and to deepen their understanding of the concepts and ideas related to the inquiry question. This artefact may be a story, a poster, a multimedia presentation, a timeline. Encourage your students to share their work with each other.
- Encourage your students to share their new ideas and learning artefact with others and to compare notes, discuss conclusions, and share their experiences.

EXTEND: Going further

- Further explore concepts, interests and ideas and raise new questions and challenge any assumptions made.

REFLECT:

- Take time with your students to encourage them to look back at the question - *What does Australia Day mean to you? How has it changed over time and what might a future Australia Day look like?* – and encourage them to share what they know now.
- Ask them to reflect on how they used the resources provided, including the Aussie Clue Cracker, what they found, the conclusions they made, the observations they took.
- Ask your students if an answer to the question was found and discuss any new questions that arose as part of the inquiry.

Resources for teachers

- Australia Day (National Australia Day Council)
www.australiaday.org.au

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www.australiaday.org.au/toolkit

- The electorate offices of Senators and Federal Members of Parliament have available (at no cost) *Australian flags* and *Australian symbols* booklets and recordings of the Australian National Anthem (CD and DVD). Flags are also available on request to eligible groups such as schools.
- Fact sheets on Australians national symbols may be downloaded from www.itsanhonour.gov.au
- Australia Day Affirmation Cards and School Australian Citizenship Affirmation Ceremonies www.australianaffirmation.org.au and www.citizenship.gov.au/ceremonies/affirmation



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Worksheet 1 – What do we celebrate on Australia Day?

Australia Day, 26 January, is our national day of celebration. It is the day we come together as a nation to celebrate Australia and being Australian.

In its Australia Day big book, the National Australia Day Council describes Australia Day in this way:

Australia Day is a day we celebrate with family and friends. Celebrations can be big and small.

Australia Day is celebrated everywhere in Australia: at the beach, in the back yard, in the city or in the bush.

Australia Day is for all the people of Australia. We have come from many different places, we all like different things, but we are all Australians.

Australia Day honours our Indigenous people. We honour the culture and love of the land, the stories and the songs. We celebrate the heritage and the future of the first Australians.

Australia Day commemorates Australia's past. We remember the landing of the First Fleet. We remember our important events. We remember the good times and the sad.

Australia Day celebrates our great land. The rivers and the beaches, the mountains and the deserts, we celebrate our country both wild and tamed.

Australia Day honours our heroes. We reward their great achievements. We celebrate our legends. We thank those who help us in times of trouble.

Australia Day celebrates our nation. We value our democratic freedom and rules. We welcome new citizens. We celebrate what unites us as a nation.

Australia Day celebrates being Australian. We celebrate what makes us great. We reflect on our past, present and future. Australia Day is our national day.

This is how the National Australia Day Council describes Australia Day on its website:

It's the day to reflect on what we have achieved and what we can be proud of in our great nation. It's the day for us to re-commit to making Australia an even better place for the future.

Australia Day, 26 January, is the anniversary of the arrival of the First Fleet of 11 convict ships from Great Britain, and the raising of the Union Jack at Sydney Cove by its commander Captain Arthur Phillip, in 1788...

Though 26 January marks this specific event, today Australia Day celebrations reflect contemporary Australia: our diverse society and landscape, our remarkable achievements and our bright future. It also is an opportunity to reflect on our nation's history, and to consider how we can make Australia an even better place in future.

On Australia Day, two thirds of the nation's population of 22 million attend either an organised community event, or get together with family and friends with the intention of celebrating our national day. Many more spend the public holiday relaxing with family and friends.

Yet Australia Day is much more than barbeques and fireworks. It is more than another public holiday. It is more than the pride and excitement of new citizens who call themselves Australian for the first time on 26 January after being conferred citizenship.



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At its core, Australia Day is a day driven by communities, and the celebrations held in each town, suburb or city – unified by the celebration of what's great about Australia and being Australian – are the foundation of its ongoing success.

www.australiaday.org.au/experience/page31.asp

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Worksheet 2 – An Australia Day Timeline

Australia Day has changed over the years.

It is important that your students develop an understanding that these changes reflect the changes in Australian society over this time. The better they understand the history of Australia Day, the easier it will be for them to anticipate how it may change into the future.

Date	Detail
1770	<p>Aboriginal people had been living for more than 40 000 years on the continent we now know as Australia. At least 1 600 generations of these people had lived and died here.</p> <p>Europeans from the thirteenth century became interested in details from Asia about this land to the south. From the sixteenth century, European cartographers and navigators gave the continent various names, including Terra Australis (Southern Land) and New Holland.</p> <p>Captain James Cook raised the Union Jack on what is now called Possession Island on 22 August, 1770, to claim the eastern half of the continent as New South Wales for Great Britain.</p>
1770 - 1788	Captain Arthur Phillip, commander of the First Fleet of eleven convict ships from Great Britain, and the first Governor of New South Wales, arrived at Sydney Cove on 26 January and raised the Union Jack to signal the beginning of the colony.
1804	Early calendars and the Sydney Gazette began referring to 26 January as First Landing Day or Foundation Day. Celebrations took place on this day in Sydney.
1818	30 years after the First Fleet landed, Governor Macquarie acknowledged the day officially as a public holiday. The previous year he accepted the recommendation of Captain Matthew Flinders, circumnavigator of the continent, that the country be called Australia.
1838	An annual public holiday for 26 January was proclaimed to mark 50 years of the British occupation of New South Wales.
1871	The Australian Natives' Association, which was formed as a friendly society to provide medical, sickness and funeral benefits to Australians born with European backgrounds, began to argue for federation of the Australian colonies within the British Empire, and the declaration of a national holiday on 26 January.
1888	Representatives from Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and New Zealand joined NSW leaders in Sydney to celebrate the Centenary (100 years since the First Fleet). What had begun as a NSW anniversary was becoming an Australian one. The day was known as Anniversary or Foundation Day.
1901	<p>The Australian colonies federated to form the Commonwealth of Australia. The Union Jack continued as the national flag.</p> <p>Melbourne was the interim federal capital.</p> <p>The Australian Capital Territory was created in 1908. The federal capital was named Canberra in 1913, and the Parliament House opened there in 1927.</p>
1930	The Australian Natives' Association in Victoria began a campaign to have 26 January celebrated throughout Australia as Australia Day on a Monday, making a long weekend. The Victorian government agreed in 1931 and the other states and territories following by 1935.

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1938	While state premiers celebrated 150 years since the First Fleet, Aboriginal leaders met in Sydney for a Day of Mourning to protest at their mistreatment by white Australians and to seek full citizen rights.
1946	The Australian Natives' Association prompted the formation in Melbourne of an Australia Day Celebrations Committee (later known as the Australia Day Council) to educate the public about the significance of Australia Day. Similar bodies emerged in the other states, which acted as the Federal Australia Day Council.
1948	The Nationality and Citizenship Act created a symbolic Australian citizenship but Australians still remained British subjects.
1954	The Australian blue ensign was designated the Australian national flag.
1960	The first Australian of the Year was appointed: Sir Macfarlane Burnet, a medical scientist. Other annual awards followed: Young Australian of the Year, 1979; Senior Australian of the Year, 1999; and Australia's Local Hero, 2003.
1979	The Commonwealth government established a National Australia Day Committee in Canberra to make future celebrations 'truly national and Australia-wide'. It took over the coordinating role of the Federal Australia Day Council. In 1984 it became the National Australia Day Council.
1984	Australians stopped being British subjects. <i>Advance Australia Fair</i> replaced <i>God Save the Queen</i> as the national anthem.
1988	Sydney continued to be the centre of Australia Day celebrations and ceremonies. The states and territories agreed to celebrate Australia Day in 1988 on 26 January, rather than with a long weekend. Aborigines renamed Australia Day, 'Invasion Day'.
1994	Celebrating Australia Day on 26 January became established. The Australian of the Year Award presentations began alternating between Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane.
2001	Centenary of Federation. The National Australia Day Council's national office was in Canberra.
2004	The presentation of Australia Day awards — the focus of Australia Day — became fixed in Canberra.

An Australia Day timeline was compiled by historian Dr Elizabeth Kwan, who wrote a history of Australia Day for the National Australia Day Council. You can read this in more details at www.australiaday.org.au/experience/page77.asp.

This is provided as a teacher resource only. The language here may be challenging for some of your students.