

# AUSSIE CLUE CRACKER



Aussie Clue Cracker Activity – Create your own symbol of what it means to you to be Australian

Create your own symbol/emblem of what it means to you to be Australian

Outline	Inquiry approach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the range of icons, symbols, emblems, celebrations and events included in the Aussie Clue Cracker</li> <li>Students will gain an understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><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></li> </ul> </li> <li>This is an individual activity.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ASK: Tune In</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduce and discuss the inquiry question: <i>What does it mean to you to be Australian and how could you represent this by developing your own Australian symbol or emblem?</i></li> <li>Identify that the purpose of the learning is to build your students' understanding and appreciation of their place in Australia, as well as to understand the importance of symbols.</li> <li>Engage your students in their learning and build their understanding by spending some time discussing what defines icons, emblems and symbols and their function in society: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>what they represent, what is symbolised and how it is depicted;</li> <li>how they might represent an object or symbolise a quality, a feeling, a place, a country or state, or a group of persons, or how they might depict a picture or meaning (some emblems are inscribed with a motto supplemental to the visual image to form a single unit of meaning);</li> <li>how and for what purpose they are used;</li> <li>what they come to mean to people and why.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Discuss the different forms of the term 'symbol', how something can symbolise/represent or stand for something else. These are difficult concepts for children of this age to grasp and this is a useful step in preparing them to play the <i>Aussie Clue Cracker</i> game.</li> <li>Brainstorm with your students the range of emblems and symbols they might already know about, such as the dove representing peace, the lion symbolising courage, the emblem of their school, badges or flags they know about, their local sporting club emblem, etc.</li> <li>Refine the list by brainstorming with your students the various Australian symbols/emblems they know about, what these represent and how these are used in Australian society.</li> <li>Throughout the tuning in process, encourage your students to share their own experiences and explore with them what they would like to learn and know about through this activity.</li> </ul>

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## **INVESTIGATE: Find Out**

- Allow time for your students to gather information from the Aussie Clue Cracker about the range of Australian icons, symbols it contains.
- Encourage your students to discuss with each other, their family and members of their local community what their perceptions are of what it means to be Australian and the different symbols and emblems they think of when they consider Australia.
- At this stage, you may choose to refine the inquiry question or allow your students to follow a new path that the original question did not-or could not-anticipate.

## **CREATE: Sort Out**

- Your students will need to organise the information gathered and synthesise what they find out in the Aussie Clue Cracker and through their investigations.
- Through sorting out, your students will begin to envisage and plan their own symbol/emblem by drafting, designing and drawing it and also describing what the elements within the symbol/emblem represent and how these relate to their perceptions of themselves as young Australians (See Worksheet 1).

## **DISCUSS and Make Connections**

- Encourage your students to make connections with what they have discussed in and outside of class, what they have learned through playing the Aussie Clue Cracker and with their own prior knowledge.
- As your students begin to shape their new thoughts and ideas, they should be refining the symbol/emblem and description into a learning artefact that shows their understanding of the concepts and ideas related to the inquiry question.
- Encourage your students to share their new ideas with others and to compare notes, discuss conclusions, and share their experiences with each other.

## **EXTEND: Going further**

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

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made particularly related to the place, purpose and value of symbols and emblems.

## REFLECT:

- Take time with your students to encourage them to look back at the question - *What does it mean to you to be Australian and how could you represent this by developing your own Australian symbol or emblem?* – and encourage them to share what they know now.
- Ask them to reflect on how they used 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](http://www.australiaday.org.au)  
[www.australiaday.org.au/toolkit](http://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](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au)



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Worksheet - Create your own symbol/emblem of what it means to you to be Australian

### **My emblem/symbol**

### **Description of my emblem/symbol**

Think about:

1. What does each part of your emblem/symbol represent?
2. Why did you decide to design this emblem/symbol?
3. How does this emblem/symbol show what it means to YOU to be Australian?