

World Geography Series

Years 4–6

AUSTRALIA



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Introduction

About This Book

World Geography Series: Australia presents an overview of the geography of the continent of Australia. It is divided into five sections: Space, Place, Environment, Interconnection and Regions.

Each section contains a selection of teaching pages, maps, activities, interesting facts, review questions and puzzles or games. A plan for using the material to construct a geography centre is also included, as well as ideas for putting together a book as a culminating activity.

About the World Geography Series

The World Geography series consists of seven books, each dealing with a different continental region: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America and South America.

The books provide reproducible activities to aid primary teachers in teaching the topic of continents in alignment with the Australian Curriculum: Geography Knowledge and Understanding strand for Years 4–6, outlined in the table below. However, they can also be used to support the teaching of a range of geography topics from the curriculum, such as sustainability, the environment, cultural diversity and the natural and built features of places.

Further, the World Geography series has been designed to facilitate the integration of geography study with other subjects, including English, Civics and Citizenship, History and the Arts.

Continents in the Australian Curriculum: Geography Knowledge and Understanding Strand for Years 4–6

Year 4	<p>The location of the major countries of Africa and South America in relation to Australia, and their main characteristics, including the types of natural vegetation and native animals in at least two countries from both continents (ACHGK020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using geographical tools, for example, a globe, a wall map or digital application such as Google Earth, to identify the major countries of Africa and South America and their relative locations • using a globe to investigate the Great Circle routes of aeroplane travel between Australia and the major countries of Africa and South America • researching the main types of natural vegetation and native animals in a climate zone in Australia and comparing them with those found in a similar climate in Africa or South America
Year 5	<p>The location of the major countries of Europe and North America in relation to Australia and the influence of people on the environmental characteristics of places in at least two countries from both continents (ACHGK026)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using geographical tools, for example, a globe, wall map or digital application such as Google Earth, to identify the relative location of the major countries of Europe and North America and their environmental characteristics • researching the changes made by people to a particular environment in a country in Europe or North America
Year 6	<p>The location of the major countries of the Asia region in relation to Australia and the geographical diversity within the region (ACHGK031)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using geographical tools, for example, a globe wall map or digital application such as Google Earth to identify the geographical division of Asia into North-East, South-East, South Asia and West Asia (the Middle East) • exploring the diversity of environments, in the Asia region, or in part of the region, or in a country in either North-East, South-East or South Asia • investigating the differences in the population size, density, life expectancy and per capita income between countries across the world • describing the location of places in countries of the Asia region in absolute terms using latitude and longitude

Adapted from ACARA 2014, *Australian Curriculum: Geography*,
<http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/humanitiesandsocialsciences/geography/Curriculum/F-10>



Where on Earth Is Australia? (4 of 5)

You can tell where things on the Earth are in two ways:

- You can give their exact or absolute location using latitude and longitude expressed in degrees (minutes and seconds).
- You can tell where they are in relation to other things.

Fill out the missing information to give the exact location of where you live:

street number	street name	flat number (if applicable)
city	state/country	postcode

Now, use information from a map or globe to complete this description of the exact location of Australia.

Australia lies in the _____ Hemisphere between latitudes _____
and _____.

It reaches from longitude _____ to longitude _____.

1 2 3 4 5

3000 Mi.
Scale at the Equator.



Access this reproducible resource at: go.hbe.com.au



People in Australia *(1 of 2)*

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples were the first residents of Australia. They probably came from Asia by way of what is now Indonesia between 50 000–70 000 years ago.

Australia was claimed for England by Captain Cook who discovered it in 1770. For a long time it was used as a penal colony, a place to send convicts. Then it became a destination for adventurous people who went to seek their fortunes. It remained a colony of Great Britain until 1901, when it became an independent country.

The majority of the people of Australia live in cities and towns along the south-east coast. A few people who farm the land live on the eastern edge of the outback. Historically, the Aboriginals lived in all areas of the country, including the deserts, where they developed a way of dealing with the harsh environment. Today, many of them have moved to cities and towns.

Australia the continent and Australia the country fill up the same land area. The country is divided into six states and two federal territories. List these states and territories below and label them on the political map of Australia.



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People Adapt to and Change the Environment *(2 of 2)*

People adapt to and change the environment in many ways. Think of some possible solutions that may solve these environmental problems:

Housing in cold climates:

Clothing in hot climates:

Clothing in cold climates:

Transportation in mountainous or hilly areas:



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Movement Involves Connection

(2 of 2)

How will people travel around Australia in the future?

Design your own future method of transportation. Explain it and then draw a picture of it below.

This is how my future transportation will work:

This is how my future transportation will look:





The Outback (3 of 5)

The Outback Past and Present (cont.)

3. Put the italicised terms on the previous pages in alphabetical order and tell how many syllables are in each of them.

1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____

4. **The Boomerang**

Find out as much as you can about this weapon. Write your findings on the lines below. (Hint: There are two kinds.)



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