Australia

Digital Resources & Children’s Books

Updated 4/2021

Kid-Friendly YouTube Clips:
Australia, An Ultimate Guide: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTRQsa3ipXU
Australia Facts: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJm7kLzEmdE
Short History of White Australia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6wdf3Z2h2fg
Geography Now, Australia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynHIlx5Rgtl
Opal Capital of the World: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pXZ26lI2oA
Sydney City Tour: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y98sFP8Z0fc
Australian Celebrations: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-aLGvNTFSA
Waltzing Matilda Explained: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aiiLkOQyAwQ
A History of Australian Food: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJK7d1o8sk0
The top Ten Aussie Snacks: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJK7d1o8sk0
How to understand Australians: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=146LrIJ84Jk
The Rules of Cricket Explained: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AqtpNkMvj5Y
Australian Animals for Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkCq54_ho-A
Why Koala has a Stumpy Tail: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itszep0duwl
Great Barrier Reef, Coral, Carbon & Climate Change: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckXrKWdIhg
Every Eucalyptus: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ci7reTYbY48
Indigenous Peoples

Australia’s Aboriginal People: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpAS5f4TjNw

Aboriginal Culture in the Territory: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0WfqQAbV0o

Island Life in the Torres Strait: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkzvtXaLh5o

Torres Strait Islanders, Climate Change: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hXb5b9pdx20

What is Sorry Day? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJq95YhZ1no
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m32cvvJ0tgE

Uluru Rock, How did it form? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKsxCOgihL8

Art of Australia’s Aboriginal People: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5lMEr1EDurU

Old Masters, Great Bark Artists: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52T_rnZk378

Aboriginal Rock Art: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQn5thDkUXE

Aboriginal Art Storytelling: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALJGBf7XF18

Dreamtime Story, Tiddalik the Frog: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0y3Ta5xcKV4&list=PL5MrlDmQ2lLl0wWpmo1jxgIsDPa9HrxmQ

How the Kangaroo got her Pouch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8sWFAGGWvUA

Bullroarer & Clapstick Instruments: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bOlqDR9Mjl

Clapsticks and Didgeridoo Dance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A36H9g6jbkw

How to Play a Didgeridoo: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0XIEkeot7HM

Aboriginal Corroboree Dance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17oZtzQpC3w

Making Boomerang and Spear Hunting Weapons: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HypNVcsozDE

Australia’s Native Bush Food: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lmm51Cyf9_8

Australia Native Plant Gardening: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rrYStcQL7c

Reawakening Aboriginal Languages: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=__GiwfvwxXjs
Websites:
Overview of Australia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia
Canberra, Australia's Capital City: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canberra
Geological Oddities in Australia: https://folkcloud.com/folk-music-by-country/australia
Rabbit Proof Fence: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rabbit-Proof_Fence
Music of Australia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Australia
Traditional Folk Music of Australia: https://folkcloud.com/folk-music-by-country/australia
The Sydney Opera House, Our Story: https://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/our-story.html
Sport in Australia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sport_in_Australia

Lesson Plans:
Aboriginal Art and Storytelling: https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/australian-aboriginal-art-and-storytelling
Aboriginal Xray Art for Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXxuOF0qMss
Exploring a Coral Reef, Oceans for Kids: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2BKd5e15Jc
Australia Geography Games: https://www.learninggamesforkids.com/geography-games/australia.html
### Children’s Books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title: Are We There Yet?</th>
<th>Author: Alison Lester</th>
<th>Age Range: 5 and up</th>
<th>Publisher: Kane/Miller Book Pub</th>
<th>ISBN-10: 1929132735</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Join Grace and her family as they hit the road camping, experiencing, and meeting all the people and places that make up Australia.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Title: Wombat Stew</th>
<th>Author: Marcia K. Vaughan</th>
<th>Age Range: 5 and up</th>
<th>Publisher: Silver Burdett</th>
<th>ISBN-10: 0382092112</th>
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<td><strong>Summary:</strong> A dingo intent on making wombat stew receives cooking suggestions from the other animals, unaware that they are protecting their fellow creature.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Title: Ernie Dances to the Didgeridoo</th>
<th>Author: Alison Lester</th>
<th>Age Range: 5 - 8 years</th>
<th>Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers</th>
<th>ISBN-10: 0618104429</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong> Ernie says goodbye to his friends Rosie, Frank, Tessa, Nicky, Clive, and Celeste, and promises to write to them. He flies over the desert and crosses the floodplains and the East Alligator River to his new home in Arnhem Land in the Australian outback, where he will live for a year while his parents work in a hospital there. Ernie writes to each friend about a different season — Kudjewk, Bangkerreng, Yekke, Wurrkeng, Kurrung, or Kurnumeleng — explaining what that time of year brings and revealing the exciting things that he and his new friends are doing. Back home, his six old friends share what they have learned and try some of the activities of the Australian outback.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title: How to Scratch a Wombat</td>
<td>Author: Jackie French</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Level: 1 - 4</td>
<td>Publisher: Clarion Books</td>
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<td>ISBN-10: 061886864X</td>
<td>Summary: What's the best way to scratch a wombat? Well, if it's a wombat that's familiar with humans, says author Jackie French, you rub the bony ridge along its back or behind its ears. And the harder you scratch, the better the wombat likes it. For more than thirty years, Jackie French has lived in the Australian bush, coexisting with wild wombats. In this cross between memoir and natural history, Jackie shares her often hilarious adventures with her wombat neighbors and describes their physiology, history, and habits. Bruce Whatley adds pencil drawings in both comic and realistic styles. It's a book that's perfect for the budding naturalist. It's an easy read. It's full of funny stories. It's science with a heart.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Title: Over in Australia: Amazing Animals Down Under</th>
<th>Author: Marianne Berkes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Age Range: 3 and up</td>
<td>Publisher: Dawn Publishers</td>
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<td>ISBN-10: 1584691360</td>
<td>Summary: In the Down Under continent, baby wallabies learn to hop, brolgas learn to dance, and emus learn to zig-zag and children will want to hop, dance, and zig-zag right along with the amazing animals of Australia. As with all of Marianne Berkes award-winning Over books, children will also want to sing, clap and count to the rhyme of Over in the Meadow as they learn about wallabies, koalas, wombats, and more. What an easy, fun way to learn about these endearing, unique Australian animals! Jill Dubin’s cut-paper illustrations add to the fun.</td>
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<td>Title: Koala Lou</td>
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<td>Author: Mem Fox</td>
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<td>Age Range: 2 - 6 years</td>
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<td>Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers</td>
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<td>ISBN-10:</td>
<td>0152000763</td>
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<td><strong>Summary:</strong> When Koala Lou’s mother becomes so busy that she forgets to tell her firstborn how much she loves her, Koala Lou enters the Bush Olympics, intending to win an event and her mother’s love all at one time.</td>
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| Title: Australia and Oceania  |
| Author: Mel Friedman-+  |
| Age Range: 7 and up  |
| Publisher: Children’s Printing  |
| ISBN-10: | 0531218287  |
| **Summary:** Together, Australia and the many small islands of Oceania make up Earth’s smallest continent. Yet though the continent is small, it is packed with plenty to see. Readers will hop from island to island as they examine the incredible wildlife and landscapes of Australia and Oceania. Along the way, they will also explore the continent’s history with rich text and stunning visuals, and meet the people who call it home. Features include engaging sidebars that highlight unique animals, landmarks and more; maps to show size, location and topography; glossaries; eye-catching images; charts, diagrams and more. |
**Title:** Australia  
**Author:** Hirsch Rebecca Eileen  
**Series:** Rookie Read-About Geography  
**Paperback:** 32 pages  
**Publisher:** Scholastic (September 1, 2012)  
**Language:** English  
**ISBN-10:** 0531292789  
**Summary:** Get ready for a fascinating trip around the seven continents of the world! Simple, engaging text and colorful, mesmerizing pictures teach you about each continent's land features, populations, native animals, technological advances, and lots more—including how to find each continent on a map! Although it is the smallest continent, Australia contains many landscapes and animals found nowhere else—except inside the pages of this fascinating book!

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**Title:** This is Australia  
**Author:** Miroslav Sasek  
**Age Range:** 9 and up  
**Publisher:** Universe  
**ISBN-10:** 0789318547  
**Summary:** Like the other Sasek classics, these are facsimile editions of his original books. The brilliant, vibrant illustrations have been meticulously preserved, remaining true to his vision more than forty years later and, where applicable, facts have been updated for the twenty-first century, appearing on a "This is . . . Today" page at the back of each book. The stylish, charming illustrations, coupled with Sasek’s witty, playful narrative, make these books a perfect souvenir that will delight both children and their parents, many of whom will remember them from their own childhood. In This is Australia, first published in 1970, Sasek swings down under, winging his readers into Sydney, with its famous bridge and space-age Opera House; bustling, modern Melbourne; colonial Adelaide; semitropical Brisbane; the garden city of Canberra; mineral-rich Perth; and Alice Springs, Australia’s most famous outback town.
**Title:** Dreamtime-Aboriginal Stories  
**Author:** Oodgeroo Nunukul  
**Age Range:** 9 and up  
**Publisher:** Lothrop, Lee and Shepard Books  
**ISBN-10:** 0688132960  
**Summary:** Australia’s most famous Aboriginal writer offers reminiscences of her childhood on Stradbroke Island off the Queensland coast, communicating her pride in her heritage, and presents a collection of traditional Aboriginal folklore.

**Title:** Dingoes at Dinnertime  
**Author:** Mary Pope Osborne  
**Age Range:** 6 - 9 years  
**ISBN-10:** 0679890661  
**Summary:** Jack and Annie are ready for their next fantasy adventure in the bestselling middle-grade series—the Magic Tree House!

**Title:** Meet Captain Cook  
**Author:** Chris Nixon  
**Age Range:** 5 and up  
**Series:** The Meet Series  
**Publisher:** Random House Australia  
**ISBN-10:** 0857980173  
**Summary:** Captain Cook was the first European to discover the eastern coast of Australia. Along with his crew on the HMS Endeavor, Cook set out from England with royal orders to look for signs of the great southern land known as Terra Australis, which they chartered in 1788. From Ned Kelly to Saint Mary Mackillop, Captain Cook to Douglas Mawson, the Meet... series of picture books tells the exciting stories of the men and women who shaped Australian history.
Title: Australians All
Author: Nadia Wheatley
Age Range: 10 - 12 years
Publisher: Allen & Unwin
ISBN-10: 1741146372
Summary: A lavish and comprehensive new history of Australia, told through the lives of children, *Australians All* tells the story of what it was like to grow up on our continent from the Ice Age to the Apology. The historical narrative is interspersed with over seventy mini-biographies and childhood accounts, including some well-known Australians such as William Barak, Ethel Turner, Eddie Mabo, and Mark Oliphant as well as many lesser-known Australians. Meticulously researched and lavishly illustrated with a combination of facsimile images including photographs, paintings, and cartoons.