

# Walker Books Classroom Ideas



## Our Stories: Australian Flags and Emblems

Author: Karen Tayleur  
ISBN: 9781742031095  
ARRP: \$17.95  
NZRRP: \$19.99  
June 2013

Black Dog Books, an imprint of  
Walker Books Australia

\*Notes may be downloaded and printed for  
regular classroom use only.

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## Outline:

The story of Australia is told by the flags and the emblems we see around us. They display our past, our cultural heritage, our national treasures and the amazing diversity of each state. *Australian Flags and Emblems* is a fascinating window onto our rich history and what we value.

## Author/Illustrator Information:

Karen Tayleur has worked in advertising, the print media, publishing and as a singer in a dinner dance band for approximately five minutes. She married her husband because she liked his surname. Her books are published in Australia and overseas. Her “things to do” list is so long she fears she will run out of time before she can get to everything. Her favourite motto is “Life is not a dress rehearsal”.

## How to use these notes:

This book works on many levels. The suggested activities are therefore for a wide age and ability range. Please select accordingly.

### These notes are for:

- Primary year 3
- Ages 8+

### Key Learning Areas:

- English
- History

### Example of:

- Non-fiction
- Picture book

### Themes/ Ideas:

- Exploration
- Botany
- Federation
- Aboriginals
- Ceremony

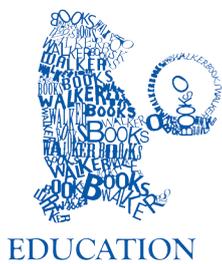
### National Curriculum Focus:\*

English content descriptions:

English  
Year 3  
ACELA1478  
ACELA1479  
ACELA1483  
ACELT1596  
ACELY1676  
ACELY1792  
ACELY1677  
ACELY1678  
ACELY1682  
ACELY1683  
ACELY1685

History  
Year 3  
ACHHK060  
ACHHK061  
ACHHK062  
ACHHK063  
ACHHS065  
ACHHS066  
ACHHS067  
ACHHS215  
ACHHS068

\*Key content descriptions have been identified from the Australian National Curriculum. However, this is not an exhaustive list of National Curriculum content able to be addressed through studying this text.



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## Discussion Questions and Activities

### English

What type of text is this book (i.e. informative/persuasive)? How can you tell? What techniques does this text type use to fulfil its purpose?

How does the layout of this book affect the readability of the text? Consider the large illustrations and photos, small blocks of text, and bold and coloured sections of text.

Identify the following elements in this book:

- table of contents
- introduction
- section headings
- glossary
- index

A glossary is a collection of words from the book that lists their definitions. Turn to page 32 to view the glossary for *Australian Flags and Emblems*. Are there any extra words in the book that aren't in the glossary that you don't know the meaning of? List these words then research their meaning or ask the class if anyone knows.

In what order is a glossary set out? How does this help when using it?

What is the purpose of an index? In what sort of books would you find one?

Who is the audience for this book? What makes you think that? Who do you think might enjoy this book other than the intended audience?

Is the majority of text in this book objective (unbiased) or subjective (biased)? When is it appropriate to use objective or subjective language?

### History

Draw a timeline of the evolution of Australian flags, starting with the British flag captain Cook planted in Botany Bay on 29 April 1770, then mark the introduction and updates of all Australian flags up until now.

Design a new flag for Australia. Show your design to the class and explain why you have designed it that way.

What is the significance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags?

Some Australians would like to have a new flag to replace our current one. Have a class debate on whether or not we should change the flag.

Why is it important for each state and territory to have their own flag?

Does your school have a flag or crest? Discuss why the flag or crest was designed that way.

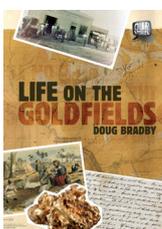
Look for flags and emblems in sporting and social clubs in your local area. Invite a member of a club to visit your school to discuss the meaning and significance of their club emblem.

Certain flags are flown on special occasions. What flags are flown to mark:

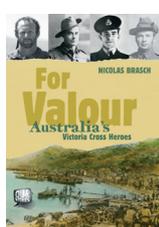
- NAIDOC week
- National Reconciliation Week
- National Sorry Day
- MABO Day

In groups, design a flag for your class. Include elements in the design that represent the people in your class and the types of activities your class enjoys.

## Other great books in the Our Stories series



**Our Stories: Life on the Goldfields**  
Doug Bradby  
9781742032139  
AU\$17.95/NZ\$19.99  
Classroom ideas available



**For Valour: Australia's Victoria Cross Heroes**  
Nicolas Brasch  
9781742032313  
AU\$17.95/NZ\$19.99  
Classroom ideas available



**Our Stories: Captain Cook and the Endeavour**  
Mike Lefroy  
9781742031286  
AU\$17.95/NZ\$19.99