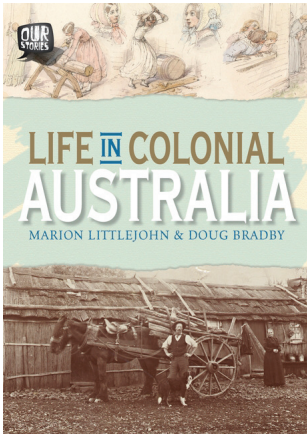




Classroom Ideas



Our Stories: Life In Colonial Australia

by Marion Littlejohn and Doug Bradby
ISBN: 9781922179951
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NZRRP: \$19.99
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*Notes may be downloaded and printed for regular classroom use only.

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Outline:

What was life like for ordinary people in Colonial Australia? Can it really be called The Good Old Days when the work was backbreaking and the days were long, even for children? *Life in Colonial Australia* shows us exactly how it was.

Author/Illustrator Information:

For as long as Marion Littlejohn can remember history has been a passion. Marion has taught History, English and Art to secondary students in Melbourne, Darwin, Dimboola and Rochester. In 1995 she made the move from the classroom to the museum world and began working as an Education Officer at the Sovereign Hill outdoor museum in Ballarat. *Our Stories: Eureka Stockade* was her first Black Dog Books title.

In 1858, Doug Bradby's paternal grandfather walked to Ballarat as a 10-year-old boy with his widowed mother. His maternal grandfather worked as a contractor erecting poppet heads on the Ballarat mines. He dismantled the last mine in Ballarat in 1920. Doug is a retired history teacher and taught for 30 years in Ballarat schools. He is currently Sovereign Hill's ambassador to local schools and a guide at the gold museum. Doug's other Black Dog Books title is *Our Stories: Life on the Goldfields*.

How to Use These Notes:

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

<p>These notes are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary years 5-6 • Ages 10+ 	<p>Key Learning Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English • History 	<p>Example of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-fiction 	<p>Themes/Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian History • Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia • Australian Goldfields <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immigration • Miners/Diggers
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National Curriculum Focus:*

Year 5

ACHHK093
ACHHK094
ACHHK095
ACHHK096
ACHHK097
ACHHS098
ACHHS099
ACHHS100

ACHHS101
ACHHS102
ACHHS103
ACHHS104
ACHHS105
ACHHS106

Year 6

ACHHK115
ACHHK116
ACHHS117
ACHHS118
ACHHS119
ACHHS120
ACHHS121
ACHHS122

ACHHS123
ACHHS124
ACHHS125

*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.



Classroom Ideas

Discussion Questions And Activities:

English

View the cover and title. Identify the following:

- The title of the book
- The authors
- The publisher

Discuss the following: What is the role of the author?
What is the role of the publisher?

What information can you learn about this book from the front and back cover? What do you think this book is about? What information do you think will be covered in this book? What type of book is this and where would you expect to find it in your library?

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.

Find the following sections in *Life in Colonial Australia* and explain their purpose. In what kind of books might you find these sections?

- Contents
- Conclusion
- Glossary
- Index

In what order is a glossary set out? How does this help when using it? Make a list of unfamiliar words from the text and research their definition to add them to the glossary.

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 this book informative, imaginative or persuasive? Does it fit into more than one of these categories? Find examples in the text that show you what category/categories this book fits into.

What is your favourite photograph or drawing in this book? Why did you pick this picture? What did you learn from it?

Make a list of the key differences between life in Australia in 1800 to 1900. What led to each of these changes?

On page 30, what points are the authors making in the conclusion? Do you agree or disagree with their opinion? Find evidence from the text to support their argument.

History

How do you think the authors researched the information that supports what they have written in this book?

Create a timeline of the key developments of Australian life during 1800-1900. Include extra information and pictures found in your school library or online. Use an online interactive timeline creator such as Time Toast (www.timetoast.com) or Tiki-Toki (www.tiki-toki.com).

What is gold? What is it used for? Why did the prospect of finding gold bring so many people from all over the world to Australia?

Choose a year between 1800 and 1900 and make a guide for an emigrant who has just arrived in Australia. Write about what the emigrant should expect with regards to weather, food, living conditions and employment. Design your guide in a desktop publishing program or by hand.

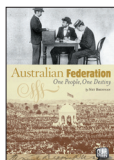
As a class, have a discussion on the reliability of information found online. Are all websites reliable? Discuss how addresses ending in .gov or .edu are generally reliable, but other addresses ending in .com need to be used with caution. Why can some websites feature unreliable information?

Have a class discussion on how you would go about seeking further information on Australian history during colonial times. Discuss the places information can be found and the reliability of the information based on the author. Also discuss the difference between primary and secondary sources.

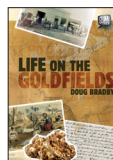
Other Great Titles From Black Dog Books:



Our Stories:
Mary's Australia
Pamela Freeman
9781922077905 PB
Classroom ideas available



Our Stories:
Australian Federation
Janette Brennan
9781922179944 PB
Classroom ideas available



Our Stories:
Life On The Goldfields
Doug Bradby
9781742032139 PB
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Our Stories:
Australian Flags And Emblems
Karen Tayleur
9781742031095 PB
Classroom ideas available