



AUSTRALIA

“THE LAND DOWN UNDER”

STANDARDS

▶ **SS6G12** The student will be able to locate selected features of **Australia.**

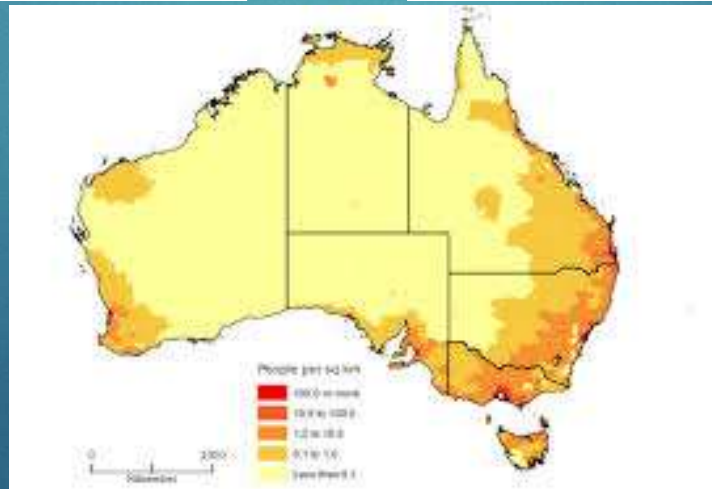
a. Locate on a world and regional political-physical map: the Great Barrier Reef, Coral Sea, Ayers Rock, and Great Victoria Desert.

AUSTRALIA'S LOCATION



AUSTRALIA'S LOCATION

- ▶ Australia is both a continent and a country.
- ▶ Most people in Australia live along the east coast in urban areas.



PHYSICAL FEATURES OF AUSTRALIA

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

This is the world's largest coral reef.



THE CORAL SEA

IS A PART OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN



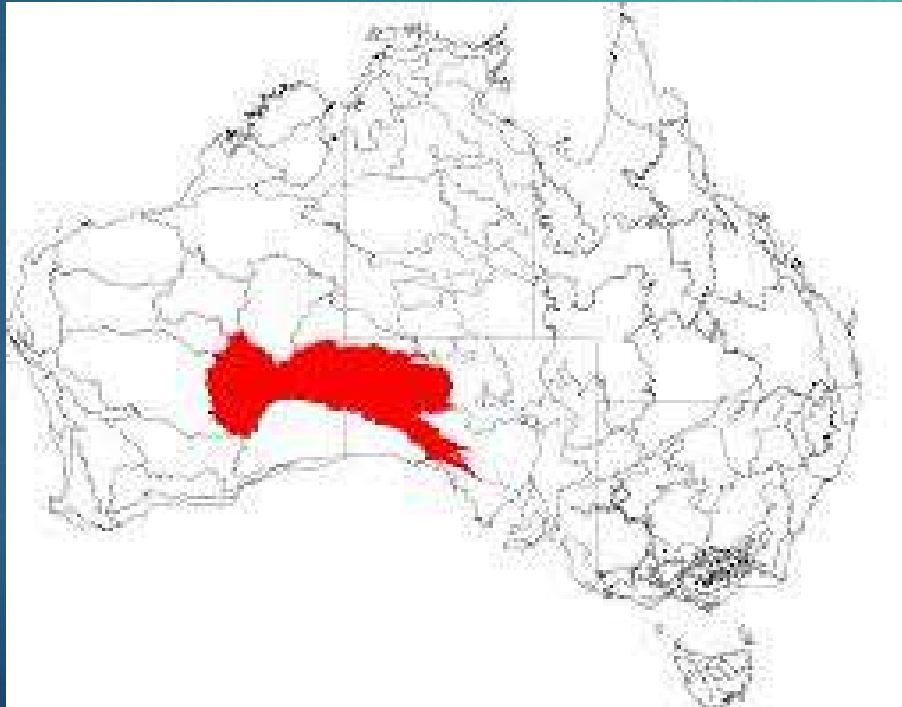
AYERS ROCK

- ▶ It is a massive reddish rock in the center of Australia.
- ▶ It is a huge monolith (large rock sticking out of the earth).
- ▶ It is called “Uluru” by the Aborigines.



GREAT VICTORIA DESERT

- ▶ Receives only 8 – 10 inches of rain per year and never gets snow.



STANDARDS

► **SS6G13** The student will explain the impact of location, climate, distribution of natural resources, and population distribution on Australia.

a. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources have affected where people live.

b. Describe how Australia's location, climate, and natural resources impact trade.

AUSTRALIA'S CLIMATE

- ▶ The hottest part of Australia is in the north which is closest to the equator.
- ▶ The largest part of Australia is desert.

NATURAL RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA



Australia's OUTBACK is the dry interior part of the country.

NATURAL RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA



Australia's BUSH is the remote countryside of Australia.

NATURAL RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ Mining is a huge industry in Australia – much coal.
- ▶ Australia also leads the world in the production of diamonds and lead.



NATURAL RESOURCES OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ There was a huge gold rush in Australia in the mid-19th century (1800's) which brought people from all over the world to Australia.
- ▶ Australia still produces gold today.



STANDARDS

- ▶ **SS6H8 The student will describe the culture and development of Australia prior to contact with Europeans.**
 - a. Describe the origins and culture of the Aborigines.

STANDARDS

► **SS6H9 The student will explain the impact European exploration and colonization had on Australia.**

a. Explain the reasons for British colonization of Australia; include the use of prisoners as colonists.

b. Explain the impact of European colonization of Australia in terms of diseases and weapons on the indigenous peoples of Australia.

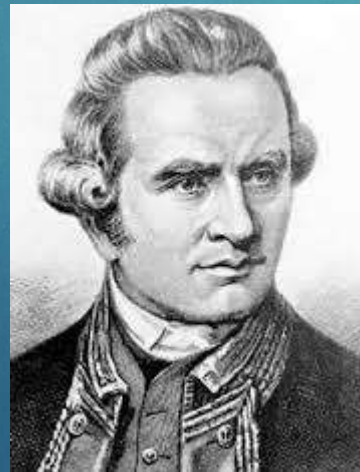
HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ The natives (first peoples) of Australia are called Aborigines.



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ The first Europeans arrived in Australia in 1606.
- ▶ In 1770, Captain James Cook claimed the Australian east coast for England.



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

ONE REASON ENGLAND WANTED AUSTRALIA:

- ▶ They needed it to be a place for prisoners.
(Jails in England were overcrowded.)



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

ANOTHER REASON ENGLAND WANTED TO COLONIZE AUSTRALIA:

- ▶ Australia was a good place for England to base its navy in the South Pacific. This would allow more trade between Asia, Australia, and the Americas.



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

ANOTHER REASON ENGLAND WANTED TO COLONIZE AUSTRALIA:

- ▶ England did not want France to get control of Australia. (Countries in Europe were very competitive and each wanted to have more colonies than the other!)



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ British settlers had an immediate impact on Aboriginal life.
- Europeans took over good sources of water, fisheries, and productive land.



HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

▶ British settlers also turned
Aboriginal land into :

❑ Colonial Towns

❑ Farms

❑ Mining Operations

HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ The most damaging things Europeans brought to Australia were diseases.
- ▶ Smallpox was a new disease which Aborigines had no resistance to. It killed large numbers.
- ▶ It is estimated that half of the indigenous people of Australia died of these diseases.



STANDARDS

▶ **SS6G14** The student will describe the cultural characteristics of people who live in Australia.

a. Explain the impact of English colonization on the language and religion of Australia.

CULTURE OF AUSTRALIA

- ▶ English is the main language of Australia because of its history.
- ▶ Immigrants from many countries live in Australia.
- ▶ Christianity is the most popular religion in Australia because of its history.



STANDARDS

▶ **SS6E8** The student will analyze different economic systems.

c. Describe the economic system used in Australia

AUSTRALIA'S ECONOMY

- ▶ China is Australia's neighbor to the north and a big trading partner.
- ▶ Tourism is another huge money maker for Australia.
- ▶ Australia is one of the freest economies of the world. It is a market/mixed economy with very few government rules.



STANDARDS

▶ **SS6CG7** The student will explain the structure of the national government of Australia.

a. Describe the federal parliamentary democracy of Australia, distinguishing form of leadership, type of legislature, and the role of the citizen in terms of voting and personal freedoms.

AUSTRALIA'S GOVERNMENT

- ▶ Australia has a federal government.
- ▶ There are 6 states which represent the 6 British colonies that joined to create the Commonwealth of Australia. There are also 2 territories.



AUSTRALIA'S GOVERNMENT

- ▶ Australia is a part of the Commonwealth of Nations because it used to be part of the British empire. Therefore, the Queen is their head of state.



AUSTRALIA'S GOVERNMENT

- ▶ Australia is also democratic because citizens elect members of Parliament. The MPs choose a Prime Minister to lead the country.



Tony Abbot – Prime Minister of Australia

