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explore

# Australia

AUSTRALIA



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# Australia facts

**OFFICIAL NAME:**

Commonwealth of Australia

**CAPITAL:**

Canberra

**POPULATION:**

22,507,617

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE:**

English

**CURRENCY (MONEY):**

Australian dollar

**AREA:**

2,969,906 square miles  
(7,692,024 square km)

**CLIMATE:**

Cooler in the south-east and southwest. The north has a warmer tropical climate.

**MAJOR MOUNTAIN RANGES:**

Great Dividing Range,  
Macdonnell Ranges

**MAJOR RIVERS:**

Murray-Darling,  
Murrumbidgee, Lachlan

**MAJOR PRODUCTS:**

wheat, wool, sugarcane, iron  
ore, gold, opals, gas and coal.



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# Australia

## landmark



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# great barrier reef

- ♀ The Great Barrier Reef is the largest reef and living structure in the world.
- ♀ It is located off of Queensland, Australia in the Pacific Ocean.
- ♀ The Reef is over 1,600 miles (2600 km) in length.
- ♀ The Reef was formed over millions of years from thousands of individual animals called coral polyps - so it is alive!
- ♀ Bryozoans (tiny organisms) and algae are what hold it all together.
- ♀ It is the only living thing on Earth visible from space.
- ♀ The Great Barrier Reef is home to over 1,500 different types of fish.
- ♀ There are 215 different types of birds living around the Great Barrier Reef.
- ♀ 5,000 types of mollusks such as octopus, cuttlefish and squid live there too.



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# Australia

## food



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# Lamingtons

Vegemite is a paste made out of leftover brewer's yeast that is a popular spread for sandwiches. A lamington is a yummy dessert with sponge cake covered with chocolate icing and shredded coconut. Lamingtons were invented in the 1800s as a way to use stale sponge cake.

## ingredients:

Sponge cake (1-2 days old)  
2 cups (475ml) powdered sugar  
4 tablespoons (60ml) cocoa powder  
1 stick butter  
1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla  
2 cups (475 ml) finely shredded coconut

## directions:

Melt butter in microwave (get an adult to help), then add vanilla, sugar and cocoa and stir together. Cut sponge cake into small squares. Next pour the coconut into a bowl. Take one piece of sponge cake at a time and dip in the chocolate icing, then roll in the shredded coconut.



# Australia

language



# common words & phrases

## **GOOD DAY**

G'day (ga day)

## **GOODBYE**

cheerio, toodle-oo

## **HOW ARE YOU?**

ow ya goin'

## **THANKS!**

cheers

## **THANK YOU**

ta

## **SEE YOU THIS AFTERNOON**

c'ya this arvo

## **AN AUSTRALIAN**

Aussie

## **A BABY ANIMAL (MARSUPIAL)**

joey

## **FRIEND**

mate

## **CANDY**

lollies

## **SILLY PERSON**

galah





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# Australia flag



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# Australia fun facts

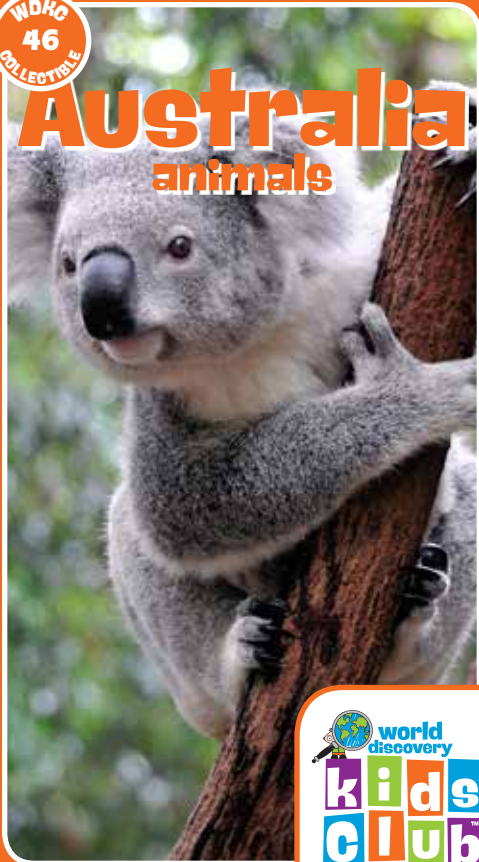
- ♀ The world's oldest fossil, which is about **3 billion** years old, was found in Australia.
- ♀ A desert area known as the '**outback**' covers much of the land.
- ♀ **Ayers Rock**, in the outback, is the biggest sandstone rock in the world! It is officially known as Uluru.
- ♀ The **Aborigines** (the native people of Australia), have been there for **60,000** years and invented the boomerang.
- ♀ Australia is home to unique animals including the **koala, kangaroo, emu, kookaburra** and **platypus**.
- ♀ Australia has over **750** different reptile species, more than any other country in the world.
- ♀ The **Australian Alps** receive more snowfall than Switzerland.
- ♀ The **Sydney Opera House** is the most famous performing arts location in the world. It is shaped like the **sails** of a boat.



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# Australia

## animals



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# Australia Animals

# koala

- ♀ Koalas are **native** to Australia.
- ♀ They are **marsupials**, not bears, and are related to kangaroos and wombats.
- ♀ The female has a pouch where their tiny baby (**joey**) develops until they are 7 months old.
- ♀ Fossils of koalas found in Australia have been dated as far back as **20 million** years.
- ♀ **Eucalyptus leaves** are almost all that koalas eat.
- ♀ They have **sharp claws** which help them climb trees.
- ♀ Their fingerprints are **similar** to human fingerprints.
- ♀ Koalas have **large noses** that are colored pink or black.



# Australia

## traditional clothes



# traditional clothing

- ♀ **Akubra** is an Aboriginal (native Australian) word for a head covering.
- ♀ The Akubra is an **outback bush hat** made from rabbit fur felt that has a wide brim.
- ♀ **Outback hats** protect the farmers, cowboys and other workers from the sun, heat, rain or snow.
- ♀ They are also used to hold eggs or mushrooms, to fan fires, and are even used to give **water to dogs**.
- ♀ Akubra hats sometimes have **corks** hanging from the brim to keep away the flies.
- ♀ The "**Driza-Bone**" is the traditional Australian cowboy's oilskin riding coat.
- ♀ The coat was made for Australian **cowboys** to protect them from the rain.
- ♀ Driza-Bone coats were also worn by the men who built the **railways, roads** and **highways** of Australia.



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# Australia

## money



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# australian dollar

- ♀ Australia's currency is the **Australian dollar** which comes in denominations of **5, 10, 20, 50** and **100** notes. **Coins** come in **5, 10, 20** and **50 cent** pieces and **one** and **two dollar** denominations.
- ♀ The symbol for the Australian dollar is **A\$**.
- ♀ The Australian dollar was introduced in **1966**, replacing the Australian pound.
- ♀ Australia was the first country to replace their paper bills, or notes, with **plastic** ones. These bills are harder to **counterfeit** (copy) and last four times as long as paper notes.
- ♀ Australian bills have pictures of **famous** Australians.
- ♀ Australian coins feature **Queen Elizabeth II** on the front and Australian symbols on the back.
- ♀ The **A\$1** coin has five kangaroos on the back.





# Australia

## trivia questions

Are you a World Discovery expert on Australia? Let's see how much you learned. The answers are on the back of this card but don't peek!

1. What is the capitol of Australia?
2. What is the largest living structure in the World?
3. What is Vegemite?
4. What is a joey?
5. What is the desert called in Australia?
6. What do koalas eat?
7. What is an Akubra made out of?
8. What are Australian dollar bills made from?



# Australia trivia answers

1. Canberra
2. The Great Barrier Reef
3. A paste made out of leftover brewer's yeast extract
4. A baby koala or kangaroo
5. The outback
6. Eucalyptus leaves
7. Rabbit fur felt
8. Plastic

**Let's see how you scored!**

**8 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Genius**

**7 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Expert**

**6 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Whiz Kid**

**5 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Hot Shot**

**4 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Ace**

**3 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Explorer**

**2 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Jr. Explorer**

**1 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Student**





# Australia

## trivia questions

Here are some fun facts you can try out on the grown-ups! You can show them your Australia Collectible Cards and see if they can answer these questions. Don't let them peek at the answers on the back of this card!

1. What holds the Great Barrier Reef together?
2. Why were lamingtons invented?
3. If someone from Australia calls you a "galah", what does that mean?
4. What mountain range in Australia gets more snow than Switzerland?
5. What looks similar between koalas and humans?
6. Why would you hang corks on an Akubura hat?
7. How many kangaroos are on a A\$1 coin?
8. What famous building is shaped like sails of a boat?



1. Bryozoans
2. To use stale sponge cake
3. A silly person
4. The Australian Alps
5. Our fingerprints
6. To keep the flies away
7. Five
8. The Sydney Opera House

**Let's see how they scored!**

**8 CORRECT**

World Discovery Australia **Genius**

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