AUSTRALIA

____-group

Student:

Teacher: _____

The Commonwealth Coat of Arms



NATIONAL SYMBOLS OF AUSTRALIA

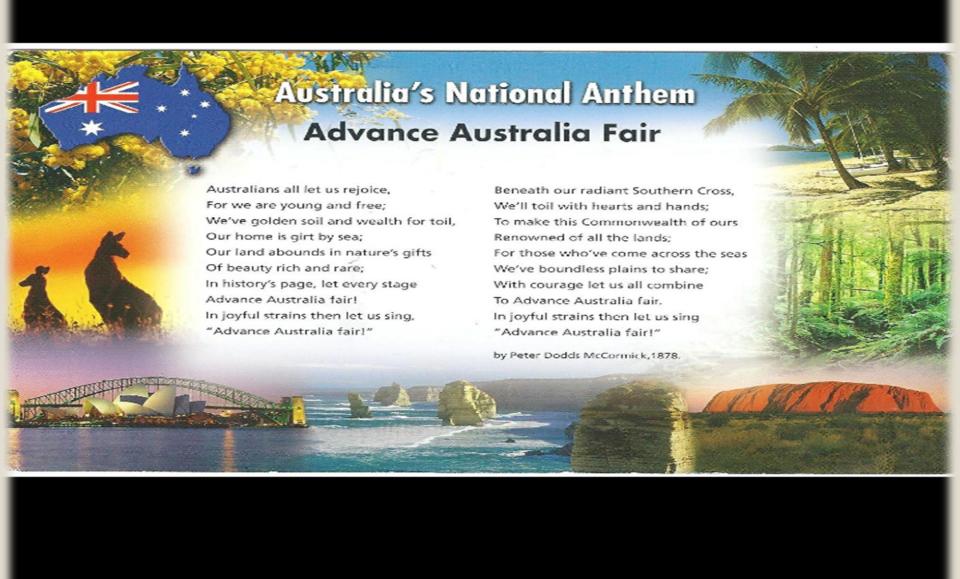
COAT OF ARMS

NATIONAL FLAG

Australian's current Coat of Arms was granted by King George V in September of 1912 and is the second Commonwealth Coat of Arms. The first version appeared in 1908 and although similar, it did not include any specific references to the Australian States recommendations of the Commonwealth government by King George V led to a number of changes which resulted in the design we see today.

• Who designed it?

- A competiton was held for a design in 1901. Five entries, almost identical, shared the prize. Artist Annie Whistler Dorrington was the first named of the five.
- When and where it was flown?
- 1901 in melbourne. In 1908 a seventh point was added to the Commonwealth star to represent territories
- What do the stars represent?
- The five star on the right represent the constellation of stars known is the Southern Cross and represents Australia's location in the southern hemisphere. The large, seven pointed star is the federation or Commonwealth star. Each of the points represents one of the six States and seventh for the present Australian territories (Canberra and Northern Territory)



Political system

Australia is a consitutional monarchy, with the queen of Great Britian at its head. It consists of six states and two territories. Thequeen is represented by the governor-general who is appointed by the Australian government. Thie governor General appoints members of the Excutive Council, has advisory cabinet. The main legislative body in the country is Federal Parliament. It consists of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Representatives. There ten senators from each state and two from each territory in the Senate. The House of Representatives is elected by general direct vote for a three-year term. The excutive power belongs to the queen and government. It is headed by the Prime Minister. The ministers are chosen from members of Parliament and The Excutive Council. There are two mojor political parties in Australia: The Australian Labour party and a coalition of the Liberal and the Agrarian parties.

LANGUAGE

Though Australia has no oficcial language, English is regarded as the de facto national language of Australia and is spoken by all. Even so Australia is a linguistically and culturally diverse country with influenses from more than 160 spoken languages. Autralian language has a unique accent and vocabulary. Collectively, Australians have more than 200 spoken languages. Immigration patterns have had a significant influence on the most widely spoken laguage in the country other than English.



Jan 01	New Years Day	Jun 01	Western Australia Day
Jan 26	Australia Day	Jun 08	Queens Birthday
Mar 02	Labour Day	Aug 03	Picnic Day
Mar 09	Adelaide Cup	Aug 12	Ekka People's Day
Mar 09	Canberra Day	Sep 06	Fathers Day
Mar 09	Labour Day	Sep 28	Family & Community Day
Apr 03	Good Friday	Sep 28	Queens Birthday
Apr 06	Easter Monday	Oct 05	Labour Day
Apr 25	ANZAC Day	Nov 03	Melbourne Cup Day
Apr 27	ANZAC Day (observed)	Dec 25	Christmas Day
May 04	Labour Day	Dec 26	Boxing Day
May 10	Mothers Day	Dec 28	Boxing Day (in lieu)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION