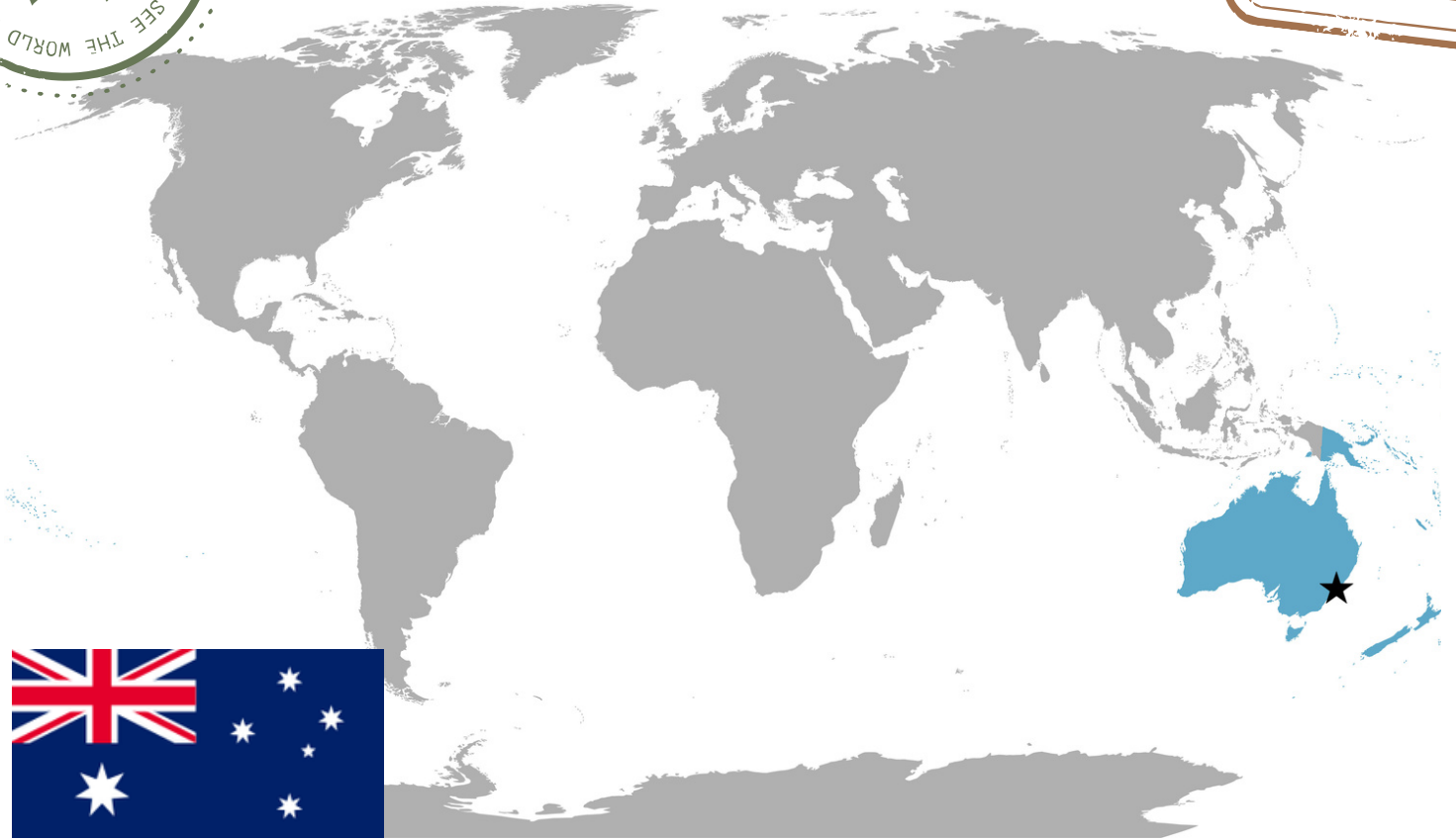




SYDNEY

Welcome to Australia



Australia is located between the South Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean

DEADLY SPECIES

There are 36 species of poisonous funnel-web spiders in eastern Australia and 20 types of venomous snakes.

A DIVERSE NATION

early a quarter of the people who live in Australia were born in other countries. Many from the UK and other European countries, as well as from China, Vietnam, North Africa and the Middle East.

SURF'S UP

Australia is one of the greatest surfing nations and the largest surf country of the Southern Hemisphere. It has between 2.5 and 3.5 million active surfers while one in three wave riders are women.

LET'S EXPLORE

Sydney Opera House: One of Sydney's most iconic landmarks is the Sydney Opera House. The Opera House welcomes more than 8.2 million visitors a year and one of the world's busiest performing arts centers, presenting more than 2000 shows 363 days a year for more than 1.5 million people.

National Parks: Australia has 516 national parks to protect its unique plants and animals. There are also several types of rain forests - tropical rain forests, mainly found in the northeast, are the richest in plant and animal species. Subtropical rain forests are found near the mid-eastern coast, and broadleaf rain forests grow in the southeast and on the island of Tasmania.

Sydney, Australia



Kaiser Woodland PFO Read-A-Thon



AMAZING NATURE!

The Great Barrier Reef in Eastern Australia is the biggest coral reef system in the world. The reef consists of more than 3,000 reefs and 900 islands. The Barrier Reef is home to over 350 species of corals and over 1,500 species of fish.

Australia's ecosystem: Australia is the only country in the world that covers an entire continent. It is one of the largest countries on Earth. Although it is rich in natural resources and has a lot of fertile land, more than one-third of Australia is desert.

The ecosystem is an unusual one because of its remote location. As a result, there are many animal species that occur here and nowhere else in the world, such as the platypus, kangaroo, echidna, and koala.

One of Australia's most amazing sites rises like an enormous whale's back from a flat red-soil desert called the Red Center. This site is called Uluru, and it is a sacred natural formation at the heart of the country. Rising 1,100 feet (335 meters) tall, it is the largest rock in the world!



Koalas are marsupials, related to kangaroos.

READ ALOUD

Possum Magic by *Mem Fox* - story read by *Woodland Family friend, Leanne Coghill*

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Mirror by *Jeannie Baker*

Wombat, Mudlark & Other Stories by *Helen Milroy*

ABORIGINAL CULTURE



The **didgeridoo** was developed by Aboriginal peoples of northern Australia at least 1,500 years ago.

Aboriginal peoples have lived on the continent now known as Australia for more than 50,000 years. Theirs is one of the oldest living civilizations in the world. Aboriginal peoples are one of two Indigenous cultural groups in Australia. The other group is the Torres Strait Islander peoples. Both groups share a close connection to the land, to waterways, and to living things. However, the Aboriginal peoples have their own distinct cultural practices, languages, and beliefs.

Evidence shows that Australian Aboriginal people have lived on the continent for thousands of years. Archaeologists found two skeletons of people in Mungo National Park in New South Wales. The skeletons were more than 40,000 years old.