Teacher's Guide

D is for Down Under: An Australia Alphabet

Author: Devin Scillian
Illustrator: Geoff Cook

Guide written by Cheryl Grinn

This guide may be reproduced for use with this express written consent of Sleeping Bear Press

Published by:

Sleeping Bear Press
315 E. Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 200
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
800-487-2323

www.sleepingbearpress.com
D is for Down Under
What does it mean?

Australians speak English but many of the words and phrases they use are not familiar to us.

Have fun matching each of the words in the box below with the Australian version of the word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>barbecue</th>
<th>good day</th>
<th>baby kangaroo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gasoline</td>
<td>candy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mother</td>
<td>countryside</td>
<td>friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>food</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. mate _______________________
2. barbie _______________________
3. mum ________________________
4. tucker _______________________
5. lollies _______________________
6. petrol _______________________
7. g’day _______________________
8. oz _________________________
9. joey _________________________
10. bush _________________________
D is for Down Under

All About Australia

Search high and low in the book *D is for Down Under* to find the answers to the questions below.

1. Name the world’s oldest wind instrument ______________________

2. Which type of crocodile prefers saltwater? ______________________

3. An Australian term for a teapot ________________________________

4. A brown sticky paste eaten on toast _____________________________

5. Name the Aboriginal Australian who was a tennis star ___________

6. How many states and territories does Australia have? ___________

7. Name the capital of Australia _________________________________

8. What are Australia’s national colors? __________________________

9. Which city is known as “The City of Lights?” ____________________

10. What are native dogs of Australia called? ______________________

11. Where can you find a waterfall in the Outback? _________________

12. What do Australians call their ranches? ________________________
Use the book *D is for Down Under* to help answer these geography questions about Australia.

1. Is Australia an island or a continent? ____________________________

2. Name the states and territories of Australia ______________________
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________

3. Australia lies in the ___________________________ Ocean

4. Name each of the continents in the world ______________________
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________

5. What is the capital of Australia?_______________________________

6. Name two seas that touch Australia _____________________________

7. In which hemisphere is Australia?_____________________________

8. List 5 cities found in Australia _________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________
Discover the many unique animals found in Australia throughout the book *D is for Down Under*.

Place each animal from the box below in the correct category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>crocodile</th>
<th>sheep</th>
<th>wallaby</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kookaburra</td>
<td>platypus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kangaroo</td>
<td>lizard</td>
<td>echidna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dingoes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cow</td>
<td>seagull</td>
<td>koala bear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Marsupials**

**Reptiles**

**Birds**

**Mammals**

**Monotremes**
The hopping kangaroo was making a list of number patterns but it left a few numbers out! Fill in the blanks in his number lines.

1. 1, 3, 5, ____, ____, 11, 13, ____

2. 54, 43, ____, 21, _____

3. 100, 97, ____, ____, ____, 85

4. 1, 26, 51, ____, ____, 126

5. 77, 70, ____, 56, ____ , ____ , ____ , ____

6. 115, 105, 95, ____ , ____

7. 999, 909, ____ , ____ , ____

8. 5, 7, 10, ____ , ____ , 25, ____
D is for Down Under

It’s Different Down Under!

What are the differences between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres? Are there any differences? Yes, there are. It’s your task to find out what the differences are.

Circle the words and phrases below that can only be found in the Southern Hemisphere.

- Winter in July
- Dingoes
- Mountains
- Great Barrier Reef
- Southern Cross
- Bungee jumping
- Robin
- Kookabura
- Lake Ontario
- Vegemite
- Jack Hanna’s animals
- Steve Irwin’s Crocodile Farm
D is for Down Under

Is It True?

Write true before each statement below that is true and false next to the incorrect statements.

______ 1. Australia is a continent.

______ 2. There is a long bridge that connects Australia and New Zealand.

______ 3. The illustrator of D is for Down Under is Devin Scillian.

______ 4. The Aboriginal people were the first people in Australia.

______ 5. A didgeridoo can fit in your pocket.

______ 6. Vegemite is a wonderful dessert.

______ 7. There are crocodiles in both fresh and salt waters in Australia.

______ 8. An echidna has a pouch and lays eggs.

______ 9. The nation of Australia started out as a prison for British convicts.

______ 10. There are no land turtles on the Great Barrier Reef.

______ 11. Tourists can climb to the top of the Sydney Harbor Bridge.

______ 12. Sydney is the second largest city in Australia.

______ 13. There are blue-tongued lizards in Australia.

______ 14. A jackaroo is a cross between a jack rabbit and a kangaroo.
D is for Down Under
AUSTRALIA CROSSWORD

The book *D is for Down Under* contains all the information you will need to solve this puzzle.

1. A ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
2. U ___ ___ ___ ___
3. S ___ ___ ___ ___
4. T ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
5. R ___ ___ ___ ___
6. A ___ ___ ___ ___
7. L ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
8. I ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
9. A ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

1. A sea off the northern coast of Australia
2. The world’s largest single rock
3. An animal whose coat is used to make wool
4. Island south of the Australian continent
5. The Great Barrier
6. There is snow in the Australian
7. They patrol beaches making people safe
8. Famous crocodile hunter Steve
9. Natives of Australia are people
Australia uses the metric system of measurement. Much of the world uses this system.

Millimeters, centimeters, and kilometers are used to measure length.

1 meter = 39.37 inches
1 kilometer = approximately 5/8 mile
10 millimeters = 1 centimeter
100 centimeters = 1 meter
1,000 meters = 1 kilometer

Circle the best unit to measure each object.  M—meter, C—centimeter K—kilometer

1. A kookaburra’s tail       M    C    K
2. The distance to the moon    M    C    K
3. The length of a soccer field M    C    K
4. The height of the Sydney Bridge M    C    K
5. The height of a giant anthill M    C    K
6. The distance from the road to the water at Bondi beach  M    C    K
7. The length of a hummingbird’s beak M    C    K
8. The length of your foot     M    C    K
9. The distance from Melbourne to Cairns  M    C    K
10. The width of a classroom   M    C    K
Alliteration is the repeating of the beginning consonant sounds. For example: **Seventy silly seals sound sappy**!

Be creative and have fun as you complete each sentence below using alliteration.

1. Katy kangaroo kept ________________________________

2. Whining wallaby wailed ____________________________

3. The laughing lifeguards looked ______________________

4. Beautiful beaches ________________________________

5. Ten tennis teens touched __________________________

6. Amazing Australian animals ________________________

7. Crazy crocodiles came creeping ______________________

Draw a picture of your favorite alliteration on this page.
D is for Down Under

Following Directions

Read this recipe for making Kangaroo Roll and then answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

KANGAROO ROLL

**Ingredients**
1 pound of kangaroo steak, minced
1 large onion, chopped
2 beef stock cubes
½ cup tomato sauce
Puff pastry

**Directions**
Mince the kangaroo steak and brown it in a heavy skillet. Add onions and cook until tender. Stir in tomato sauce and beef stock cubes. Roll pastry into squares. Spread the cooked meat and sauce on pastry. Roll up pastry and place on a baking sheet. Bake at 400 degrees F. for 20 minutes.

1. What must be done to the kangaroo meat before cooking it?
   _______________________________________________________________________

2. How long should the rolls bake?
   _______________________________________________________________________

3. What should you do to the pastry before placing the meat on it?
   _______________________________________________________________________

4. What is added to the beef and onion mixture?
   _______________________________________________________________________
Art work of the Aboriginal people of Australia can be found on rocks and cave walls throughout the country. Find an example on the A page of *D is for Down Under*.

Enjoy making your own version of Aboriginal bark art using these simple, fun directions.

**Materials**

Brown paper grocery bag cut into 9 x 12 inch pieces  
Paints or crayons in the following colors: red, yellow, black, white.  
   Use no other colors.  
Paint brushes

**Directions**

1. Soak the brown paper in water.  
2. Crinkle the soaked paper into a tight ball.  
3. Unroll the paper ball and set it on a flat surface to dry.  
4. Sketch drawings on the paper in pencil.  
   Use the style of the Aboriginal drawings.  
5. The drawing should tell a story.

Share your drawing and story with a friend.

Sketch some ideas for drawing below.
D is for Down Under

Anzac Biscuits

Enjoy making and eating these yummy Australian cookies.

Ingredients

1 cup quick oatmeal
¾ cup shredded coconut
1 cup white flour
1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1 cup sugar
½ cup butter
1 tablespoon golden syrup
2 tablespoons boiling water

Directions

1. Mix oatmeal, flour, sugar and coconut.
2. Mix soda with boiling water and add to melted butter and syrup.
3. Add to dry ingredients.
4. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto a greased cookie sheet.
5. Bake at 325 degrees for 20 minutes.
6. Let cool, eat, and enjoy!

Draw a picture of you enjoying your biscuits.
Put on your thinking cap and write what might happen in each situation below.

Suppose each of the following situations. What would be the consequences?

1. Europeans never settled in Australia
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2. Pollution destroyed the Great Barrier Reef
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. Lifeguards were no longer on the beaches in Australia
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

4. A large city was built in the middle of the Outback
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
D is for Down Under

Grow Your Own Coral

The amazing Great Barrier Reef is located in the Coral Sea. It can even be seen from outer space! WOW! Coral reefs make up this natural wonder.

Follow the instructions below to grow your own coral.

Materials

3 or 4 pieces of charcoal
Plastic bowl or glass jar
Table salt
Liquid laundry bluing
Liquid food coloring
Measuring tablespoon

Directions

1. Place charcoal pieces into bowl or jar.
2. Pour 2 tablespoons each of salt, water, and bluing over the charcoal.
3. Set the bowls in an open area.
4. Day 2: add 2 more tablespoons of salt to the charcoal.
5. Day 3: add 2 tablespoons each of salt, water, and bluing to the bottom of the bowl. *** DON’T pour directly on the charcoal.
6. Add a few drops of food coloring on each piece of charcoal—use more than one color if you choose.

Enjoy watching your coral grow!
The Royal Flying Doctor Service

The people who live in the Outback of Australia do not have schools or doctors close by. The children use television and computers to get their schooling. A special group of doctors fly into the Outback to care for people.

Visit www.flyingdoctor.org.au to gather information about this unique Australian program. Write 5 facts you learned about this doctor service.

1. ____________________________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________________________
4. ____________________________________________________________
5. ____________________________________________________________
If you came face-to-face with each of these Australian people, animals, or things, what would you say to them? Be creative or maybe even funny!

1. A bungee jumper before his jump
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

2. A mozzie that’s bothering you
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

3. A kangaroo walking backward
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

4. A large crocodile that’s grinning at you
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

5. A shy platypus
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
Draw the Australian flag. Use the correct colors and symbols.

Explain what each of these symbols mean.

1. Southern Cross ________________________________

2. Union Jack ________________________________

3. Star ________________________________
D is for Down Under

The Importance of Freedom

The Australians treasure their freedom as much as Americans do. Australia started out as a prison for convicts from England.

Write an essay explaining why freedom is so important to people throughout the world.

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
D is for Down Under
A Day at the Beach

Australia is surrounded by water with beaches. Beach life is fun and an important form of recreation to the people of Australia. Do you like to go to the beach?

Survey 35 people (children and adults) to see which of these places of recreation they like best.

Beach          Mountains          City

Use the data you collected to draw a picture graph showing the results.
Is Australia really a continent or is it an island? This is a question that has been debated over and over. What do you think?

Write a piece stating your opinion.

1. State your opinion as a complete sentence.
2. Give at least 3 facts that support your opinion. Explain.
3. Restate your opinion using different words than you used in the opening sentence.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
There are many unusual animals in Australia. Among them are the kookaburra, the kangaroo, and the koala.

Write a poem or a rap which talks about kangaroos, koalas, and kookaburras. Make it fun and informative. Your poem or rap should have at least 10 lines. Be creative!

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Draw a picture to go with your written piece.
D is for Down Under

What a Wild Discovery!

Write a story about a new form of sea life YOU discovered on your trip to the Great Barrier Reef.
Use this page to help you map your story. Write your story on a separate piece of paper.

SETTING

PROBLEM

CHARACTERS

ADVENTURE

CONCLUSION
Visit the Land Down Under

TRAVEL POSTER

Why would anyone want to travel to Australia? Draw a travel poster encouraging people to visit Australia.

Use this sheet to brainstorm your ideas.

Choose your best ideas and draw a large poster showing travelers the wonders of Australia.
Compare the United States and Australia. How are they alike and how are they different?

AUSTRALIA     BOTH     UNITED STATES
D IS FOR DOWN UNDER

ANSWER KEY

WHAT DOES IT MEAN -1) friend 2) barbecue 3) mother 4) food 5) candy 6) gasoline 7) good day 8) Australia 9) baby kangaroo 10) countryside

ALL ABOUT AUSTRALIA -1) didgeridoo 2) estuarine 3) Billy 4) Vegemite 5) Evonne Goolagong 6) 6 7) Canberra 8) green and gold 9) Perth 10) dingoes 11) Kakadu National Park 12) stations

AUSTRALIA’S GEOGRAPHY- 1) continent 2) Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Territory, New South Wales, Tasmania 3) Indian 4) North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica 5) Canberra 6) Timor, Tasman, Arafura 7) Southern 8) Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Canberra, Cairns, etc.


KANGAROO MATH- 1) 7, 9, 15 2) 32, 10 3) 94, 91, 88 4) 76, 101 5) 63, 49, 42, 35 6) 85, 75, 7) 819, 729, 639 8) 14, 19, 32

IT’S DIFFERENT DOWN UNDER- 1) winter in July 2) Southern Cross 3) dingoes 4) Great Barrier Reef 5) Kookaburra 6) Steve Irwin’s crocodile farm

IS IT TRUE?—True: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13

AUSTRALIA CROSSWORD- 1) Arafura 2) Uluru 3) sheep 4) Tasmania 5) reef 6) Alps 7) lifeguard 8) Irwin 9) Aboriginal

AUSTRALIANS DO METRIC MATH- 1) c 2) k 3) m 4) m 5) m 6) m 7) c 8) c 9) k 10) m

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS- 1) mince 2) 20 minutes 3) roll into squares 4) tomato sauce and beef stock cubes