

Virtual Adult Storytime

Theme: Tales & Travel: Australia

The purpose of the Virtual Adult Storytime is to provide older adults in the Wadsworth Community with content to facilitate sharing and reminiscing during a time we cannot meet in person.

Story/ Book/ Folktale (People of all ages benefit from hearing stories read aloud. For older adults it can be a chance to stir memories and use their imagination)

Facts:

- **Australia is an island continent surrounded by the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean**
- **The capital of Australia is Canberra. The largest cities are Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, and Adelaide.**
- **Australia is the only country that is also a continent. The Nation includes the continent of Australia, the island of Tasmania and several other islands.**
- **Australia is made up of six states, Western Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria, in addition to two territories, Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and Northern Territory.**
- **The Australian flag consists of a blue background with the Royal Union Jack in the upper left quadrant which represents membership of the British Commonwealth, the Star of Federation at the bottom which has six points representing the six states, and the Southern Cross on the right side which is a constellation that can be seen from all of Australia's states and territories. It is nicknamed "Stars and Crosses" and was first used in 1901.**

- The National Anthem is “Advance Australia Fair” and the Royal Anthem “God Save the Queen”
- Australia is a part of the British Commonwealth and the official head of state is the UK’s monarch Queen Elizabeth II. The head of the Australian government is the Prime Minister currently (2021) Scott Morrison.
- Australia has many animals unique to the continent. Those include the kangaroo, koala, platypus, tasmanian devil, and dingoes.
- The first people of Australia are known as Aborigines who came from Southeast Asia over 50,000 years ago. British arrived in Australia in the 1700s when Captain James Cook claimed the land for the British. Now about 2% of the population are of Aboriginal descent.

Video link to book read about Australia: <https://youtu.be/P5xz59lgUlo>

Mermaid Queen by Shana Corey Illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham

Additional information about Annette Kellerman:

<https://www.nfsa.gov.au/latest/annette-kellerman-biography>

Travel Guides:

<https://culturalattractionsofaustralia.com/>

<https://www.australia.com/en-us>

<https://storyspheres.com/search?q=uluru>

<https://attenboroughsreef.com/>

<http://www.tasmania360.com/>

<https://www.worldatlas.com/upload/08/4d/54/au-01.png>

Tour of Australian Zoo:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YBRu5JFHmw>

<https://www.australiazoo.com.au/>

“Tell Me a Story” Pictures (A picture can truly say a thousand words; the pictures included here can spur older adults to remember and even be creative in describing a story from the image. After prompting them, let them become the storytellers.)

Use leading statements and questions such as:

“What is happening in this photo?”

“Who has seen this before?”

“Tell me if you had one of these?”

“This one is funny.”

Etc.

Video Links (These are provided for supplementing the theme. Music, dance, etc. enrich auditory, visual, and memory in older adults. Entertainment and engagement are enhanced with these tools)

National Anthem:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YI8eKxl-zeU>

Aboriginal Dance

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSp-CsL_OiU

Didgeridoo:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yG9ZX1FS20A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pIPxYiuVHcA>

Folk Song “Waltzing Matilda”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqtttbbYfSM>

Theme-related Activities (Continued enrichment of the theme provided)

Read Aloud Folktale:

<http://talesandtravelmemories.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Australia.pdf>

Art:

Aboriginal Dot Painting:

<https://www.bakerross.co.uk/craft-ideas/kids/aboriginal-dot-painting/?epik=dj0yJnU9eVh4WGE4cTVxVEF2cjQ5M0ZFbUwtb0ViRWwzM1pUbWlmcD0wJm49ajNJa1dpT3piNWJPbm1TbURmQnY5QSZ0PUFBQUFBR0FSeXBJ>

Explore more about Australia:

<https://www.worldatlas.com/>

Library Resources (If anyone is interested in this topic, here are some resources that can be provided to you. Please contact the outreach team at outreach@wadsworthlibrary.com and the items can be placed on hold

or delivered to you.)

- [The Story of Australia \(DVD\)](#)
- [Australia \(DVD\)](#)
- [A traveller's history of Australia by John H. Chambers](#)
- [Outback : the amazing animals of Australia created by Dan Kainen](#)
- [Jindabyne \[DVD\]](#)