

## Geography Alive: Stage 2 Geography (Topic 1; Unit 4)

Lesson 2: The Australian continent		
<p><b>Content focus:</b></p> <p>In this lesson students describe some of Australia's natural features and landmarks including places important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.</p>		<p><b>Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AIATIS map of Australia <a href="https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/articles/aiatsis-map-indigenous-australia">https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/articles/aiatsis-map-indigenous-australia</a></li> <li>Website link: Inquisitive.com – Video: <i>Why I Love Australia</i> (2:59 minutes) <a href="http://online.clickview.com.au/share?sharecode=23baa1dc">http://online.clickview.com.au/share?sharecode=23baa1dc</a></li> <li><i>PowerPoint: Map of Australia</i></li> <li><i>Worksheet 1: Australia's features and landmarks</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Key inquiry questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are some natural features and landmarks of Australia?</li> <li>What are some places important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcomes:</b></p> <p><i>A student:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifies distinctive features and characteristics of places and environments</li> <li>acquires and communicates geographical information using geographical tools for inquiry.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lesson sequence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Step 1:</b> Show students the AIATIS map of Australia and state that for tens of thousands of years, the original inhabitants of Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples occupied the lands with very different boundaries than today. The map represents all the language, tribal or nation groups of the Indigenous people of Australia. Discuss points of interest.</li> <li><b>Step 2:</b> View <i>Why I Love Australia</i> (2:59 minutes). Ask students what are some of the features that were mentioned in the story? List them on the board. For example: rivers, plains, grasslands, and suburban homes. Using the list of features on the board sort them into natural and human features.</li> <li><b>Step 3:</b> Show students a map of Australia with some features also labelled (PowerPoint – Slide 1). Using the map, ask: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In what part of Australia is Uluru located? <i>Northern Territory</i></li> <li>In what part of Australia is The Great Barrier Reef located? <i>Coral Sea off Queensland</i></li> <li>In what part of Australia is the Nullarbor Plain located? <i>Western Australia</i></li> <li>Can anyone see a human feature that is marked on the map? <i>For example, Sydney Opera House</i></li> <li>What are some other features you can see and locate on the map?</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Step 4:</b> Working in pairs, students use the internet to work through <b>Worksheet 2</b> exploring many features and landmarks of Australia. Fast finishers: Choose a feature or landmark of Australia and write a detailed paragraph about it.</li> <li><b>Step 5:</b> Reflect on some of the landmarks and features of Australia that students learnt about today. Ask students what questions they still or now have?</li> </ul>