



**Australian History Series**  
**Workbook 5: Ages 10-11 years**

# The Australian Colonies



**Section 1:**  
**Establishment**  
**of British Colonies**

**Section 2:**  
**Colonial Life and**  
**Patterns of Settlement**

**Section 3:**  
**Events That**  
**Affected Colonies**

**Section 4:**  
**Australian Migrants**

**Section 5:**  
**Great Australians**



By Lisa Craig

# Contents

## SECTION 1: ESTABLISHMENT OF BRITISH COLONIES

### British Penal Colonies

Student Information Page 6

Activity Page 7

### Van Diemen's Land – The Sister Colony

Student Information Page 8

Activity Page 9

### Macquarie Harbour

Student Information Page 10

Activity Page 1 11

Activity Page 2 12

### Moreton Bay, Brisbane

Student Information Page 13

Activity Page 14

## SECTION 2: COLONIAL LIFE AND PATTERNS OF SETTLEMENT

### Inland Settlements

Student Information Page 16

Activity Page 17

### A New Life at Bathurst

Student Information Page 18

Activity Page 19

### Daily Life in Bathurst

Student Information Page 20

Activity Page 21

### The Wiradjuri of Bathurst

Student Information Page 22

Activity Page 23

### Bathurst Settlement and the Environment

Student Information Page 24

Activity Page 25

### Gold Fever Hits Bathurst!

Student Information Page 26

Activity Page 27

## SECTION 3: EVENTS THAT AFFECTED COLONIES

### Frontier Conflicts – The Pinjarra Battle

Student Information Page 29

Activity Page 30

### Expansion of the Colonies

Student Information Page 31

Activity Page 32

### Charles Sturt and Internal Exploration

Student Information Page 33

Activity Page 34

### Ludwig Leichhardt and Internal Exploration

Student Information Page 35

Activity Page 36

## Development of the Sheep Industry

Student Information Page 37

Activity Page 38

## The Economy and the Sheep Industry

Student Information Page 39

Activity Page 40

## The Shearers' Strike

Student Information Page 41

Activity Page 1 42

Activity Page 2 43

## SECTION 4: AUSTRALIAN MIGRANTS

### Assisted Passengers

Student Information Page 45

Activity Page 1 46

Activity Page 2 47

### Indentured Labourers

Student Information Page 48

Activity Page 49

### Muslim Pioneers

Student Information Page 50

Activity Page 51

### Australian Migrants

Student Information Page and Activity Page 52

## SECTION 5: GREAT AUSTRALIANS

### Caroline Chisholm (1808-1877)

Student Information Page 54

Activity Page 1 55

Activity Page 2 56

### Louisa Lawson (1848-1920)

Student Information Page 57

Activity Page 1 58

Activity Page 2 59

### Indigenous Guides and Trackers

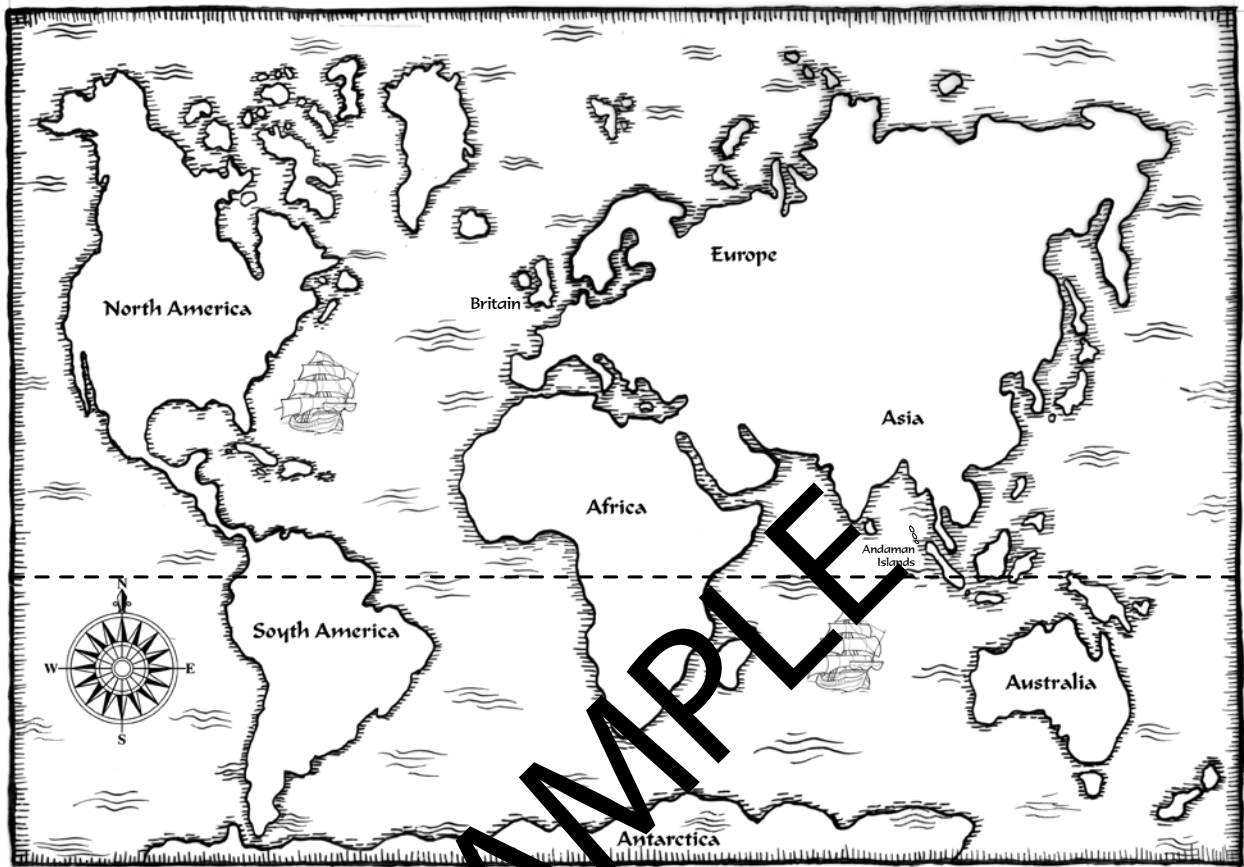
Student Information Page 60

Activity Page 1 61

Activity Page 2 62

## Locate

Colour the places where Britain set up penal colonies. Page 6 will help you. Draw lines to connect these colonies to Britain.



1. Which penal colony was the farthest away from Britain?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did Britain want to send its criminals to far-away places in the 19th century?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How did the transportation of convicts to the Australian colonies help Britain in the 1800s?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why do you think orphans were transported along with convicts to New South Wales?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Activity

# Macquarie Harbour 1

1. Read the verse from Rex Ingamell's poem Macquarie Harbour on page 10. Look up the meanings of 'sullen', 'lash', 'dismal' and 'barren'. Describe the atmosphere that the poet wanted to create about Macquarie Harbour.

2. Why was Macquarie Harbour an ideal site for establishing penal stations?

## Convicts

- ☐ Answer the questions below using the information on page 10 and the image below by Lempriere, showing convicts on Philip's Island in Macquarie Harbour (c. 1828).



Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts,  
Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office

3. Do you think these convicts had committed serious crimes?  
What evidence do you have for your answer?

4. Why would it have been difficult to escape from the Philip's Island penal site?



Use an internet mapping tool to visit the Sarah Island penal site.  
The coordinates are: 42.387889°S 145.448611°E.

1. How did assigned convict labour help the early settlers at Bathurst?

2. Compare a wealthy landowner's house with the house of a small farm owner. Draw sketches of the houses under the headings.

**Wealthy Landowner**

**Farmer**

*Description of house*

*Description of house*

- ☐ Imagine that you are a wealthy settler hosting a dinner party for an important public figure from Sydney Town. Prepare a menu to impress your guest based on the food resources produced on your farm and those available from the Bathurst district.

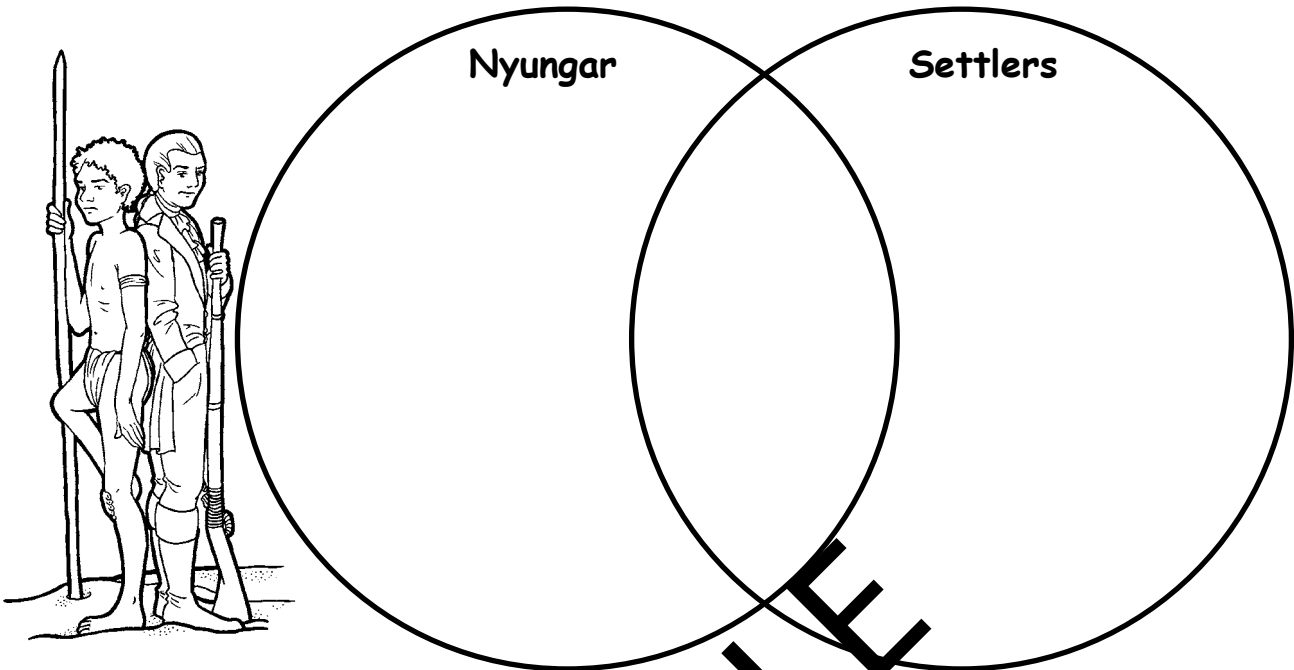
**MENU**



## Activity

# Frontier Conflicts – The Pinjarra Battle

- ☐ Put the needs of the Nyungar and the British settlers in the Venn diagram.



Shade on the diagram the needs that the Nyungar and settlers had in common.

- ☐ Use the Venn diagram above and the information on page 29 to help you answer the questions.

1. What caused the conflicts between the Nyungar and the Swan River colonists?

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2. Complete the sentence with your opinion on the punishment given to the Nyungar men after the Shenton Mill incident.

*I think / don't think that the Nyungar men were punished fairly because ...*

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3. Why did Governor Stirling's troopers open fire on the Nyungar at Pinjarra?

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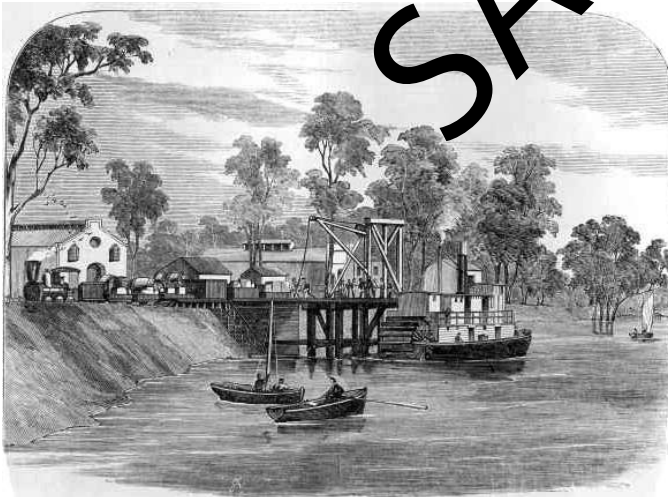
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**Activity****Development of the Sheep Industry**

- ☐ Use the information on page 37 to sequence the process of transporting wool to the markets. The first one has been done for you.

<b>Bales were stacked in wool stores near the wharf until the boat's arrival.</b>	
<b>Clippers transported the wool to overseas markets.</b>	
<b>Steam railways were to provide a faster way of transporting wool bales.</b>	
<b>The fleece was sorted and pressed into wool bales of about 110 kilograms.</b>	1
<b>River boats transported the wool bales along the river to shipping ports.</b>	
<b>Bullocks, horses or camels transported the wool by drays to river ports.</b>	

**Echuca Wharf**

State Library Of Victoria

- ☐ Look at the image of Echuca Wharf (1864), then answer the questions.

1. How were wool bales loaded onto the river boats?

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2. Why can the wharf's pylons be easily seen in this image? \_\_\_\_\_

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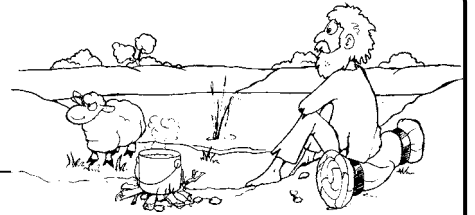
3. Who else might be waiting at the Echuca Wharf and why? \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Were the "Woolshed Rules" fair in your opinion?  
Choose two examples to justify your answer.

Example 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Example 2 \_\_\_\_\_

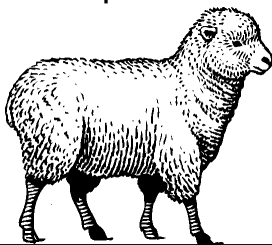


2. Why do you suppose the Shearers' Union finally agreed to the demands of the pastoralists for a free labour contract?

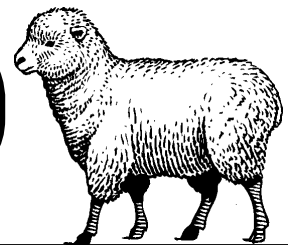
☐ Discuss this question with a partner.

**What if the Shearers' Union had not signed an agreement to end the strike in 1891?**

Fill in the possible **consequences** with the ideas that you have discussed.



**If the shearers had continued their strike ...**





1. Why were cameleers offered contracts to work in Australia?

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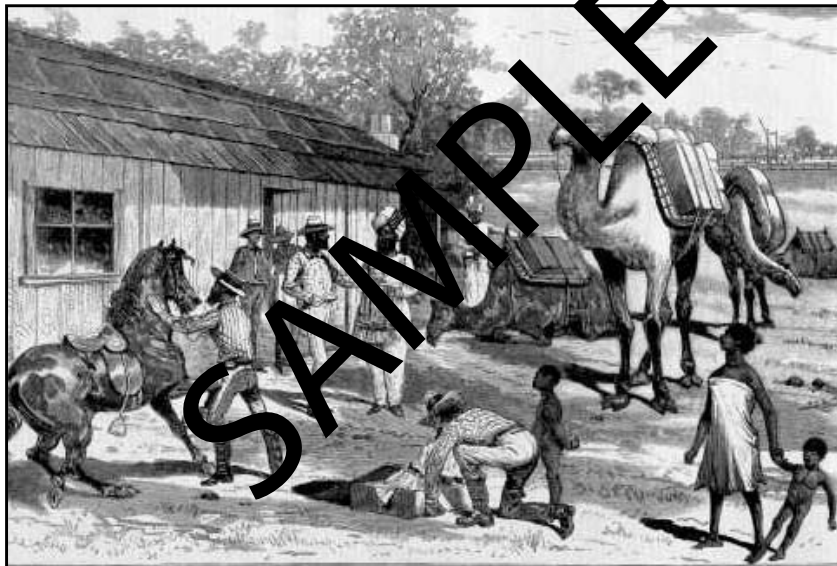
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2. How did the Muslim cameleers help to improve communications in Australia?

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- ☐ Use the image of cameleers visiting a remote property (about 1885) and the information on page 50 to answer the questions.



*State Library Of Victoria*

3. Describe what the people are doing in this scene. How do the different people react to the cameleers' visit?

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4. Did the cameleers adapt well to outback life? Give a reason for your answer.

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☐ Read the poem *Sunset* written by Louisa Lawson, then complete the tasks below.

1. Check the meaning of the underlined words in the poem with a dictionary.
2. Take turns reading the poem aloud to a partner then discuss your opinions about the poem.

I love at eve to wander  
alone upon the hills,  
while nature, with her myst'ries,  
my soul with wonder fills.  
A king in robes of crimson  
and ermine seeking rest,  
the sun in golden splendour,  
sinks in the solemn west.  
His grandeur awes and thrills me.  
I kneel upon the sod,  
bow down my head and worship  
his mighty Maker – God.

3. What is the sunset compared to?

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4. How does the sunset make the poet feel?

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☐ Read Louisa's views on women's health printed in *The Dawn* (July 1889).

"It has come to be believed that corsets are really necessary due to the support and bracing together of a woman; are women when grown so limp and invertebrate? If anyone is unable to remain perpendicular without a steel waistcoat it is clear that the muscles responsible for her natural support have had no opportunity to develop."



Wikimedia Commons

"If husbands when they return home ask their wives what they have had to eat in their absence, ninety in every hundred replies would be – 'tea and bread-and-butter.' This may tend towards spirituality and the maintenance of that 'dear delicate little woman' variety of the 'clinging' species so prized by some men, but the world would be none the worse, for a more robust, healthier, stronger type of woman, nor should we be sorry if we could see the tea merchants transformed into market gardeners and the milliners driven into the food supply trade."

Copyright poem + article : <http://setis.library.usyd.edu.au> (Lawson Np00062)

What advice was Louisa offering to her female readers?

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