
First impressions of the Indigenous people

Overview and learning outcomes

In this activity you will:

- Look closely at early depictions of the Indigenous people
- Describe your impressions of the people in the artworks
- Compare your impressions with journal extracts from 1787
- Match words and phrases from the journal with modern language
- Discuss how ideas of handsomeness and beauty might differ across the world.

Learning outcomes

Stage 2 students could discuss the key questions as a class with guidance from the teacher. Stage 4 students could work independently and are expected to respond in more depth.

HSIE K-6, Stage 2	
CCS2.1 Describes events and actions related to the British colonisation of Australia and assesses changes and consequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selects and uses various sources for reconstructing the past, eg documents, letters, diaries, maps• Refers to different viewpoints and perspectives on a significant historical event
English K-6, Stage 2	
Interprets graphics (RS2.5)	
Reads complex recounts (RS2.5)	
Retells and discusses interpretations (RS2.5, RS2.6)	
Draws on knowledge of context to work out word meanings (RS2.6)	
Discusses the way different people are represented in texts (RS2.7)	

History 7-10, Stage 4

- identifies the meaning, purpose and context of historical sources (4.5)
- draws conclusions about the usefulness of sources as evidence in an inquiry (4.6)
- describes significant features of Aboriginal and indigenous cultures, prior to colonization (4.2)
- identifies different contexts, perspectives and interpretations of the past (4.7)

Students learn about:

- the process of historical inquiry:
fact and opinion
the usefulness of sources as
evidence including a website
differing perspectives
cause and effect
- history as the study of people
- British contact with Aboriginal
peoples to 1820

Students learn to:

- ask historical questions
- distinguish between fact and
opinion
- draw some conclusions about the
usefulness of sources including a
website
- examine differing historical
perspectives and interpretations
- recall the nature of early British
contact with Aboriginal peoples to
1820

Adapted from HSIE K-6, English K-6, History 7-10 Syllabuses from the [Board of Studies NSW](#).