

# The Australian Curriculum History





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## Year 4

### First Contacts

The Year 4 curriculum introduces world history and the movement of peoples. Beginning with the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, students examine European exploration and colonisation in Australia and throughout the world up to the early 1800s. Students examine the impact of exploration on other societies, how these societies interacted with newcomers, and how these experiences contributed to their cultural diversity.

The content provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts including **sources, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy and significance**. These concepts may be investigated within a particular historical context to facilitate an understanding of the past and to provide a focus for historical inquiries.

The history content at this year level involves two strands: *Historical Knowledge and Understanding* and *Historical Skills*. These strands are interrelated and should be taught in an integrated way; they may be integrated across learning areas and in ways that are appropriate to specific local contexts. The order and detail in which they are taught are programming decisions.

A framework for developing students' historical knowledge, understanding and skills is provided by **inquiry questions** through the use and interpretation of sources. The key inquiry questions at this year level are:

- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- What was life like for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?
- Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?

#### Historical Knowledge and Understanding

##### First Contacts

The diversity and longevity of Australia's first peoples and the ways Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples are connected to Country and Place (land, sea, waterways and skies) and the implications for their daily lives. (ACHHK077)



The journey(s) of AT LEAST ONE world navigator, explorer or trader up to the late eighteenth century, including their contacts with other societies and any impacts. (ACHHK078)



#### Historical Skills

##### Chronology, terms and concepts

Sequence historical people and events (ACHHS081)



Use historical terms (ACHHS082)



Stories of the First Fleet, including reasons for the journey, who travelled to Australia, and their experiences following arrival. (ACHHK079)



The nature of contact between Aboriginal people and/or Torres Strait Islanders and others, for example, the Macassans and the Europeans, and the effects of these interactions on, for example families and the environment (ACHHK080)



#### Historical questions and research

Pose a range of questions about the past (ACHHS083)



Identify sources (ACHHS216)



#### Analysis and use of sources

Locate relevant information from sources provided (ACHHS084)



#### Perspectives and interpretations

Identify different points of view (ACHHS085)



#### Explanation and communication

Develop texts, particularly narratives (ACHHS086)



Use a range of communication forms (oral, graphic, written) and digital technologies (ACHHS087)

