



297408PD: State Library of WA

PRE AND POST WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

Suitcases: Stories of Migration

Thank you for booking a visit to the State Library of Western Australia. The Education Centre is a stimulating space for students to engage with State Library collections, investigate Western Australian history and be creative.

Suitcases: Stories of Migration is a workshop for students in Years 5 and 6, exploring the stories of different groups of migrants to Western Australia. It supports the Western Australian HaSS curriculum. The workshop engages students with a range of primary source materials from the State Library's collections. Students interpret resources and draw conclusions to retell a particular migration story.

The purpose of this teacher's guide is to support teachers with suggested pre and post workshop activities relating to the movement of people to Western Australia. We look forward to working with you and your students.

Before your visit

- Read *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan and/or watch the short clip of the story with an accompanying musical score online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vAay4myoEDE>
Discuss why the central character may have left his family to travel to a new place. How might this journey make him feel? What might it be like for his family?
- Compile a list of the countries of origin for members of your class and create a visual depiction of the data (eg: pie chart, bar graph). Discuss emerging trends, for example: from which country do the highest proportion of class members originate? Encourage students to share reasons why their family migrated to Australia.
- Students consider how they would feel if they were required to move to a foreign country where they had to learn a new language. How would they adapt? Encourage students to share responses through a series of fictional journal entries.
- If you could live anywhere, where would it be? Each student compiles a list of needs and wants for their 'ideal home' and, in small groups, students share their choice and reasons why. What were the similarities and differences between students' needs and wants?

After your visit

- Students research a Western Australian migrant group. Taking on the persona of a migrant from that group, students write a series of journal entries. These should detail what the migrant is doing at the time and how they are feeling in response to those experiences. Encourage students to choose a specific time frame. Ask students to research evidence of their migration story.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation about a migrant group in Western Australia. Outline the reasons for migration and the contributions that migrant group made to Western Australia. Use the State Library catalogue to access photographs, audio and video for incorporation into the presentation.
- Compare and contrast two stories of migration (see list of recommended books). What similarities exist between the experiences of the main characters? What difficulties or challenges did they face?
- Set a homework activity whereby students pack the items into their school bag that they would take if they suddenly had to flee their home. Students then lay the items out, photograph them and/or compile a list. Display the photographs and lists in the classroom. Students compare and contrast the items their peers choose to take.
- List the different ethnic groups that migrated to Western Australia throughout the 20th century. Discuss the impact they have made on the broader community.



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005080D: Arrival of children on the Ormonde bound for Fairbridge.

PRE AND POST WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES



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- In 1901, the Immigration Restriction Act was passed to limit immigration to Australia. This marked the beginning of the White Australia Policy. In groups, form an argument for or against this policy. Using role play, debate the pros and cons of prohibiting the immigration of particular ethnicities to Australia.
- Create a suitcase story in a shoe box. Choose a family member or a famous Australian from a migrant group and find primary source material to tell their migration story. Make copies of the primary sources and write an explanation of that source to tell the story. Acknowledge your sources in a bibliography.



Recommended websites:

- State Library of Western Australia catalogue www.slwa.wa.gov.au
- Trove www.trove.nla.gov.au
- Australian Dictionary of Biography adb.anu.edu.au
- Encyclopedia.com www.encyclopedia.com/
- Google Scholar scholar.google.com.au/
- Cuc Lam's Suitcase www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5B8G9yc62E
- The Arrival Part 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vAay4myoEDE>

Recommended reading:

The following is a list of texts that explore the topic of migration:

- Do, A and Do, S. and Whatley, B. (2011). *The Little Refugee*. Sydney: Allen & Unwin.
- Estela, L. and Ottley, M. (2015). *Suri's Wall*. Melbourne: Penguin Books.
- Fleichman, P. and Ibatoulline, B. (2013). *The Matchbox Diary*. London: Walker Books.
- Kobald, I. and Blackwood, F. (2015). *My Two Blankets*. Melbourne: Little Hare Books.
- Tan, S. (2012). *The Arrival*. Melbourne: Lothain Books.
- Young, R and Ottley, M. (2015). *Teacup*. Australia: Scholastic

Curriculum links:

General capabilities: critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, ethical understanding, intercultural understanding.

HaSS: Skills – questioning and researching; analysing; evaluating; communicating and reflecting.

History – Australia as a nation

Geography – places are both similar and different

English: Language – text structure and organisation; purpose audience and structures of different types of text.

Literature – responding to literature; creating literature.

Literacy – texts in context; interacting with others; interpreting, analysing, evaluating; creating texts.