

AN AMAZING AUSTRALIAN ROAD TRIP

Themes

Australia

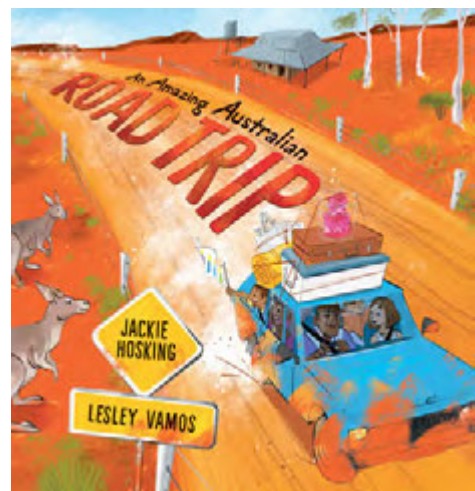
Family

Travel

Exploring the Story

How many of your group have travelled around Australia? Discuss with the children the places they've been to and the things that they've seen. Has anyone been to all the places in the story? And after reading the story, do they have new places that they'd like to go to and see for themselves?

A number of times throughout the book there is mention of the Australian National Heritage List and the UNESCO World Heritage List. Explore with the group what these lists mean and how sites are added to them. For older children you may like to ask if they have done any international travel and find out if there are any world heritage sites that they might have visited.



Read through the story twice with the group, once with just the rhyming story text and then another time with the additional information provided. Ask the group to compare the readings. How did the additional information impact on their understanding of the story? Did they learn new and interesting facts? Do they think the story would have made as much sense without the additional information?

To extend this discussion, explore other books in your library collection that offer both narrative and non-fiction texts (such as the Nature Storybook series by Walker Books Australia).

Activity

A Great Australian Nature Map

Depending on the age of your group, you may like to draw or fashion an outline of Australia prior to the lesson. For older children you can involve them in the process by using sticks to build an outline or by drawing an outline on the ground in the shape of Australia.

Gather items from outside and use them to build a nature map of Australia. Use the items you have gathered to represent the different parts of Australia (i.e. sand for the desert, rocks for landmarks, bark for roads, leaves for bushland and forests etc).

Use a piece of bright coloured string to plot the journey of the family as you read through the story.

For a different spin on this activity, try making a Great Australian Cake Map, using foods such as crushed biscuits for sand, blue jelly for water, and spearmint leaves for bushland and forests.

Learn a Bit More

There are a lot of interesting and unique places, plants and animals explored in the story. In small groups or as individuals, choose one site to focus on and use the library resources to find out 3 or 4 more interesting facts. Use a large piece of paper and draw or collage an image of your chosen site. Add information bubbles to your collage, in a similar way to the information spread through the illustrations in the book. Present your interesting information finds to the rest of the group.

Top Three List

Now that you know a bit more about the Australian National Heritage List and the UNESCO World Heritage List, make your own tour list of the top three places you would like to visit from these heritage locations using the attached template. They can include Australian sites or international sites.

In the space provided draw a 'photo' of yourself visiting one of these locations. Think about who you would travel with and what you would need to take with you and include it in your illustration.

Happy Birthday Not-Cake

Imagine bringing a cake on a trip around Australia – it would be ruined (of course!). If you had to think of a quick make-shift cake, like the family did with their meat pies, what would you use?

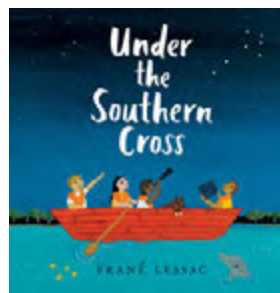
Using the empty plate template, draw a picture of your make-shift cake then decorate it with the candles provided.

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Related Titles



Little Dog and the Summer Holiday
Corinne Fenton,
Robin Cowcher
9781760651633



Under the Southern Cross
Frané Lessac
9781760651718



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| <div data-bbox="746 107 1311 672" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Site: Location:</p> |
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How I would get there: _____

Why I want to visit: _____

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| <div data-bbox="746 842 1311 1406" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 150px; width: 100%;"></div> <p>Site: Location:</p> |
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How I would get there: _____

Why I want to visit: _____

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How I would get there: _____

Why I want to visit: _____

