



THE NATIONAL STORY

Investigations and source material



People and Places	
Investigation focus questions	Primary source material and data
1. Who were the people of the Australian colonies?	Population data from the Australian Yearbook, 1908.
2. What was life like in the Australian colonies in the late 1800s?	Extracts about city and country Australia; images of Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne in the late 1890s; cartoon about inter-colonial travel from the <i>Australian Sketcher</i> .
3. How did the people of the colonies feel about being part of the British Empire?	Extracts of reports from <i>The Brisbane Courier</i> on Jubilee celebrations in London and in Queensland, 1897; map of the British Empire, 1886; photo of Jubilee celebrations in Australia and the <i>Tour of the Colonies</i> board game.
4. How did the people of the colonies see their future as Australians?	Membership certificate of the Australian Natives Association (ANA); newspaper report on the formation of an ANA branch in Brisbane, 1885; sketch of an ANA meeting, 1883; cartoon, 1855; extract from <i>The Bulletin</i> , 1890.
5. How did democracy expand in the colonies during the time of Federation?	Extracts of arguments for and against women's suffrage; 'Just out of reach' cartoon; cartoon from <i>The Worker</i> , 1900.

Road to Federation	
Investigation focus questions	Primary source material, data and biographies
1. What were the arguments for Federation?	Extracts of reports on Parkes' Tenterfield speech, 1889; cartoons, 1889; extract from Barton's resolution at the National Australasian Convention in Adelaide, 1897.
2. How did the people of the colonies become involved in Federation?	Extract from 1893 Australian Federal Congress Bill, 1894; cartoon 'Britannia (to New South Wales)', 1893.
3. Who were some of the prominent figures on the road to Federation?	Biographies of delegates to the 1897–98 Federal Convention; biography of Catherine Helen Spence. (Reference to the nine <i>Values for Australian Schooling</i> may also be helpful.)*
4. What were the issues that had to be resolved before the colonies could federate?	Selected clauses of the draft Constitution; Suffrage League petition, 1897; newspaper, speech and diary extracts about the Constitution and Federation cartoon, 1898.
5. What role did national identity have in influencing Federation?	Extracts from speeches and newspaper reports, 1898; poem <i>Men of Australia</i> ; campaign poster 'To the Australian Born'; referendum results.
6. Where would the capital of the Commonwealth of Australia be located?	Extracts of the debate at the National Australasian Convention's Melbourne session, 1898.

Celebrations and Futures	
Investigation focus questions	Primary source material
1. What were the official celebrations on 1 January 1901 like?	Newspaper extracts reporting on the celebrations; photos; map of procession route; lyrics, 'God Save the Queen' and 'Advance Australia Fair'.
2. How did Australians feel about their new Commonwealth and nation?	<i>Ode to Commonwealth Day</i> , a poem by George Essex Evans.
3. How was the opening of Parliament celebrated in Melbourne?	Newspaper extracts reporting on the celebrations; invitation to the celebratory reception; extract from the Australian Constitution; photo of the citizens' arch; painting of the Opening of Parliament. (Students also research the role of the Governor-General today. ¹)
4. What kind of national monument should commemorate Federation?	Students use understandings gained through previous investigations together with their own ideas and research.

¹ www.gg.gov.au

* See Useful websites in Teacher Guide