

## Australia – worksheet with questions

Circle the correct answer:

- 1 What is the capital city of Australia?  
a) Adelaide b) Perth c) Sydney d) Canberra
- 2 What is the national language spoken by Australians?  
a) English b) French c) Maori d) Portuguese
- 3 Australia is the .....largest country in the world and the smallest continent.  
a) first b) third c) sixth d) eighth
- 4 The Commonwealth of Australia consists of .....states and .....territories  
a) 6/ 2 b) 5/ 3 c) 4/ 4 d) 8/ 1
- 5 The head of the state is  
a) the president of Australia  
b) the British Queen  
c) the president of the USA  
d) the president of Canada
- 6 The first inhabitants of Australia who came there about 40,000 years ago were  
a) the Aborigines b) the English c) the Dutch d) the Indians
- 7 The largest city is  
a) Brisbane b) Sydney c) Melbourne d) Adelaide
- 8 Australia is also called Oz and its people like to call themselves .....  
a) Aussies b) Ozzis c) Austrians d) Australis
- 9 Money that is used in Australia is called  
a) Australian pound b) Australia Euro c) Australian dollar d) Australian crown
- 11 The Australians drive on the ....  
a) right b) left



Now read the text and see if your guesses were right.

Australia is the only country that is also a continent. Australia is the smallest continent in the world and the sixth-largest country. It lies in the Southern Hemisphere (polokoule) between the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean. Because of the position, the seasons are opposite to seasons in the Northern Hemisphere. The country is also called "the land down under" because it is situated south off the equator (rovník). The country is also called the Oz and the Australians sometimes call themselves Aussies. The capital of Australia is Canberra but the largest city is Sydney. Australia has no official language but most people speak Australian English. There are also other languages such as Mandarin, Italian, Greek, Vietnamese and some Aboriginal languages still exist even now. Australia has six states—New South Wales (NSW), Queensland (QLD), South Australia (SA), Tasmania (TAS), Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA)—and two territories—the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and the Northern Territory (NT). Australia is a constitutional monarchy and so the English Queen is the official head of state but she has no powers. She is represented by the Governor-General. The first people who came to Australia about 40,000 years ago were the Aborigines. They lived mainly in the outback (Australské vnitrozemí) which is a dry part of Australia. Most Australians live along the coast in large cities.

The main currency that is used in Australia is Australian dollar. Like in Britain, the people drive on the left.



## Interesting facts about Australia

### Short history

First people came to Australia from Indonesia and they travelled on boats. It was about 40,000 years ago and they are called the Aborigines. In 1770 British Captain James Cook came to New South Wales and Australia became a British colony. The British started to send English criminals there and they made it a British prison colony. In 1901 Australia became a free nation but remained (zůstala) a part of British Commonwealth.



### Australian Aboriginal Flag

is one of the official flags. There are three colours. The black represents the Aboriginal people, the red – the earth and the yellow represents the sun.

### Australian National Flag

It is a blue with the Union Jack (- the British flag). The Union Jack represents the link with Britain. The star has got seven points. 6 points represent the 6 States and one point represents the Territories. The small stars show the Southern Cross which can be seen in the sky in the southern hemisphere (polokoule)

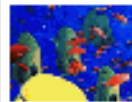


### Uluru

is Australia's most famous rock and it is also called Eyers Rock. It is about 600 million years old and it was once at the bottom of the sea. It is one of the largest monoliths in the world and it is made of sandstone (pískovec). You can climb to the top of the rock and have a wonderful view of the outback (Australské vnitrozemí). On top of the rock there are valleys, caves (jeskyně) and strange shapes. It was a sacred (svaté) place for the Aboriginal people.



### Great Barrier Reef



is the world's largest coral reef system (systém korálových útesů). You can see it from the space and it is over 2,000 km long and it has got more than 900 islands. There are many different types of corals, fish and other sea animals.

### The climate

### The Aborigines

are the native people in Australia. They came about 40,000 years ago from Indonesia. Many Australian words come from their language, for example: *koala*, *kangaroo*, *boomerang*, and *didgeridoo*.



















A didgeridoo is a long wooden wind (dechový) instrument and it looks like a long thin wooden trumpet. Today there are about 670,000



# Australian animals



Look at the pictures and match with descriptions below.

|   |  |  |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|
| <br>koala            | <br>kangaroo    | <br>dingo           | <br>emu                | <br>kiwi            | <br>wallaby      |
| <br>bilby            | <br>wombat      | <br>cockatoo        | <br>blue-tongued skink | <br>tasmanian tiger | <br>sugar glider |
| <br>tasmanian devil | <br>kookaburra | <br>frilled lizard | <br>quoll             | <br>platypus       | <br>echidna     |

- When it's threatened, it rolls into a spine ball. A kind of a hedgehog. \_\_\_\_\_
- The large Australian bird that cannot fly. A smaller version of an ostrich. \_\_\_\_\_
- The Australian wild dog, which came from Asia 5000 years ago. \_\_\_\_\_
- The feathery bird with a hooked bill. A relative of a parrot. \_\_\_\_\_
- The bird with a same name as a fruit. It cannot fly. \_\_\_\_\_
- All people think wrong that it's a bear. It is a marsupial! It mostly sleeps. \_\_\_\_\_
- The babies are called joeys. It's the symbol of Australia too. \_\_\_\_\_
- It glides from tree to tree on the islands. The smallest marsupial. \_\_\_\_\_
- There are different types: Siberian, Bengal, Malayan, Sumatran... \_\_\_\_\_
- It digs tunnels with its short legs. It's also called *Buldozer of the Bush*. \_\_\_\_\_
- It is smaller and closely related to kangaroos. \_\_\_\_\_
- The small, rabbit-ears marsupian. \_\_\_\_\_
- The duck-billed animal which lays eggs. It lives in rivers and lakes. \_\_\_\_\_
- The night animal; it likes dead animals' meat; not related to satan. \_\_\_\_\_
- When it sings it sounds like a human laughter. \_\_\_\_\_
- The lizard which gets a huge neck frill when wants to show of. \_\_\_\_\_
- The Australian native cat and it rhymes with troll. \_\_\_\_\_
- Its tongue is not red and it's a lizard. \_\_\_\_\_

## A double puzzle

## Australia

Match the words with the pictures and arrange the underlined bold letters in the right order to find a place in Australia where you can see a lot of these elements.

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|



1. a shipwreck
2. a crab
3. a dolphin
4. a manta ray
5. an octopus
6. a marine turtle
7. a shark
8. corals
9. a treasure
10. seashells
11. a starafish
12. a jellyfish
13. a clown fish
14. a surgeon fish
15. a seahorse

# Australian Wildlife

Australia has the most unusual assortment of animals and plants on Earth. Almost half of the world's population of marsupials are found only in Australia. Marsupials include koalas, kangaroos, wombats, possums, and bandicoots.

The landscape in Australia is very varied. There are more deserts in Australia than any other continent. Sometimes there is no rainfall in these areas for several years. More than half of Australia is covered by desert and many poisonous animals can be found there. Funnel web spiders are large and hairy. They are called this because they build funnel-shaped webs to catch their prey. Their bite is extremely poisonous.

Kangaroos have strong back legs and huge tails. There are around 50 different kinds of kangaroo in Australia, the red kangaroo is one of the largest and can grow to over 2 m in height.

Smaller members of the kangaroo family are called wallabies. The rednecked wallaby is also called the brusher because it prefers brush and scrubland areas rather than open countryside.

There are more than 2,000 wildlife reserves and national parks in Australia, which cover 80 million hectares (197 million acres).

## Questions

a) Name three kinds of marsupials.

---

b) Why is the red necked wallaby also called the brusher?

---

c) How did funnel-web spiders get their name?

---



## Quick facts

Diet: Herbivore

Length: 71 to 119 cm

Group name: Mob or Colony