**Video title:** *The First Fleet to Australia*

Support this video lesson with this carefully selected resource from our colleagues at Blake Education. This downloadable PDF consolidates and extends the Australian curriculum content detailed below and covered in the video.

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**ACTIVITY CARD 33**

**EVALUATING AND REFLECTING**

Answers will vary. Example answers include: The clothing of the convicts was not as nice as the clothing Captain Arthur Phillip wore. Their clothing was plainer — their everyday clothes included a cap, vest, jacket, scarf and stockings. Captain Phillip wore a blue frock coat with gold buttons. This was his naval captain’s uniform. Today we wear much more casual clothing.

All other answers will vary.

**WORKSHEET 59**

1.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Diary entry</th>
<th>Order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 January 1788</td>
<td>The Prince of Wales hoisted the signal for seeking land.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 December 1787</td>
<td>The ships were 19,550 miles from England, with 5,500 miles left to travel.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 July 1787</td>
<td>Crossed the Equatorial Line. Many convicts fell ill of fevers.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 January 1788</td>
<td>The first fleet arrived at Port Jackson.</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June 1787</td>
<td>A convict escaped in a small row boat to a small island. He was later</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>captured because they found the boats and oars.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 September 1797</td>
<td>Practice crews, a well-known convict, fell overboard and drowned.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Answers will vary. Example answers are provided below.

Captain, Doctor (surgeon), Chaplain, Crewperson, Cook, Officer.

Convicts, because they were being sent to Australia punishment. Manual labour would have been considered part of their sentence. Attempted escape by convicts, desertion by crew, people falling overboard, disease spreading among the passengers.

**WORKSHEET 60**

Answers will vary.
Passengers of the First Fleet

John White was the chief surgeon of the First Fleet and travelled on the Charlotte.

Arthur Bowes Smyth was a surgeon on the Lady Penrhyn. He looked after the female convicts on the ship.

Captain Arthur Phillip was the commander of the First Fleet.

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 6 January 1788

At 2 o'clock p.m. the Prince of Wales hoisted the signal for seeing land... as soon as we saw it we drank each 2 bumpers of Claret...

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 3 December 1787

This day by observation we were ten thousand 5 hundred miles and upwards from England. Have now upwards of 5 thousand 5 hundred miles to New Holland.

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 14 July 1787

Cross'd the Equinorixal Line exactly at 12 o'clock this night. Many of the convicts fell ill of fevers this day.

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 3 December 1787

This is the day by observation we were ten thousand 5 hundred miles and upwards from England. Have now upwards of 5 thousand 5 hundred miles to New Holland.

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 14 July 1787

William Brown, a very well-behaved convict, in bringing some clothing from the bowsprit end, where he had hung them to dry, fell overboard... the poor fellow sunk before either the Supply or our boat could reach him.

John White, 19 September 1787

During the night, while the people were busily employed in taking water on board the Alexander, a service in which some of the convicts assisted, one of them... found means to drop himself unperceived into a small boat... he was driven by the wind and the current, in the course of the night, to a small island lying to leeward of the ships, where he was on the next morning taken. The boat and oars, which he could not conceal, led to a discovery; otherwise he would probably have effected his escape.

John White, when the ships stopped at Teneriff, 8 June 1787

The First Fleet also carried the first chaplain to the colony, Reverend Richard Johnson. He travelled with his wife on the store ship the Golden Grove.

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 3 December 1787

"We got into Port Jackson early in the afternoon, and had the satisfaction of finding the finest harbour in the world... The different coves were examined... I fixed on the one that had the best spring water and in which the ships can anchor so close to the shore that at a very small expense quays may be made at which the largest ships may unload."

Captain Arthur Phillip, 21 January 1788

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John White, 19 September 1787

Arthur Bowes Smyth, 6 January 1788

Convicts sentenced to transportation

John White was the chief surgeon of the First Fleet and travelled on the Charlotte.

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Captain Arthur Phillip was the commander of the First Fleet.

John White was the chief surgeon of the First Fleet and travelled on the Charlotte.
Inquiry question: Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?

**RESEARCHING**

Use the supplied words to complete the dates and diary entry summaries on the worksheet. Then put the diary entries in the order of the dates that they were recorded.

(ACHASSI074, ACHASSI076)

**HISTORICAL TERMS**

- **unperceived**: unseen; without anyone noticing
- **leeward**: away from the wind
- **bowsprit**: a large pole that sticks out from the bow of a ship
- **bumper**: a full cup or glass
- **claret**: a type of red wine
- **quay**: a landing place built along the bank of a waterway

(ACHASSI077)

**QUESTIONING**

Answer the questions on the worksheet about the First Fleet passengers.

(ACHASSI073)

**ANALYSING**

Why do you think the convict tried to escape when the ships stopped at Teneriffe? What do you think he was feeling? The First Fleet had only been on their journey for three weeks by then. How do you think the convicts felt after seven months at sea?

(ACHASSI077)

**EVALUATING AND REFLECTING**

Look at the images on the source card. What does the clothing tell you about the person wearing it? How was the clothing of the people in the eighteenth century different to the clothing we wear now?

(ACHASSI079)

**COMMUNICATING**

Imagine that you are Captain Arthur Phillip. It is 8 June 1787, and you have just discovered that a convict tried to escape during the night by stealing a boat. Use the worksheet to write an entry in your captain’s journal about what happened and what you will do with the convict now.

(ACHASSI082)
1. Use the supplied words to complete the dates and diary entry summaries. Then put the diary entries in the order of the dates that they were recorded.

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fevers  convict  6 January 1788  8 June 1787  boat and oars  island  21 January 1788  captured  Equinoxial  19 September 1787

2. Why do you think they needed to send so many people on the First Fleet? List some of the jobs that would have needed to be done. (Remember, they were at sea for more than seven months).

Who do you think would have been made to do the worst jobs? Why?

What are some problems that could have happened during the journey that were related to the passengers and why?
Imagine that you are Captain Arthur Phillip. It is 8 June 1787 and you have just discovered that a convict tried to escape during the night by stealing a boat. Write an entry in your captain’s journal about what happened and what you will do with the convict now.