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sociální  
fond v ČR



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,  
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání  
pro konkurenceschopnost



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

## Student's Worksheet

### OVER THE MAP OF AUSTRALIA

**Task 1: Choose the correct answer:**

- 1) The official name of Australia is:
  - a) The Australian Federal Republic
  - b) The Commonwealth of Australia
  - c) The United States of Australia
  
- 2) It's politically divided into:
  - a) 6 states and 2 territories
  - b) 5 states and 3 provinces
  - c) 7 provinces and 1 territory
  
- 3) The head of the state is:
  - a) The president
  - b) The prime minister
  - c) The British queen
  
- 4) The population is:
  - a) 14,750,000
  - b) 54,580,000
  - c) 22,890,000
  
- 5) The area is:
  - a) 7,682,900 km<sup>2</sup> (including Tasmania)
  - b) 18,221,500 km<sup>2</sup> (including Tasmania)
  - c) 5,437,200 km<sup>2</sup> (including Tasmania)
  
- 6) The original inhabitants are:
  - a) The Maoris
  - b) The English
  - c) The Aborigines
  
- 7) The currency is:
  - a) The Australian pound
  - b) The Australian dollar
  - c) The Australian rupee



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- 8) The capital is:
- a) Canberra
  - b) Sydney
  - c) Melbourne
- 9) Australia was discovered by:
- a) Abel Tasman
  - b) James Cook
  - c) Ferdinand Magellan
- 10) Typical Australian animals are:
- a) kangaroos and foxes
  - b) rabbits and echidnas
  - c) emus and koalas

## Geography

**Australia** whose official name is The Commonwealth of Australia is the sixth largest country in the world. It has 7,686,884 km<sup>2</sup> and it's as big as the USA and as large as Europe from Ireland to the Caspian Sea. Its population is 22,885,000 people. It's politically divided into six states and two territories. (**New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory**). It's bordered by **the Indian Ocean** to the west, by **the Pacific Ocean** to the east and by **the Southern Ocean** to the south. Along the northern coast in the Indian Ocean there is **the Great Barrier Reef** - the world's longest coral reef (2,000 km). The capital of Australia is **Canberra**.

The Australian landscape consists of deserts (**The Great Sandy Desert and The Great Victoria Desert**) in the centre, bordered by grassy savannas. Then there are low hills with forests, higher hills and denser forests, rain tropical forests in the north and high mountains in the east. **The Great Dividing Range** along the Eastern coast (The Australian Alps) has the highest Australian mountain **Mt. Kosciusko** (2,228m).

The longest river is **The Murray River** which flows from New South Wales to the Indian Ocean and is 2,575 km long. The second longest river is **The Darling**. There are 3 big lakes there: **Lake Eyre, Lake Torrens and Lake Gairdner**.

The Australian climate varies from warm to subtropical. The continent is in the southern hemisphere which means that Australia has summer when we have winter and vice versa.

## Flora and Fauna



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GYMNÁZIUM  
PÍSEK

## INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

A typical Australian plant is a eucalyptus tree, but we can find there other ever-green trees too.

In Australia there are many various animals that can't be found anywhere else. That's because for long periods this continent was quite isolated from the others. We say these animals are endemic.

The best known of Australian animal is a kangaroo. There are many varieties from the red or giant grey kangaroo through wallabies or wallaroos to the small kangaroo-rat. They live all over the country. Kangaroos are marsupials and the other well-known marsupials are koalas and wombats. The koalas live in the areas where the eucalyptus they feed on grow. Wombats live everywhere and they are very popular with the Australians. The most famous bird in Australia is an emu, but the other famous birds are e.g. a black swan, a cockatoo or a kookaburra.

The other endemic Australian animals are e.g. a dingo, a platypus, an echidna, a Tasmanian devil, barking and frilled lizards, several kinds of crocodile etc. The most poisonous snakes and spiders in the world can be found in Australia too. In the north you can see a lot of eucalyptus trees hollowed out by the termites. The seas around Australia are full of sharks and deadly box jelly fish.

There is also a big number of rabbits and foxes which were introduced to Australia by Europeans and which makes a lot of problems, because they haven't any natural enemy.

In Australia there are 242 national parks and 90 natural reserves (e.g. **Uluru National Park, Cockatoo National Park, Bungle Bungle National Park, Daintree National Park** etc.).

### Economy

Australia is quite a rich country with highly developed industry and agriculture. Many farm products are exported. There are 100 million sheep and 25 million cattle in Australia and this country is the world's biggest producer of wool. There are grown wheat, sugar-cane and a great variety of fruits too.

In Australia you can find nearly all raw materials (e.g. coal, oil, gas, iron ore, copper, zinc, lead, nickel, manganese, silver, gold, diamonds, uranium, titan, bauxite, zircon, opals etc.)

The important industries are: mining, iron and steel industry, wool industry, cotton industry, ship building, chemical industry, wood industry, food industry, engineering industry, car industry, aircraft industry etc.

The commercial partners are mainly the USA, Japan New Zealand and Great Britain.

The currency is the Australian dollar.

### Population



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85% of the population are of the British or Irish origin. The original inhabitants are the Aborigines. Now they are only 517,000 and they live mainly in the Northern Territory. There are also a lot of immigrants from the Middle East, India and Indonesia.

### Government

Australia is the constitutional monarchy. The official head of the state is British Queen Elisabeth II, represented by the Governor-General, but in practice it's a parliamentary democracy whose head of the state is the Prime Minister. (Nowadays it's Julia Gillard.)

The legislative body is the Parliament which is divided into two houses: the Senate (76 members) and the House of Representatives (148 members). The executive body is the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

### History

Australia was discovered by Captain James Cook in 1770 who landed in the bay now called the Botany Bay. From 1788 to 1850s the new continent was a British convict colony and then the immigration increased, because gold was found here. The Commonwealth was proclaimed in 1901 and Australia became a British Dominion.

**Task 2: Find the highlighted names in the map of Australia.**

**Task 3: What is there in the pictures next to Task 1?**

**Task 4: Match the animals to their photos:**

Koala	Tasmania devil
Kangaroo	Jelly fish
Black swan	Echidna
Wombat	Shark
Wallaby	Platypus
Emu	Wallaroo
Kookaburra	Dingo
Cockatoo	

**Task 5: How much can you remember? In pairs speak about Australia following these points:**

- Geography
- Flora and fauna
- Economy
- Population
- Government
- History

