

Stamp Collecting (Foundation – Year Two) Lesson Three

Stamp Collecting Overview	
<p>Stamp collecting is a popular hobby in Australia and around the world and the educational benefits are invaluable. Collecting stamps as a hobby encourages self-directed learning and can foster essential skills, behaviours and dispositions such as reasoning, logic, resourcefulness and goal setting. Stamp collecting encourages students to question, compare, analyse, sequence and be inquisitive all while having fun! Every stamp tells a story and Australia Post’s stamp series, releases and collections are a rich and engaging way to learn about Australian history and culture. These lesson plans have been developed to introduce your students to the concept of stamps and stamp collecting whilst teaching themes and content descriptions from the Australian Curriculum.</p>	
Lesson overview	
<p>This lesson has been developed to allow students to research and study Australian Post stamps and discover the different media techniques used by artists and stamp designers. As a class students will investigate different stamps and identify design components and the types of images used. Students will describe the parts of a stamp’s design and the various roles of individuals involved. This is the second lesson in a series of four.</p>	
Learning intention	
<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and discuss various stamp issues and media • Compare and analyse different images on stamps and the source of the image • Investigate various artists and people involved in the production of stamps • Construct a diagram of the parts of a stamp’s design 	
Resources	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Internet access and a projector or IWB 2. Sample of a stamp enlarged and printed for students on A4 paper 3. Examples of postage stamps, brought in from home (can be used). 4. Printed pictures of stamps or access for students to view online - https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues 	
Assessment	Differentiation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring understanding throughout class discussion and questioning • Collecting work samples • Student self-assessment • Peer Assessment • Teacher feedback 	<p>Support: Research and discussion is conducted as a whole class.</p> <p>Structured: Use small group instruction and pairs to help support students.</p> <p>Extension: Students investigate other art mediums and stamp themes</p>
Australian Curriculum Links	
<p>Foundation - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)</p> <p><i>History</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How the stories of families and the past can be communicated, for example, through photographs, artefacts, books, oral histories, digital media and museums (ACHASSK013) 	

Foundation - English*Literacy:*

- Create short texts to explore, record and report ideas and events using familiar word and beginning writing knowledge **(ACELY1651)**

Foundation – The Arts*Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**
- Respond to visual artworks and consider where and why people make visual artworks, starting with visual artworks from Australia, including visual artworks of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples **(ACAVAR109)**

Media Arts:

- Explore ideas, characters and settings in the community through stories in images, sounds and text **(ACAMAM054)**

Year One - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)*History*

- Differences and similarities between students' daily lives and life during their parents' and grandparents' childhoods **(ACHASSK030)**

Year One - English*Literacy:*

- Create short imaginative and informative texts that show emerging use of appropriate text structure, sentence-level grammar, word choice, spelling, punctuation and appropriate multimodal elements, for example illustrations and diagrams **(ACELY1661)**

Year 1 – The Arts*Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**
- Respond to visual artworks and consider where and why people make visual artworks, starting with visual artworks from Australia, including visual artworks of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples **(ACAVAR109)**

Media Arts:

- Explore ideas, characters and settings in the community through stories in images, sounds and text **(ACAMAM054)**

Year Two - Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS)*History*

- How changing technology affected people's lives (at home and in the ways they worked, travelled, communicated and played in the past) **(ACHASSK046)**
- The connections of people in Australia to people in other places in Australia and across the world **(ACHASSK050)**

Year Two - English*Literacy:*

- Create short imaginative, informative and persuasive texts using growing knowledge of text structures and language features for familiar and some less familiar audiences, selecting print and multimodal elements appropriate to the audience and purpose **(ACELY1671)**

Year 2 – The Arts*Visual Arts:*

- Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience **(ACAVAM108)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respond to visual artworks and consider where and why people make visual artworks, starting with visual artworks from Australia, including visual artworks of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples (ACAVAR109) <p><i>Media Arts:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore ideas, characters and settings in the community through stories in images, sounds and text (ACAMAM054) 	
General Capabilities	
Intercultural Understanding Literacy Critical and Creative Thinking	Personal and Social Capability Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capability
Lesson introduction	10 mins
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask the students to think about what the word 'artwork' means. Ask for student answers and have a discussion about artworks. What do people make artworks of? How can you make artworks? What material do people use to make artworks? What are some other words for artwork? Record student results and begin a list of materials that can be used to make artworks. 2. Introduce the term 'media/medium' 'art media / art medium' as the term used to describe materials used to make art. 3. Rename the 'List of materials' with 'List of art media' and add media to the list that was not suggested by students eg: printmaking, collage, ceramics, sculpture, watercolour, photography. 	
Main body of teaching	30 mins
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Show the students enlarged samples of a few stamps (either printed or displayed using a projector or IWB, taken from https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues or an internet image search for 'Australian Post Stamps'. Ask students to identify the artwork located on each stamp. Discuss what medium may have been used to create the artwork, such as painting, drawing, photography and different drawing and painting media such as pencils, paint, pen and ink, watercolour. For an interesting range use stamps from the following issues: Photography: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/heard-island Drawing/Watercolour: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/water-plants Illustration: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/fair-dinkum-auusie-alphabet-part-3 Aboriginal linocuts: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/art-of-the-north Painting/Artists: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/arthur-streeton-and-sidney-nolan.html Illustration: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/christmas-island-christmas-2017 Original Artwork: https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues/convict-past 5. Identify the other components that feature on stamps such as text, possible symbols, background colours and borders. Identify the perforations (wiggly like edges) of stamps and discuss that these can make a natural border. Look at some stamps that have a postmark on them and discuss whether this is part of the original stamp design. Discuss the text that is featured on stamps, that is the Country of Origin (Australia) the cost, year and a possible title or theme for the artwork. 	

6. Click on the links to various stamp issues (see above) or alternatively view specific pages in the Stamp Bulletin (free publication online) to read about the artist and designer of stamps. For the Convict Past Stamp Collection see Stamp Bulletin 351.
<https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/articles/stamp-bulletin-351> For the Christmas Island Christmas Stamp Collection see Stamp Bulletin 350. A list of previous stamp bulletins is at the bottom of the link.
7. Discuss that the artwork, illustration or photograph featured on the stamps is created by one artist (from the past or present) and that their artwork is incorporated into the stamp design completed by designers at Australia Post Design Studio. View artist's websites who have created imagery for stamps at <https://www.shanemcgworld.com/> (Shane McGowan – creator of the Christmas Island Christmas stamps) and www.jennyphillips.org (Jenny Phillips – creator of the Water Plants stamps). Read the Head of Design section on the 'About Us' page to learn more about the process of designing a stamp <https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/about-us/meet-our-philatelic-team>. Read the information about how stamps are designed <http://auspost.com.au/education/stamps/students/stamp-design.html>
8. Give students a photocopy of an enlarged stamp with blank space around and ask students to create a diagram by labelling the various parts of the stamp, eg: artwork, title, price, country, perforations, border, date, postmark.

Plenary

10 mins

9. Once students have finished their diagrams ask students to describe the various features of the stamp and what they represent. This can be done as a whole class or students can tell each other in pairs
10. Watch the video 'How stamps are made' and animation and 'How stamps are printed – CMYK animation' located on the Australian Post site
<https://auspost.com.au/about-us/supporting-communities/literacy-education/stamps-collectables>

Extension Task Ideas

- * Investigate printmaking processes such as relief cut, etchings, lithographs and screen printing
- * Create simple relief cut prints by scratching designs into Styrofoam before painting the surface of the Styrofoam and pressing it onto paper
- * Write a list of special days and events that have been commemorated with by stamps. Look at samples on the <https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues> site.
- * Visit the Stamp Collecting Month site and watch the behind the scenes videos
<https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-collecting-month>