

Milí žáci,

moc Vás opět zdravím a posílám z minulého týdne k prostudování něco o Austrálii. S pozdravem Lenka Krylová

Australia

Basic information:

Australia is with its size 7 692 000 km² the largest island in the world and the sixth largest country in the world. Currently, 24 million people live in Australia, which means that there is one of the smallest population densities in the world. Although people usually think that the capital city is Sydney, it's not true. The capital is Canberra. Australia is the constitutional monarchy with Elizabeth II as the queen. Because it used to be the British colony. Australia is in the present governed by Peter Cosgrove and the Prime minister is Malcolm Turnbull. They use Australian dollar as the currency. "Advance Australia Fair" is the national anthem of Australia. Created by the Scottish-born composer Peter Dodds McCormick, the song was first performed in 1878 and sung in Australia as a patriotic song. It replaced "God Save the Queen" as the official national anthem in 1984.

The Australian flag uses three prominent symbols: the Union Flag, the Commonwealth Star (also the Federation Star) and the Southern Cross. The Commonwealth Star represents the six federating colonies. In 1908, a seventh point was added to symbolise the Papua and any future territories. The Southern Cross has been used to represent Australia since the early days of British settlement. Australia is divided into six states New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia. And the two major mainland territories are the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

Geography:

It is situated in the southern hemisphere and is washed by the Indian Ocean in the West and the South Pacific in the East.

The highest mountain of Australia is Mount Kosciuszko with 2228 m above the sea level. There are three big lakes here: Lake Eyre, Lake Torrens and Lake Gairdner. Murray River is the longest river. The biggest city is Sydney, other big cities are Melbourne, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Perth, Adelaide and Canberra.

Fauna and Flora:

There is a great variety of fauna and flora caused by the isolation of Australia from the rest of the world. Many endemic animals live there for example: kangaroo, koala, Tasmanian devil, platypus, echidna etc.

History:

Aboriginal Australians are believed to have first arrived on the Australian mainland by the sea from Maritime Southeast Asia between 40,000 and 70,000 years ago.

The first known landing in Australia by Europeans was by the Dutch navigator Willem Janszoon in 1606. Twenty-nine other Dutch navigators explored the western and southern coasts in the 17th century, and dubbed the continent New Holland. Other European explorers followed until, in 1770, Lieutenant James Cook explored the east coast of Australia for Great Britain and returned with accounts favouring colonisation at Botany Bay (now in Sydney), New South Wales. Australia used to be a penal colony. Many convicts were transported for petty crimes, while a significant number were political prisoners. More serious crimes, such as rape and murder, were punishable by death, and therefore not transportable offences. Once emancipated, most ex-convicts stayed in Australia and joined the free settlers.

Socio-economic characteristics:

Australia is an advanced industrial and agricultural state with rich supplies and significant mining of minerals. The most important industries are metallurgy, chemistry, textile and the food industry. In Australia, there is also very important the sheep farming, because there are around 100 million sheep there. Predominant religions are Anglicanism, Catholic Church and Other Christians. Although Australia does not have an official language, English is spoken by most of the people.

Interesting places in Australia:

There are many interesting places to visit in Australia. For example Sydney Opera House, Great Barrier Reef, Uluru (large sandstone rock), Sydney Harbour Bridge, Kakadu National Park.

Famous people:

An actor Hugh Jackman, a singer Sia Furler, a singer Iggy Azalea, an actress Nicole Kidman and an actress Margot Robbie and many others

Vocabulary:

predominant / ˈpriːdɒmɪnənt/ - převládající

population density / ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ / ˈdensəti/ - hustota zalidnění

hemisphere / ˈhemɪˌsfɪə(r)/ - polokoule

agriculture / ˌægrɪˈkʌltʃ(ə)rə/ - zemědělství

metallurgy /məˈtælə(r)dʒi/ - hutnictví

penal colony - trestanecká kolonie

convict - odsoudit, odsouzenec

settler - osadník

constitutional monarchy / ˌkɒnstɪˈtjuːʃ(ə)nəl/ / ˈmɒnə(r)ki/ - konstituční monarchie

industry / ˈɪndəstri/ - průmysl

platypus / ˈplætɪpəs/ - ptakopysk

Sources:

<http://www.australia.gov.au/>

<http://www.australia.com/en>

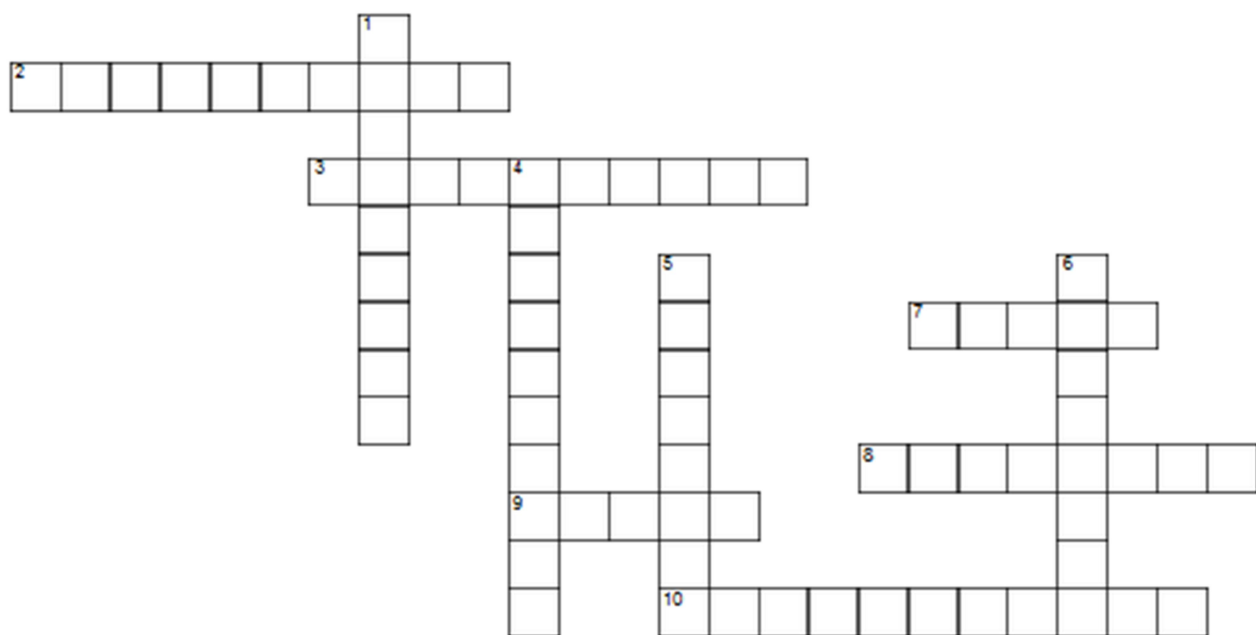
<http://www.australie-online.cz/>

Australia - lonely planet 9th edition



Australia

Crossword



ACROSS

- 2 one of the six states in Australia
- 3 Historical European name for Australia
- 7 The longest river
- 8 Typical Australian animal
- 9 Large sandstone rock
- 10 Original inhabitants of Australia

DOWN

- 1 Famous British explorer
- 4 Famous building in Sydney
- 5 The capital city of Australia
- 6 Island state of Australia