

Activity

Episode 9
31st March 2015

Malcolm Fraser

Key Learning

Students will learn about the achievements of Australia's 22nd Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.

The Australian Curriculum

English / Literature / Literature and context

Identify and explore ideas and viewpoints about events, issues and characters represented in texts drawn from different historical, social and cultural contexts ([ACELT1619](#)) Year 7



History / Historical Skills / Chronology, terms and concepts

Sequence historical people and events. ([ACHHS117](#)) ([ACHHS098](#)) ([ACHHS081](#)) Years 4, 5, 6



History / Historical Skills / Explanation and communication

Develop texts, particularly narratives and descriptions, which incorporate source materials ([ACHHS124](#)) ([ACHHS213](#)) Year 6 & 7



History / Historical Skills / Historical questions and research

Identify and locate a range of relevant sources. ([ACHHS101](#)) ([ACHHS120](#)) Years 5 & 6



English / Literacy / Creating texts

Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive print and multimodal texts, choosing text structures, language features, images and sound appropriate to purpose and audience identify and locate a range of relevant sources. ([ACELY1694](#)) Year 5



Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive texts, choosing and experimenting with text structures, language features, images and digital resources appropriate to purpose and audience. ([ACELY1714](#)) Year 6



History / Historical Knowledge and Understanding / Australia as a nation

The contribution of individuals and groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and migrants, to the development of Australian society, for example in areas such as the economy, education, science, the arts, sport. ([ACHHK116](#)) Year 6



Discussion Questions

1. Which Prime Minister was removed from government in 1975?
2. How many years was Malcolm Fraser Prime Minister?
3. Why were many people fleeing Vietnam?
4. How did he help Vietnamese migrants?
5. Who did Malcolm Fraser lose the election to in 1983?
6. What causes did he support after leaving politics?
7. When and why did Malcolm Fraser quit the Liberal Party?
8. Give some other examples of how he supported multiculturalism.
9. What was Malcolm Fraser's favourite catchphrase? Do you agree?
10. What do you think he will be remembered for? Explain your answer?

Activities

Keywords

Watch the BtN *Malcolm Fraser* story and circle each of the following words/terms as you hear them. Record any unfamiliar words.

Vietnam War	Asylum Seeker	Election
Governor-General	Multiculturalism	Parliament House

- Clarify students' understanding of the words/terms.
- Discuss as a group how these terms relate to this story.
- Students will use each word to form their own sentences.

Biographical Writing

Activity overview

In this activity students will:

- As a class, brainstorm what a biography is and what it tells us about a person. They will identify where they can find biographical information and what makes a biography interesting.
- Using the [Biography Organiser template](#), students will find and record information about Malcolm Fraser, Australia's 22nd Prime Minister.
- Using the [Bio-Cube template](#), students will design and create a 3D model to present their biographical information.

Class discussion: What is a biography?

Before students begin to construct their biographies, hold a class discussion to find out what they already know about biographical writing. Record your student's responses on the class whiteboard. Below are some discussion starters:

- What is the difference between a biography and an autobiography? Find a dictionary definition.
- What does a biography tell us about a person?
- Where can you look to find information for your biographical writing? It could include the internet, newspaper articles, magazine articles and interviews, other biographies, historical books or television interviews. Why is it important to use more than one source of information?
- What makes a biography interesting? For example, key information and facts, a timeline of events, photographs, video interviews, illustrations and quotes.
- Have you heard of the National Living Treasures listing? National Living Treasures are exceptional Australians with substantial and enduring accomplishments in their field. Take a look at the list to see which Australians are listed. What range of fields are covered in the list? <http://www.nationaltrust.org.au/nsw/NationalLivingTreasures>

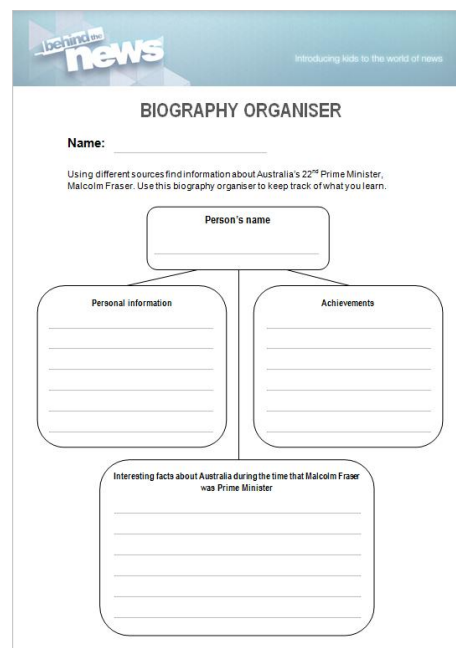
Biography Organiser

Using a range of sources (internet, newspapers, books etc) students will research the life of Malcolm Fraser.

Students will use the [Biography Organiser template](#) to structure their biographical information on Malcolm Fraser.

Some possible research questions include:

- Where and when was Malcolm Fraser born?
- Describe his family life growing up and as an adult.
- For how long and when did Malcolm Fraser serve as Prime Minister?
- What political party did he represent?
- What was controversial about his appointment as Prime Minister? Describe how he was elected.
- Make a list of his biggest achievements as Prime Minister. Choose one to explore in more detail.
- What were some of the challenges he faced as Prime Minister?
- How has he made an impact on Australian people's lives?
- What was life like for Australians during the time that Malcolm Fraser was Prime Minister? Think about fashion, music, influential people and major events.



The image shows a 'Biography Organiser' template from ABC News. At the top, it says 'behind the news' and 'Introducing kids to the world of news'. The title is 'BIOGRAPHY ORGANISER'. Below the title is a line for 'Name:'. A small instruction reads: 'Using different sources find information about Australia's 22nd Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser. Use this biography organiser to keep track of what you learn.' The template is divided into three main sections: 'Person's name' at the top, 'Personal information' on the left, and 'Achievements' on the right. Below these are two larger sections: 'Interesting facts about Australia during the time that Malcolm Fraser was Prime Minister' and another section for notes. Each section has several horizontal lines for writing.

Students may also like to present the information they have gathered in the form of a timeline.

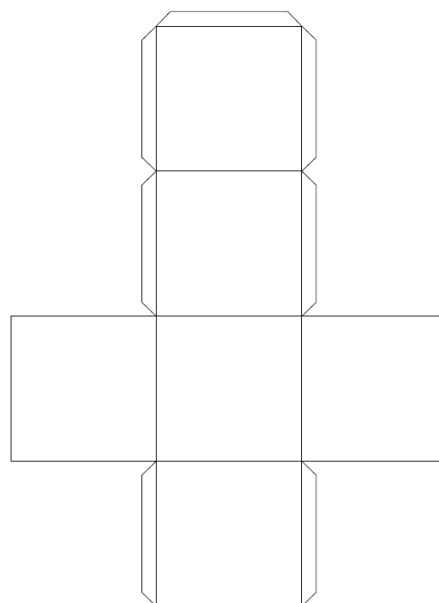
Make a bio-cube

Using the [Bio-Cube template](#) students will design and create a 3D model to present their biography on Malcolm Fraser.

Each side of the cube will include a different aspect of the students' research. For example:

1. Name, birth date and the day they died
2. Dates he was Prime Minister
3. Picture, illustration or photograph
4. Something interesting you learnt about this person
5. Three important facts
6. Resource listing (bibliography)

Once students have created their 3D models display them in the classroom. Consider using this template to create biographies on other Australia Prime Ministers.



Related Research Links

Civics and Citizenship – Malcolm Fraser

http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au/cce/fraser_malcolm,15396.html

National Museum Australia – Malcolm Fraser

http://www.nma.gov.au/primeministers/malcolm_fraser

Civics and Citizenship – Biographical Writing

http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au/cce/cce_biographical_writing,23524.html

Film Australia – Australia Biography: Malcolm Fraser

http://australianbiography.s3.amazonaws.com/study/4600_ausbiofraser.pdf

Australian Screen – Life at the Top: A Week with Prime Minister: Malcolm Fraser

<http://aso.gov.au/titles/documentaries/life-at-the-top-malcolm-fraser/clip2/>