

Teacher Resource

Citizenship

FOCUS QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the *Citizenship* story with another student and record the main points of the discussion.
2. There are a few ways that you can be a citizen of a country. Name one of them.
3. When a person applies to be a citizen, what might they have to do?
4. What is dual citizenship?
5. What special rights do you have as a citizen of Australia?
6. What responsibilities do Australian citizens have?
7. How does the Australian government want to change the citizenship laws?
8. Why are some people worried about changing the laws?
9. Should the government be able to take away a person's Australian citizenship? Why or why not?
10. What do you understand more clearly since watching the BtN *Citizenship* story?

ACTIVITY

Negotiate with students how many activities they complete from each section.

REMEMBER / UNDERSTAND

- After watching the BtN *Citizenship* story, respond to the following questions:

- What did you SEE in this video?
- What do you THINK about what you saw in this video?
- What does this video make your WONDER?
- What did you LEARN from this story?
- How did this story make you FEEL?
- What was SURPRISING about this story?

KEY LEARNING

Students will explore who can be an Australian citizen, the formal rights and responsibilities, and shared values of Australian citizenship.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

Civics and Citizenship Years 4, 5 & 6

Present civics and citizenship ideas and viewpoints for a particular purpose using civics and citizenship terms and concepts ([ACHCS033](#)) ([ACHCS045](#))

Present evidence-based [civics](#) and [citizenship](#) arguments using subject-specific language ([ACHCS059](#))

Civics and Citizenship – Year 6

Who can be an Australian citizen, the formal rights and responsibilities, and shared values of Australian citizenship ([ACHCK038](#))

Identify over-generalised statements in relation to civics and citizenship topics and issues ([ACHCS041](#))

- As a citizen of Australia what rights and responsibilities do you have? Fill in the table below.

<i>Rights of an Australian citizen</i>	<i>Responsibilities of an Australian citizen</i>

- As a class, talk about your feelings of belonging to your school community. Think about the diversity in backgrounds, experiences, interests and age of people in your school community. Broaden your discussion and talk about your local community and Australia as a whole.

Explain to students that developing positive relationships can help build a sense of belonging and inclusion. Provide a range of opportunities for students to share their personal stories to create an atmosphere of cultural respect and acknowledgement of diversity.

- What do you like about being part of your school community?
- What makes you feel safe in your school community?
- How do you help new students settle into your school?
- What are some of your school's values?
- Describe some of your school's traditions. Why are they important?
- What are the advantages of belonging to a culturally diverse community?



APPLY / ANALYSE

- Students will imagine they have recently become Australian citizens. They will write a letter to family or friends from their chosen country of origin telling them about why they have become an Australian citizen, and what it means to them. Alternatively, students could write a blog, or diary entry. Students could exchange letters with other students in the class.
- Create a questionnaire and then survey classmates to investigate the cultural diversity that is represented in your classroom. Students can formulate their own questions or use the example questions provided below. Students will collect and record the data from their survey, and then present their findings in an interesting way. For example a bar graph or an infographic. Show on a world map where the students in your class come from.

Survey questions

- Were you born in Australia or overseas?
- Where were your family members born?
- Do language/s do you speak at home?
- Do you have any family traditions? Describe.

- Survey people from your school community to find out what values are important to them. What are the three values that you think are the most important to Australia? Reflect on your own beliefs. What do you think is the most important value for Australia and why. Compare your findings with the class.



EVALUATE / CREATE

- Many Australian citizens have shaped our nation into what it is today. Students will identify Australian citizens whom they feel have contributed significantly to our national identity. Students prepare a short oral or visual presentation for the class about what their chosen person has contributed to Australia. Students may want to consider producing a painting of a famous Australian who has made a positive contribution to Australian society and identity. Display the paintings in an 'Australian Citizenship Gallery of Identities'.
- Write a speech that you would like to deliver to guests at a citizenship celebration event. Students will present their speeches to the class.

Things to think about...

- Who is your audience?
- How will you acknowledge them to begin your speech?
- What are the key ideas relating to Australian citizenship that you would like to discuss?

Personal stories can help demonstrate a point you want to make.

- Design an 'Our place story map'. The story map provides opportunities for teachers and students to investigate the stories of people around Australia. Invite your students to explore the experiences and create an **Our Place** story of a family member or someone in their community that has migrated to Australia and taken up Australian citizenship.
[My Place – Story Map](#)
[Department of Immigration – Stories](#)
- Students will attempt one or more of the [Australian citizenship practise tests](#). [Australian Citizenship: Our Common Bond](#) has all the information students need to help them pass the citizenship test. Create your own Australian citizenship test and then test your classmates.



USEFUL WEBSITES

Australian Government – Australian Citizenship

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

Coalition backbenchers increase pressure on Cabinet over anti-terrorism citizenship changes

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-06-01/citizenship-laws-backbenchers-increase-pressure-on-cabinet/6511178>

ABC News – Explainer: Who is at risk of losing their Australian citizenship under the Government's new legislation?

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-05-27/citizenship-stripped-under-new-laws-explainer/6500280>

BBC News – Australian militants risk losing citizenship

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-australia-32879773>

Civics and Citizenship – Education

<http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au/cce/>

Australian Government – Australian Voices

http://www.citizenship.gov.au/learn/schools/flash/australian_voices/



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