



COMMUNITIES / COMMUNITY AND REMEMBRANCE

Year 3 Teacher Pre-Visit Resource

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Communities: The Old Court House

Community: a group of people who have common characteristics, share similar interests or reside/live in the same place.¹

The Old Court House is the oldest building in the City of Perth and was the first purpose built court house in the Perth area. The building was completed in late December 1836 and the first court in session took place on 2 January 1837.

1. How old is the Old Court House?

In 2020 the building is 184 years old.

It is important to remember that the Aboriginal Peoples of Western Australia had been living in Western Australia for tens and thousands of years before the British came here in 1829. While we use a system of law based on the British system today, the Aboriginal Peoples had their own lores (laws) and legal system before 1829 and still have their own lores (laws) and legal system today.

Watch the following Heritage Perth HASSCHATS and complete the tasks.

[Perth: The Noongar View](#)

2. How long have the Aboriginal Peoples of Western Australia been here?

At least 40,000 years.

3. What made the Swan River according to the Aboriginal stories?

The Waugal.

4. What does Mr Walley say inspired the Aboriginal Peoples to create the Waugal story?

Rainbows after it had been raining because they look like a snake coming up out of, and going back into, the ground.

5. Do buildings, trees, the hills or the river keep the Aboriginal stories alive?

Mr Walley says trees, the hills and the river keep the Aboriginal stories alive. He says it is important for everyone to link themselves to those places and those stories.

[Old Court House Law Museum](#)

| | True | False |
|---|------|-------|
| 6. The Old Court House was like the community centre in the early days of the colony? | ✓ | |

7. The Old Court House was built to be a court house, however it was the only public hall in Perth at that time. What were some of the other uses of the Old Court House?

It was used as a church, a school, an immigration depot, a theatre and a concert hall.

¹ School Curriculum and Standards Authority, Government of Western Australia, *K-10 Outline, Civics and Citizenship, Glossary*, <https://k10outline.scsa.wa.edu.au/home/teaching/curriculum-browser/humanities-and-social-sciences/humanities-overview/glossary#c>.

8. Can you think of a local building in your community that is used for different purposes and is like the community centre? Yes / No

Some likely buildings are the local school, local church and/or the local hall.

9. What kinds of things is that building used for?

Possibly meetings, church services or religious gatherings, parties, local groups such as cubs, book clubs and/or special events.

The Old Court House was also used for some important meetings in the early days of the Swan River Colony. Two particularly important meetings at the Old Court House were:

| Year | Meeting |
|------|---|
| 1849 | The free settlers decided to allow convicts to come to Western Australia; and |
| 1856 | The free settlers decided to demand representative government in Western Australia. Representative government is a political system in which people vote for representatives to act on their behalf in parliament and make laws for the community. This is in contrast to a system of government where an unelected person, or group of people, makes all the laws. |

Note: Representative government in Western Australia was not granted by England till 1870.

10. If you were at the meeting in 1849 at the Old Court House, would you have voted for or against convicts coming to Western Australia? For / Against Why?

Answers will vary from student to student. Focus more on the students giving reasons for their response, e.g.

- I would have voted in support of convicts coming to Western Australia *because* ...
- I would have voted against convicts coming to Western Australia *because* ...

11. If you were at the meeting in 1856 at the Old Court House, would you have voted in support of or against demanding representative government in Western Australia?

Answers will vary from student to student. Focus more on the students giving reasons for their response, e.g.

- I would have voted in support of representative government in Western Australia *because* ...
- I would have voted against representative government in Western Australia *because* ...

Teachers might also want to discuss with students why having local people from local areas making decisions for Western Australia is likely to be better than having the government for Western Australia based in England.

"For . . . forty years Western Australia was a crown colony ruled by governors who were primarily responsible to the British government rather than the colonists over whose welfare they presided. After the first two-and-a-half years the governor had to work with and through a small Legislative Council but the members of this body were officials, who were subject to his authority . . . The politics of the day therefore revolved around the governor and his officials rather than around elections, parties or cabinets." B. K. de Garis, in A New History of Western Australia, 1981.²

² Constitutional Centre of Western Australia, *Early Government, Part Two*.

12. Imagine there were 10 people in the meeting about whether convicts should come to Western Australia. If 6 people voted in favour of convicts coming here and 4 voted against convicts coming here, then convicts **would be allowed** to come to Western Australia. This is because the majority vote wins.

Do you think it's fair that the majority vote wins in situations like the one described above?

All contributions should be encouraged. Some points for students to think about: It is very rare that everyone agrees about something so the goal of getting everyone to agree is very difficult, if not impossible, to achieve. A majority vote means more than half of the people that voted support that thing, the majority decision rules and the majority of people are satisfied with the outcome.

The people who voted against and were in the minority obviously are not satisfied with the outcome, but as everyone had a chance to vote they are more likely to accept the outcome as part of the democratic process.

Symbols and Emblems

Symbols and emblems are used by countries all around the world and provide a way to unite people. Symbols and emblems are pictures that represent or identify something. For example, a picture of an olive branch is the symbol for peace and a diamond shape with an S inside is the symbol for Superman. Emojis such as a smiley face or a thumbs up picture are also symbols. Symbols and emblems provide an easy way for people to connect a picture to something without the need for words.

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Does your school have a symbol or emblem? | ✓ | |

2. Draw a picture of your school emblem and explain what it means. If you don't know what it means then do a little research.



SYMBOLS AND EMBLEMS: WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Australia also has a number of national symbols to represent our country, including the Coat of Arms, Australian Flags, national floral emblem (the golden wattle) and national colours (green and gold).³ When people see these symbols on the playing field or on a building, they think of Australia. There are also special laws about when people can use these symbols and you can be charged with an offence if you use them inappropriately.

3. Western Australia also has a number of symbols and emblems to represent our state. What Western Australian symbols or emblems do you already know? Draw or write the name and details of any symbols or emblems you already know in the table below.

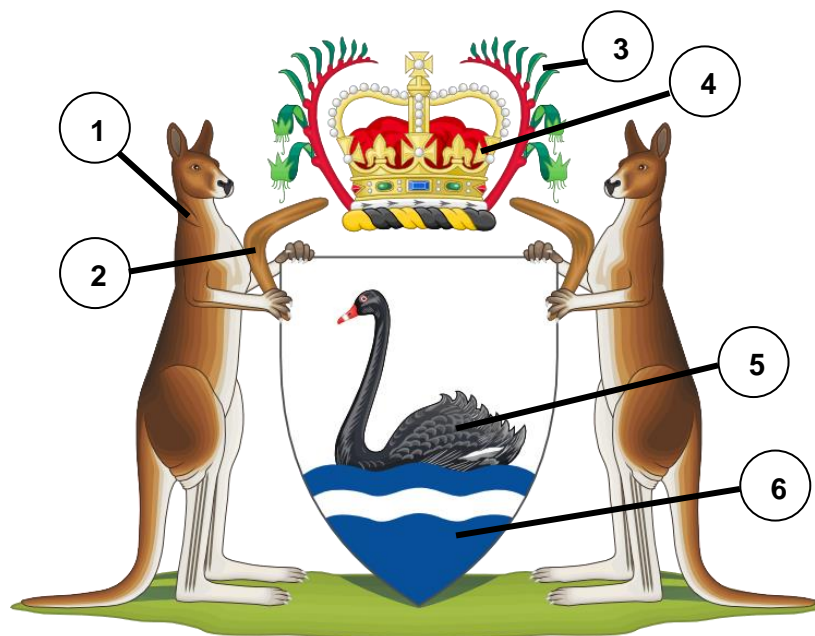
| WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SYMBOLS AND EMBLEMS | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |

³ Parliamentary Education Office, National Symbols, https://www.peo.gov.au/uploads/peo/docs/factsheets/national_symbols.pdf

Symbols of Western Australia : Department of Premier and Cabinet

- The Coat of Arms of Western Australia
- The Flag of Western Australia
- The Floral Emblem of Western Australia: Red and Green Kangaroo Paw
- The Faunal (Bird) Emblem of Western Australia: Black Swan
- The Faunal (Animal) Emblem of Western Australia: Numbat or Banded Anteater
- The Fossil Emblem of Western Australia: Gogo Fish
- The Faunal (Marine Animal) Emblem of Western Australia: Whale Shark
- Personal Flag of the Governor of Western Australia

4. Label the parts of the Western Australian Coat of Arms. Why do you think they chose each part?



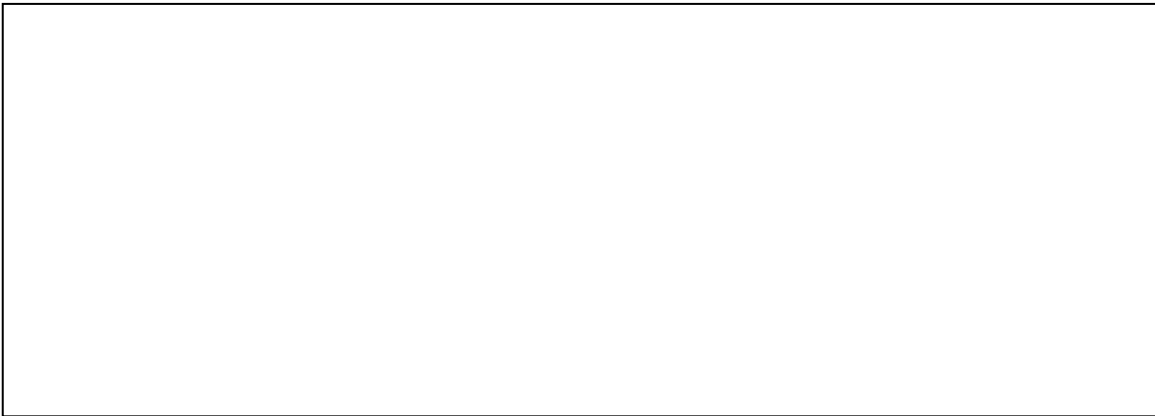
Coat of Arms of Western Australia, 2016,
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Coat_of_arms_of_Western_Australia.svg

1. Two red kangaroos supporting a shield
2. A boomerang held by each kangaroo in their forepaw
3. Kangaroo Paw flower
4. The Royal Crown
5. A black swan
6. Blue ripples which represent water

SYMBOLS AND EMBLEMS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

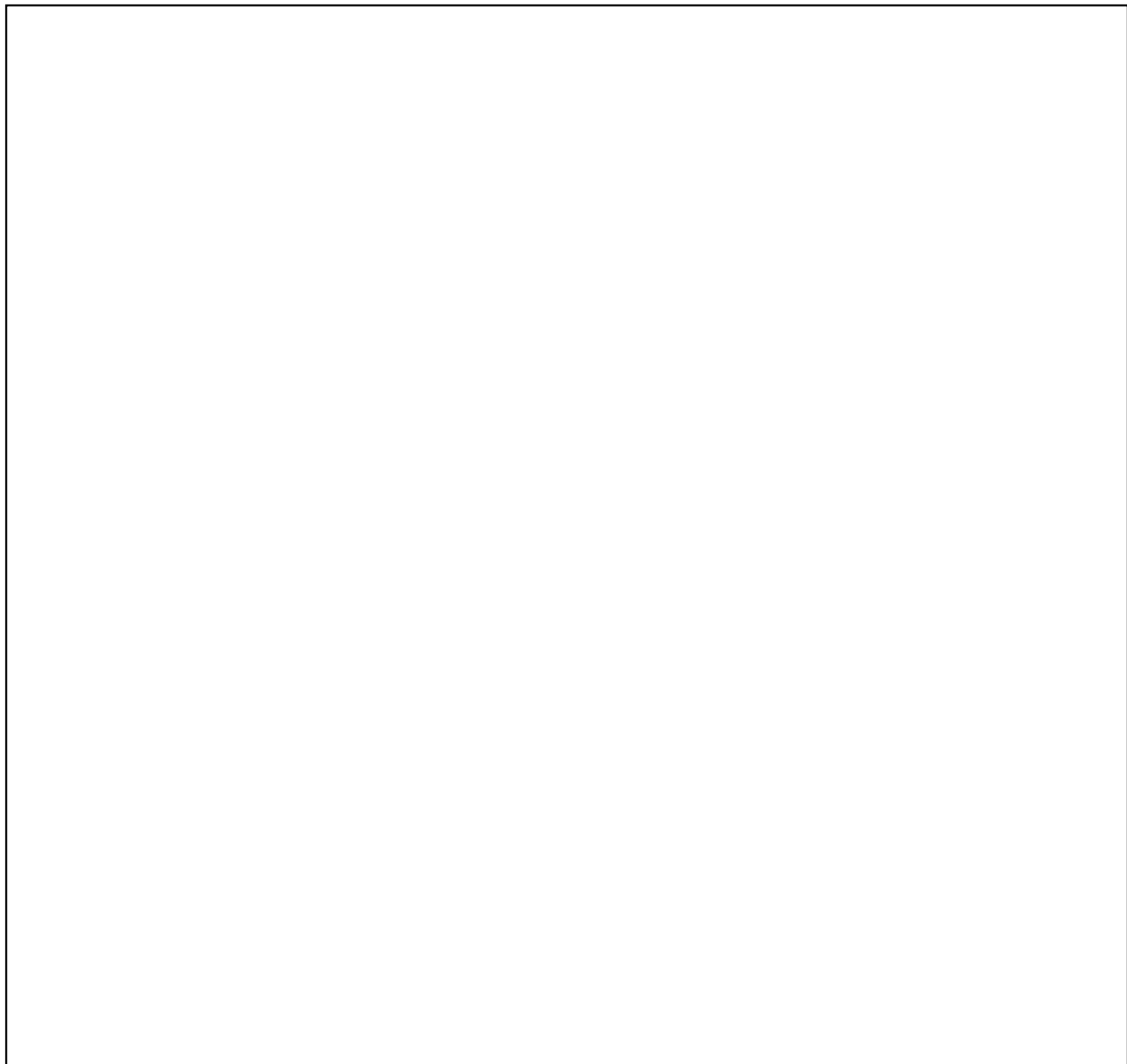
Your local community will also have a number of different symbols. These may include the emblem or logo of your local government, sports team/club, a local community group and/or a local programme. Your local community is likely to have a floral emblem and an animal emblem. Your family might even have its own coat of arms too.

5. **Draw a local symbol, emblem or logo from your community. A good place to start is the website for your local government and search emblem or logo.**



6. **What do the different parts of that local symbol, emblem or logo mean?**
This will depend on the chosen logo and details available. Examples could include important local animals and plants, important places in the community, identifying colours for sports teams etc.

7. **Draw your own symbol that represents yourself and/or your family. Remember to think about what each part of the symbol means.**



Important Dates and Events to Celebrate and Commemorate

Celebrate: Acknowledge (a significant or happy day or event) with a social gathering or enjoyable activity.⁴

Commemorate: Recall and show respect for (someone or something).⁵

Everyone has important dates and events that they celebrate each year. The most obvious date and event that almost everyone celebrates is their birthday. There are lots of other important dates and events too and these dates and events are different from one family to another. The Government declares some important dates a public holiday by law.

1. Brainstorm some important dates and/or events that you know. If you don't know the date of the event then just put down the name of the event. You might like to research the date of the event later.

| Important Event | Important Date | What does the day celebrate or commemorate? |
|------------------|--|---|
| Christmas | 25 December each year | A Christian celebration |
| Eid | The last day of Ramadan each year | A Muslim celebration |
| Passover | A weeklong festival in early spring | A Jewish celebration |
| Easter | Falls on a Sunday between 22 March and 25 April | A Christian commemoration and celebration |
| Chinese New Year | A spring festival to celebrate the lunar new year | A Chinese celebration |
| Anzac Day | 25 April each year | A commemoration to remember Australian and New Zealanders that have died in past wars |
| Diwali | A festival that takes place towards the end of October or the first half of November each year | A Hindu, Jain, Sikh and Buddhist celebration |

⁴ English Oxford Living Dictionaries, *celebrate definition*, <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/celebrate>

⁵ English Oxford Living Dictionaries, *commemorate definition*, <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/commemorate>

2. List some important dates or events that you and your family celebrate or commemorate and explain why they are celebrated or commemorated by you and your family.

Answers will vary and may include local dates, Western Australian dates and Australian dates. For example,

Australia: NAIDOC Week; Australia Day; Clean up Australia Day; World’s Greatest Shave; Harmony Day; Earth Hour; Anzac Day; Mother’s Day; Father’s Day; Law Week; National Sorry Day; Red Nose Day; Cupcake Day; Daffodil Day; Wattle Day.

Western Australia: West Australia Day, Parkinson’s WA Unity Walk; Avon Descent.

Some local dates in Perth: Australia Day Skyworks, South Perth; Perth International Arts Festival; Fremantle International Street Arts Festival; Sculpture by the Sea, Cottesloe.

| Important Event | Important Date | What does the day celebrate or commemorate? |
|-----------------|----------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
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| | | |
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| | | |

The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia and the History Teachers’ Association of Victoria have developed an excellent programme and resources entitled [Year 3 Celebrations and Commemorations](#). Teachers are encouraged to utilise that programme and resources.

Rules

Every day we follow lots of different rules at home, at school and in the community.

A rule is a statement telling people what they can or cannot do. Rules can be made by anybody but usually they are made by someone in authority. The same person usually decides on the penalty. For example - school rules; rules at home; rules of different sports like cricket and netball.

1. List 3 rules that you have at your home.

| RULES AT HOME LIST | |
|--------------------|--|
| Rule 1 | |
| Rule 2 | |
| Rule 3 | |

2. Who makes the rules at your house?

The majority of answers are likely to be mum and/or dad or another adult such as a grandparent.

3. What are the penalties or consequences of breaking the rules in your list?

| RULES AT HOME PENALTIES OR CONSEQUENCES | |
|---|--|
| Rule 1 | |
| Rule 2 | |
| Rule 3 | |

4. **Why do you have those rules at your home? If you don't know then ask the person that made the rule.**

| RULES AT HOME: WHY DO YOU HAVE THEM | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Rule 1: Why? | |
| Rule 2: Why? | |
| Rule 3: Why? | |

DISCUSSION

5. **In small groups discuss the rules at your house. Are they the same or different?**
The rules are likely to differ from one house to another.
6. **In small groups discuss who makes the rules at your house. Are they the same or different?**
The person or people that make the rules are likely to differ from one house to another.
7. **In small groups discuss the consequences for breaking the rules at your house. Are they the same or different?**
The consequences are likely to differ from one house to another.

Here are three important features of rules that you need to remember.

| FEATURES OF RULES |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rules are made by different people• Rules are different and depend on who made them• The penalties or consequences for breaking rules differ from one place to another |

IMPORTANCE OF RULES

Everyone has rules at their home and at their school.

8. **Why do you think you have rules at your home and at your school?**
Rules often create fairness and safety for people and have the goal of making sure everyone has equal chances or opportunities.

Also, rules often make clear acceptable and unacceptable standards of behaviour.

9. Think of one rule that you would like to introduce at your home. Make sure it is fair, safe and an acceptable standard of behaviour.

10. Identify a consequence or penalty for breaking the new rule that you have created. Remember the consequence or penalty must be appropriate and fair

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Education Services Australia, Civics and Citizenship Education,
Rules for games, school and in the community:

http://www.civicsandcitizenship.edu.au/cce/cce_rules_-_introduction,22540.html

Education Services Australia, Make the rules: fair play:

<http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/viewing/L1007/index.html>

Education Services Australia, Make the rules: keep it fair:

<http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/viewing/L1033/index.html>

Education Services Australia, Your rules: in the park:

<http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/viewing/L6351/index.html>

Short Stories: Alice In Wonderland

Read the story of *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.

A simplified seven minute YouTube version can be found at [Alice in Wonderland](#). The purpose of this task is to introduce the students to short stories and in particular the story of *Alice in Wonderland* as the Mock Trial in the FBLEP Tour will be *Alice in Court*.

Other children's stories can be found at [Children's story books online](#) which could be used to help the students understand short story format.

DISCUSSION

- 1. In the YouTube version of Alice in Wonderland, the Queen had a rule that “all ways here are my ways”. She was very angry with Alice for ‘breaking’ her rule. If you were in Wonderland, how would you feel about the Queen’s rule? Why?**

Answers will vary. Focus on the students explaining why they would feel that way, e.g. I would think it is not fair *because* everyone should have a chance to win the game.

- 2. Is this rule fair? Why or why not?**

Answers will vary. This is an opportunity for students to discuss and understand the meaning of rules.

- 3. In the mock trial you will do as part of the Francis Burt Law Education Programme tour, Alice is charged with the crime of disturbing the peace. What do you think disturbing the peace means?**

Answers will vary and are likely to lean towards anything in which a person creates a loud noise or a disturbance such as a young child screaming and shouting in a shopping centre.

In a legal sense, disturbing the peace is behaviours that are unacceptable in public as that behaviour causes offence or makes others feel scared, afraid or threatened.

- 4. Which of the following are examples of disturbing the peace in a legal sense where the person might find themselves charged with breaking the law and have to appear in court? Give reasons for your choice.**

- a) A three year old child is in a supermarket and is screaming and shouting loudly. His mother asks him to quieten down but instead he lashes out and kicks a display stand which causes packets of biscuits to fall over and block the aisle in the shopping centre.**

This is not the criminal offence of disturbing the peace. It is just a young child having a tantrum and young children are still learning what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

- b) A young adult, approximately 19 years old, is seen outside a shopping centre shouting loudly at people and using bad language as they pass by. He appears to be drunk and is very angry. He kicks a sign over and blocks a pathway. He is then seen going to the toilet in an alley way.**

This is the criminal offence of disturbing the peace. This person's behaviour in public is unacceptable and it is making people feel uncomfortable and threatened.

Legal Words

The language of the law and the courts is different to normal everyday language. Legal words tend only to be used when talking about the law and/or in court. The following task is excellent preparation for the *Alice in Court* mock trial activity.

- There are twenty four words.
- Twelve are legal words and the other twelve are not legal words (others).
- Put the legal words in the legal column and the non-legal words in the others column.
- Check your list with a partner and then with the class.

| LEGAL WORDS | OTHERS |
|---|-----------------------|
| <p>judge</p> <p><i>The person that is in charge of the court and makes sure there is a fair hearing of the matter.</i></p> | <p>referee</p> |
| <p>oath</p> <p><i>A promise to god to tell the truth in court.</i></p> | <p>promise</p> |
| <p>guilty</p> <p><i>The accused has admitted that they did the crime or the Court has been satisfied after hearing all of the evidence that the accused did the crime.</i></p> | <p>naughty</p> |
| <p>not guilty</p> <p><i>Either the accused says s/he did not do the crime or the Court has NOT been satisfied after hearing all of the evidence that the accused did the crime.</i></p> | <p>nice</p> |
| <p>evidence</p> <p><i>The facts and information put before the Court by both parties.</i></p> | <p>gossip</p> |
| <p>disturb the peace</p> <p><i>Disturbing the peace is a crime generally defined as the unsettling of proper order in a public space through one's actions.</i></p> <p><i>In the WA Criminal Code this is referred to as disorderly behaviour in public and is defined as:</i></p> | <p>noise</p> |

| LEGAL WORDS | OTHERS |
|---|------------------------|
| <p><i>behave in a disorderly manner includes —</i></p> <p>a) <i>to use insulting, offensive or threatening language; and</i></p> <p>b) <i>to behave in an insulting, offensive or threatening manner.</i>⁶</p> | |
| <p>sentence</p> <p><i>The penalty or punishment that the Court gives the accused person if s/he is found guilty. The sentence must be appropriate to the crime committed.</i></p> | <p>time out</p> |
| <p>accused</p> <p><i>The person that the prosecution says has broken the law.</i></p> | <p>blamed</p> |
| <p>jury</p> <p><i>People from the community who listen to all the evidence and decide if the accused is guilty or not guilty.</i></p> | <p>meeting</p> |
| <p>lawyer</p> <p><i>A person whose job is to help people with legal matters.</i></p> | <p>officer</p> |
| <p>adjourned</p> <p><i>Announced when the Court is taking a break or finishing for the day, e.g. This court is now adjourned.</i></p> | <p>ended</p> |
| <p>verdict</p> <p><i>The final decision of guilty or not guilty.</i></p> | <p>decision</p> |

Other words to be aware of prior to doing the *Alice in Court* mock trial

- Croquet: a sport that involves hitting wooden or plastic balls with a mallet through hoops embedded in a grass playing court.
- Affirmation: a promise to tell the truth in court with no reference to god
 - This is an alternate option to the oath which does reference god
- Crime: any act or behaviour that causes harm or damage in the community and is punishable by law.

⁶ Criminal Code Act Compilation Act 1913, As at 22 Sept 2017, (WA), s74A.

Imaginative Piece About the Law

1. In the mock trial that you will participate in at the Francis Burt Law Education Programme Alice from *Alice in Wonderland* is going to court. Choose an option below from another popular children's story and write an imaginative piece about one of the characters going to court.

- a) Goldilocks and the Three Bears: Goldilocks is on trial for breaking into the three bears house and eating their porridge
- b) Jack and the Beanstalk: Jack is on trial for trespassing (going onto someone's property without permission) by climbing up the beanstalk
- c) Cinderella: Cinderella's evil step-mother is on trial for using child labour (by forcing Cinderella to work all day)
- d) Frozen: Elsa is on trial for freezing the city of Arendelle
- e) Choose your own scenario

What legal words could you use? What illustrations could you draw? What significant places would you describe? Your story should include the following:

- An introduction;
- A main character;
- A problem that develops for the main character;
- A climax; and
- A resolution.

Some useful lessons plans on storytelling and constructing a story can be found at:

[Education Services Australia, Who tells the story? Lauren Harkins, Chullora Public School, NSW](#)

[Education Services Australia, Creating a picture book](#)

[Education Services Australia, Creating a picture book with an environmental theme](#)

[Splash ABC, What is a story?](#)

[Splash ABC, Creating characters for your story](#)

[Splash ABC, Genre & Setting](#)

Points to Think About Before Your Visit to the FBLEP

Think about the correct answers to the points below before you visit the FBLEP. You will review your answers after your visit to the FBLEP.

This activity was developed to compare the student's legal knowledge/awareness pre and post-visit. Teachers may decide to discuss the correct answers prior to the FBLEP tour, however be aware that the same questions are in the post-visit package.

We have created a Kahoot! Quiz pre and post visit resource based on these questions which can be found at this link: <https://create.kahoot.it/share/fblep-year-3-quiz/8e182b12-e56b-4e45-87f8-72e28901197c>

| | True | False |
|--|------|-------|
| Everyone has the same rules at their house? Rules differ from one place to another. | | ✓ |
| The jury votes to decide whether the accused is guilty or not guilty based on the evidence presented in court. | ✓ | |
| Every Australian State and Territory has its own coat of arms? <u>The coats of arms of the Australian states and territories.</u> | ✓ | |
| Everyone in Australia celebrates and commemorates the same important dates and events? Important dates and events to celebrate or commemorate often differ according to a person's culture and customs. As Australia is a multicultural country the important dates and events to celebrate or commemorate tend to differ from one person to another according to that person's culture and customs. | | ✓ |
| Everyone in our community has the same legal rights and responsibilities? This is the essential element of the rule of law. | ✓ | |
| The Old Court House is the oldest building in Western Australia? The Old Court House is the oldest building in the City of Perth | | ✓ |

Oldest Buildings in WA

1. 1831: [The Round House](#)
2. 1832: [Patrick Taylor Cottage – Albany](#)
3. 1835: [The Windmill – South Perth](#)
4. 1836: The Old Court House

After completing the pre-visit activities it would be good to discuss the standard of behaviour expected when the group visits the FBLEP and other logistical elements that are worth discussing with the students, e.g. travelling on the bus, travelling on public transport, taking their lunch and morning tea and/or the schedule for the day.



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