

Pearson Australia
(a division of Pearson Australia Group Pty Ltd)
20 Thackray Road, Port Melbourne, Victoria 3207
PO Box 460, Port Melbourne, Victoria 3207
www.pearson.com.au

Copyright © Pearson Australia 2012
(a division of Pearson Australia Group Pty Ltd)
First published 2012 by Pearson Australia
2015 2014 2013 2012
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Reproduction and communication for educational purposes

The Australian *Copyright Act 1968* (the Act) allows a maximum of one chapter or 10% of the pages of this work, whichever is the greater, to be reproduced and/or communicated by any educational institution for its educational purposes provided that that educational institution (or the body that administers it) has given a remuneration notice to Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) under the Act. For details of the CAL licence for educational institutions contact Copyright Agency Limited (www.copyright.com.au).

Reproduction and communication for other purposes

Except as permitted under the Act (for example any fair dealing for the purposes of study, research, criticism or review), no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, communicated or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior written permission. All enquiries should be made to the publisher at the address above.

This book is not to be treated as a blackline master; that is, any photocopying beyond fair dealing requires prior written permission.

Author: Andrew Einspruch
Publishers: Sarah Russell and Kirsty Hamilton
Project Editor: Rachel Davis
Editor: Writers Reign
Series Designer: Anne Donald
Designers: Glen McClay and Kim Ferguson
Copyright & Pictures Editor: Julia Weaver
Cover Designer: Glen McClay
Printed in China (GCC/01)

National Library of Australia Cataloguing-in-Publication entry

Author: Einspruch, Andrew.
Title: Victoria / Andrew Einspruch.
ISBN: 9781442559820 (pbk.)
Series: Colonial Australia.
Notes: Includes Index.
Target Audience: For primary school age.
Subjects: Victoria--History--1834-1900--Juvenile literature.
Victoria--Politics and government--1834-1900--Juvenile literature.
Victoria--Social conditions--1834-1900--Juvenile literature.
Dewey Number: 945.02.

Pearson Australia Group Pty Ltd ABN 40 004 245 943

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following for permission to reproduce copyright material.
The following abbreviations are used in this list: t = top, b = bottom, l = left, r = right, c = centre.

Every effort has been made to trace and acknowledge copyright. However, if any infringement has occurred, the publishers tender their apologies and invite the copyright holders to contact them.

Disclaimers

The selection of internet addresses (URLs) provided for this book was valid at the time of publication and was chosen as being appropriate for use as a primary education research tool. However, due to the dynamic nature of the internet, some addresses may have changed, may have ceased to exist since publication, or may inadvertently link to sites with content that could be considered offensive or inappropriate. While the authors and publisher regret any inconvenience this may cause readers, no responsibility for any such changes or unforeseeable errors can be accepted by either the authors or the publisher.

Some of the images used in *Colonial Australia: Victoria* might have associations with deceased Indigenous Australians. Please be aware that these images might cause sadness or distress in Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities.



Contents

Introduction.....	4
Australia Before Europeans.....	6
Aboriginal Peoples in Victoria.....	8
First Europeans.....	10
Becoming a Colony.....	12
Colonial Evolution of Australia.....	14
Development of Victoria.....	16
Representative Government.....	20
Famous People of Victoria.....	22
What's in a Name?.....	24
Becoming a Country.....	26
Timeline.....	30
Glossary.....	31
Index.....	32
Find Out More.....	32

Words that are printed in bold are explained in the Glossary on page 31.

Introduction

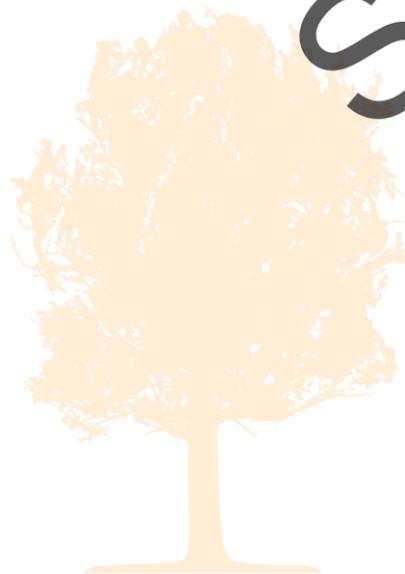
This series traces Australia's colonial history, from the very earliest of times when **Aboriginal peoples** and **Torres Strait Islanders** lived undisturbed on the Australian continent, to the arrival of the Europeans in 1788 to set up the first **colony**, to the turn of the century, when Australia became a unified nation and the colonies became states. Each book explores the history of a different colony, examining its **indigenous** people, European settlement, development and expansion, and the process of **federation** in the colony.

A Pivotal Moment in History

On 26 January 1788, a small fleet of British ships landed at Sydney Cove, establishing a permanent European settlement based on convict labour. Forces of change were unleashed by that relatively modest event that would reshape the continent.

From that moment, the devastation of the indigenous people began, laying waste to tens of thousands of years of culture. At the same time, the Europeans started carving out a life in this strange place. The trees kept their leaves, but shed their bark. The seasons were reversed. Animals hopped rather than ran. The soil was thin and easily exhausted. Still, these Europeans and the ones who came after them forced themselves onto this country permanently.

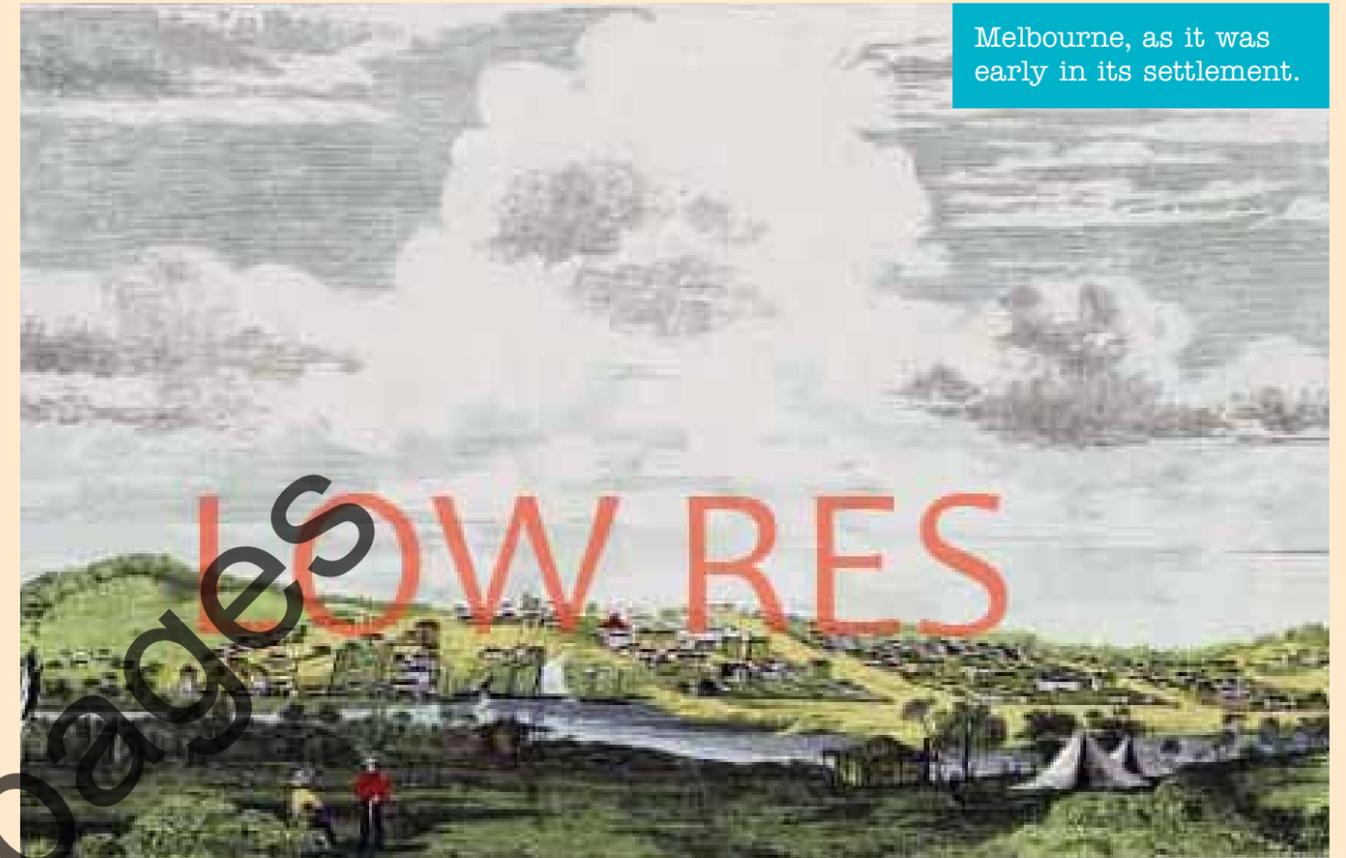
Over the years and decades that followed, the Europeans did what they could to tame the country and turn it into something they could call home. At the same time, the people living there came to think of themselves less as people from somewhere else who happened to be in Australia, and more as Australians.



About this book

This book covers the colony of Victoria from before the arrival of Europeans to Federation in 1901. You can read about:

- who the indigenous people were and how they lived
- when Europeans first arrived and what they did
- how Europeans spread across the colony
- the economic development of the colony
- how governance evolved into a representative democracy
- how Victoria joined the other colonies to create an independent nation, the Commonwealth of Australia.



Melbourne, as it was early in its settlement.



The First Fleet arrived in Sydney Cove in 1788.

Australia Before Europeans

The first human inhabitants of Australia were **Aboriginal peoples**, who came from South-East Asia tens of thousands of years ago. They, along with those who settled in the Torres Strait Islands, became the land's **indigenous** people. Their hunter-gatherer societies, some of which exist today, are the oldest continuous societies on the planet.

The First Australians

No one knows exactly when people first arrived on the continent of Australia. Current estimates usually put it at about 60 000 years ago, although they range from 40 000 to 125 000 years. Even if it were only 40 000 years, that is still 180 times longer than Europeans have been on this continent.

Australia's indigenous people were generally nomadic hunter-gatherers. However, there was a wide variety of lifestyles. The **Torres Strait Islanders**, for example, were surrounded by water and lived a lifestyle based on the sea. Those people who lived in the heart of the desert lived an entirely different lifestyle. By the time Europeans arrived, the Aboriginal peoples, who numbered between 300 000 and one million, had spread across the continent and adapted to every kind of environment.

Sophisticated Societies

Aboriginal societies and cultures were rich and varied, emphasising kinship, oral history, spirituality and connection to ancestral lands. In the late 1700s, there were over 200 Aboriginal languages and hundreds more dialects, with intricate grammar and large vocabularies. Many people spoke several languages and **dialects**. It was not uncommon for a person's mother, father and partner all to speak different languages.

Aboriginal social groups were tied strongly to particular territories and rooted deeply in the Dreamtime. Their societies lived sustainably on the land and with each other for hundreds of generations.

The Dreamtime

The Dreamtime is a broad concept covering Aboriginal peoples' mythology and spiritual beliefs. It includes the time when mythic beings formed the land, plants and animals, and left behind rules of behaviour for people to follow.

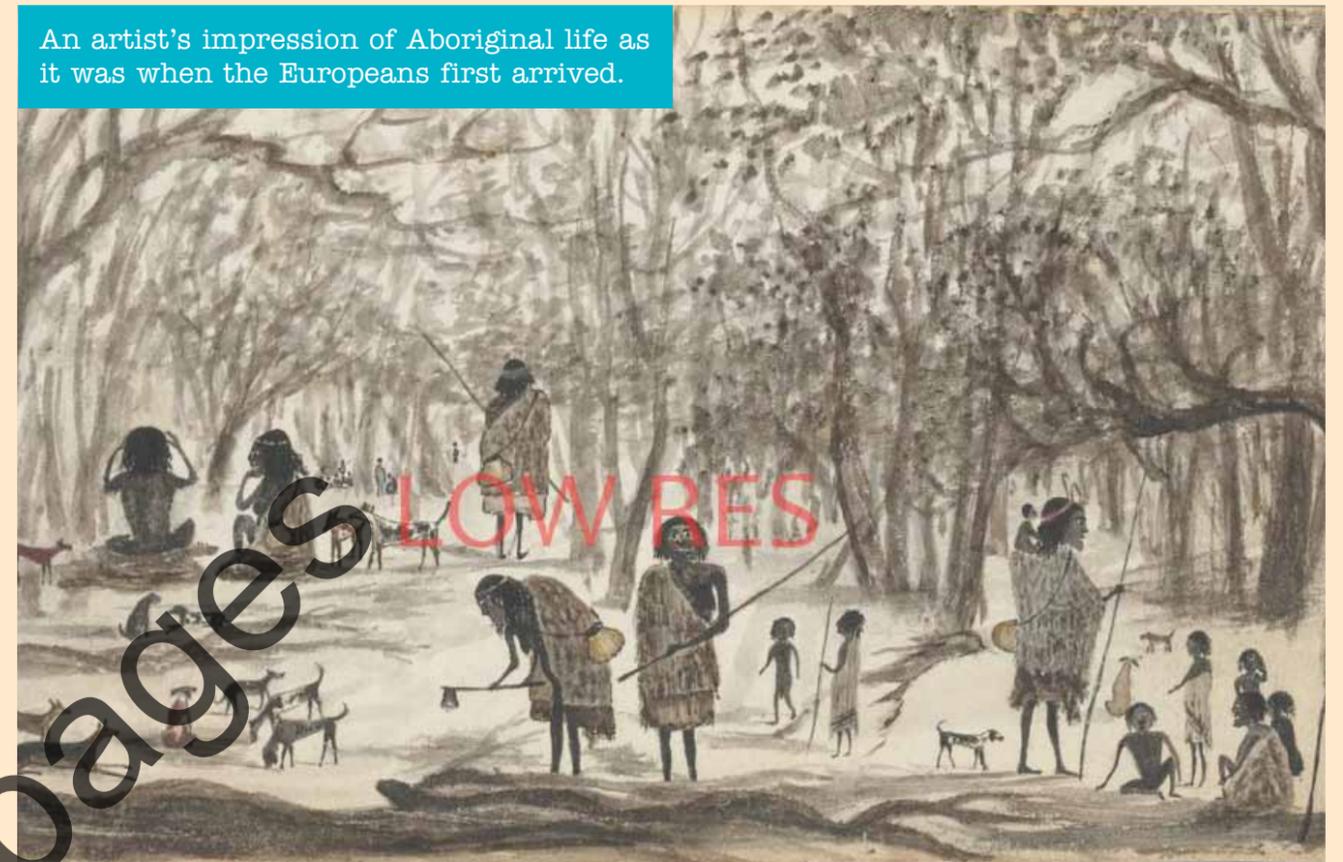
Archaeology at Lake Mungo

Lake Mungo, 760 kilometres west of Sydney, is the site of several important archaeological finds. The Mungo Man skeleton, which is about 46 000 to 50 000 years old, is the oldest known remains of a human in Australia. Mungo Lady is 20 000 to 26 000 years old.

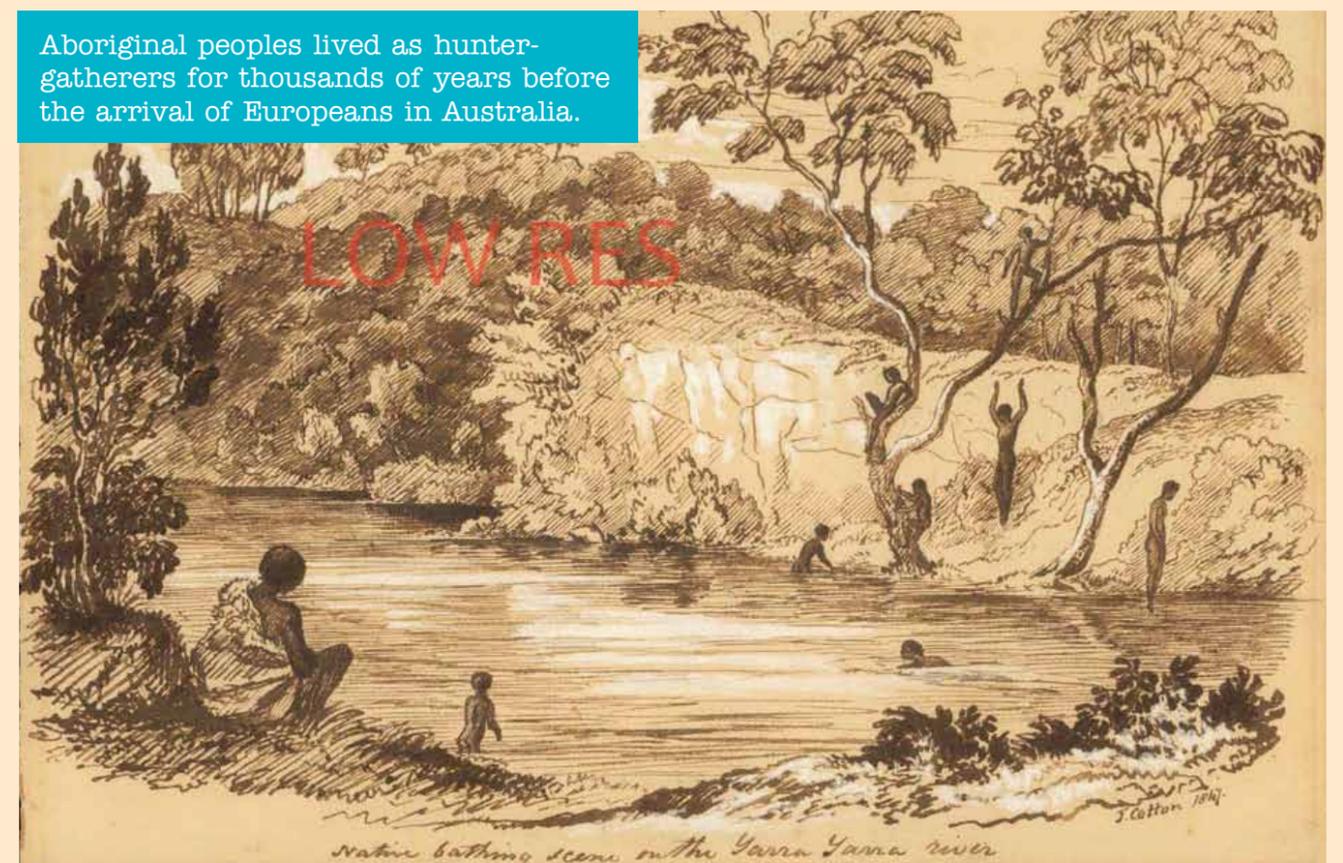
Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders

The term "Aboriginal peoples" refers mainly to the indigenous people of mainland Australia and Tasmania. The term "Torres Strait Islanders" refers to the indigenous people of the Torres Strait Islands in Far **North Queensland**.

An artist's impression of Aboriginal life as it was when the Europeans first arrived.



Aboriginal peoples lived as hunter-gatherers for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans in Australia.



Aboriginal Peoples in Victoria

Aboriginal peoples lived diverse lives across Victoria for thousands of years. Some groups such as the Bunurong lived coastal lifestyles, around what is now Port Phillip, the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port. Other groups lived away from the coast, for example the Wergaia peoples in north-western Victoria at Lake Hindmarsh, Lake Albacutya and Pine Plains.

A Variety of Groups and Bands

When Europeans arrived in New South Wales in 1788, the Aboriginal population of what is now Victoria was probably around 100 000. However, by the time Europeans began settlement in Victoria, numbers had already decreased due to disease.

When European settlement began in 1788, there were 38 language groups and dozens more **dialects** spoken across what became the colony of Victoria. There were three main clans: the Gunai Kurnai of Gippsland, Yorta Yorta of the eastern Murray, and the Kulin of central Victoria. Many of the groups within these main clans had territories stretching into other colonies. For example, the Wemba Wemba and Yorta Yorta lived on lands on both sides of the Murray River, placing them in New South Wales as well.

Lives of Hunting and Gathering

Like other Aboriginal peoples, the people of Victoria survived off local resources. Some groups were nomadic, while others were more settled. River and coastal groups such as the Bunurong ate a lot of fish and shellfish. Inland groups relied more on kangaroo and emu meat. Depending on what was in the area and the season, Aboriginal peoples also ate

birds, eggs, bulbs, shoots, a form of spinach, and fruits such as native cherry and kangaroo apple.

Fire-stick Farming

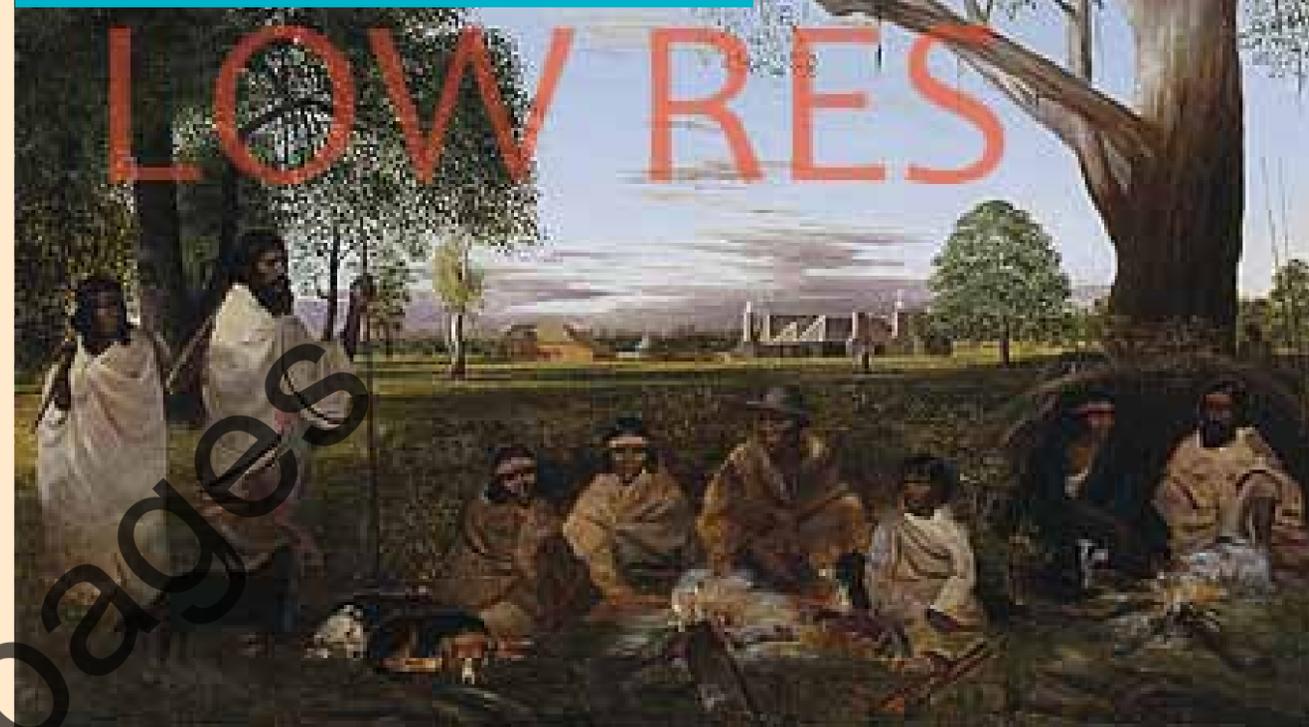
Some people say that Aboriginal peoples did not farm, but that is not strictly accurate. While they may not have grown rows of sown crops the way Europeans did, they used fire in a method called “fire-stick farming”.

Fire-stick farming involved deliberately burning areas of land in a controlled way. This had many effects. It kept paths clear, snakes at bay and stimulated fresh growth, which in turn attracted kangaroos and other meat sources. Fire was also used to preserve open woodlands, to recycle nutrients into the ground and to encourage the growth of particular kinds of edible plants. For the Aboriginal peoples, fire was a tool they could use to shape the land to their needs—clearly a kind of farming.

Language groups

Aboriginal peoples were often identified by their language groups. In addition to a distinct language, these groups had their own beliefs, ceremonies, customs and laws. The language groups also had their own dialects.

Spring Creek or Mopor Aborigines of the Gunditjmara people near the Minjah Station homestead painted by Robert Dowling in 1856.



Aboriginal men perform a traditional ceremonial dance.