## Stamp Collecting (Year Five and Six) Lesson Four

## Stamp Collecting Overview

Stamp collecting is a popular hobby in Australia and around the world and the educational benefits are invaluable. Collecting stamps as a hobby encourages self-directed learning and can foster essential skills, behaviours and dispositions such as reasoning, logic, resourcefulness and goal setting. Stamp collecting encourages students to question, compare, analyse, sequence and be inquisitive all while having fun! Every stamp tells a story and Australia Post's stamp series, releases and collections are a rich and engaging way to learn about Australian history and culture. These lesson plans have been developed to introduce your students to the concept of stamps and stamp collecting whilst teaching themes and content descriptions from the Australian Curriculum.

## Lesson overview

This lesson encourages students to recreate the process of stamp making from research to design and production. Small groups will pitch their ideas for a stamp issue to the rest of the 'stamp advisory committee' (the whole class). Feedback will be given and each group will then have a theme for a stamp issue determined, to begin the design process in the following lessons. This lesson is the second lesson in a series of four.

## Learning intentions

Students will:

- research, explore and learn about the process of making postage stamps $\square$
work in
small groups to discuss various ideas
- share ideas with the class and receive feedback
- collaborate and work in groups to plan their own stamp series


## Resources

- Internet access for students
- https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/stamp-issues
- Examples of postage stamps, brought in from home (can be used). Australia post also sells packs of 100 used stamps in store or online at

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\underline{\text { https://shop.auspost.com.au/product/pack-of-100-used-australian-stamps-15141081 }}
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- Articles on stamp development at Australia Post (see list in previous
lesson) - Envelopes with stamp suggestions
- Blank paper for stamp design and idea sketches
- Copies of the Australia Post stamp issue policy - one for each group

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| - Monitoring understanding throughout class | Sur |

## Differentiation

Supported: Use small group instruction to help discussion and questioning.

- Collecting copies of student work samples. support students.
Structured: Tasks are divided into small groups to
- Student self-assessment
- Peer Assessment

Extension: Students continue working through the

- Teacher feedback
stamp production process
Australian Curriculum Links
Year Five - English
Literacy:
- 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 (ACELY1704)


## Year Five - Design and Technologies

Knowledge and Understanding

- Examine how people in design and technologies occupations address competing considerations, including sustainability in the design of products, services, and environments for current and future use (ACTDEK019)
Processes and Production Skills
- Critique needs or opportunities for designing, and investigate materials, components, tools, equipment and processes to achieve intended designed solutions (ACTDEPO24)
- Generate, develop and communicate design ideas and processes for audiences using appropriate technical terms and graphical representation techniques (ACTDEPO25)


## Year Six- English

Literacy:

- 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 Six - Design and Technologies

Knowledge and Understanding

- Examine how people in design and technologies occupations address competing considerations, including sustainability in the design of products, services, and environments for current and future use (ACTDEK019)
Processes and Production Skills
- Critique needs or opportunities for designing, and investigate materials, components, tools, equipment and processes to achieve intended designed solutions (ACTDEPO24)
- Generate, develop and communicate design ideas and processes for audiences using appropriate technical terms and graphical representation techniques (ACTDEPO25)

|  | General Capabilities |
| :--- | :--- |
| Literacy <br> Critical and Creative Thinking <br> Intercultural Understanding | Personal and Social Capability <br> Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capability |
| Lesson introduction |  |
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1. Refer to the concepts that students learnt about in Lesson One on the process of stamp design and choosing a theme for a stamp issue.
2. Reread the extract from the Australian Post Stamp Issue Policy on certain topics that can and cannot be included in stamp issues https://australiapostcollectables.com.au/articles/australia-post-stamps-come-programdevelopment
3. Divide the class into 12 groups, one for each month of the year, with 2-4 students in each group. Each group needs to develop at least 3 ideas for a stamp issue for their month. Their ideas will be 'pitched' to the Stamp Advisory Committee (the rest of the class) and one idea will be voted on and selected for production in Lessons Three and Four.
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## auspost.com.au/education

4. In their groups students need to discuss and plan their 3 ideas for a stamp issue. As a class or teacher driven, a list of criteria could be developed, e.g.:

- Each theme idea needs to have some sketches of possible content
- Your theme may or may not be linked to your month
- Two ideas could be included together e.g.: Australia Day and Australian food
- Stamp Issues will be for an Australian stamp (not an Australian External Territory such as Christmas Island)
- You will be designing 4 stamps for your theme.

5. The teacher gives each group an envelope with a suggested topic for a stamp issue enclosed, explaining to students that these suggestions are from members of the general public. Groups can choose to use the suggestions or not. These prepared themes can include ideas that would not meet the Australia Post stamp issue policy such as: 'Stars of Neighbours', 'Easter' and
'Anniversary of the first mobile phone in Australia'. Each group should be provided with a copy of the Australia Post stamp issue policy to refer to when discussing and choosing ideas.
6. Students form groups and discuss, research and sketch ideas for their three stamp issue themes.

They can use the internet or research books to find appropriate ideas and people, such as Australian swimming gold medallists.
7. Once students have finished their plans, each monthly group presents their ideas to the class and explains the ideas of what they would be including on each stamp, showing their sketches accordingly. The rest of the class forms the stamp advisory committee. They ask questions and check each group's suggestions against the Australian Post stamp issue policy. For every group, the class votes on one design theme which will become the issue for that month.
8. All months, members and chosen themes for stamp issues should be displayed for the whole class. A final discussion should be held as to whether two or three themes are too similar within the year's planning. Adjustments should then be made to any group's theme to ensure a variety of themes will be produced by the class for all months.

## Extension Task Ideas

* As a class or individually, students set themselves a challenge to collect a different stamp and envelope each month and display them in the classroom. Students could research which stamp issue they belong to.
* Each group designs a postcard representing their school, neighbourhood, city, state. These could be used at the end of the unit of work as a place to put their stamps and 'post' them to other classes or staff in the school.
* Students could design mock stamps commemorating themselves or a peer, making themselves a monarch, gold medallist or a Victoria Cross recipient.

