



## Index and Introduction



## AUSTRALIAN CONSTITUTION CENTRE

### Unit 3: The introduction of responsible and representative government in colonial Australia –Year 5 - C & C Strand: Citizenship, Identity & Diversity

#### Topic 5.1: The colonies introduce Responsible and Representative Government and the impact on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

#### C&C Strand Government & Democracy

#### Curriculum Links:

**Year 5:** HASS F-6: the role of a significant individual or group, including First Nations Australians and those who migrated to Australia, in the development of events in an Australian colony [AC9HS5K03](#)

#### Area/Questions and takeaways

1. The tensions, particularly over the occupation and use of land, between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the British colonists.
2. The uneasy relationship between the Australian colonies and Britain in the mid 19th century.
3. The gradual introduction of responsible and representative government to the Australian Parliament through elections and Parliaments.

**Topic outline:** Students will understand the tensions between colonists and Indigenous Australians over issues such as land ownership and use, and the uneasy relationship between Britain and the Australian colonies in the mid 19th century. Through a series of 'what if' lessons and activities, students will understand that the history that led to Australia's unique federal and democratic constitutional system of government was not inevitable. There were turning points where different courses could have been taken and we could have ended up with a very different system of government to that we have today.

#### Teacher Reference Documents (TRDs) and Activities/Lessons

**TRD 15:** Batman's 'treaty' with the Wurundjeri People in 1835

Lesson 1 : What if Batman's treaty with the Wurundjeri People had been upheld and respected?

**TRD 16:** How Victoria came to be

Lesson 2: How and why Victoria gained independence from New South Wales (NSW)

**TRD 17:** How Sir Frederic Rogers' scissors snipped out NSW independence

Lesson 3: How Sir Frederic Rogers' scissors snipped out NSW independence.

**TRD 18:** Colonial events that lead to treason laws: The attempt to assassinate Prince Alfred

Lesson 4 : Colonial assassination attempt on Prince Alfred that led to treason laws we still have today

#### Achievement standard: Year 5

By the end of Year 5, students explain the causes of the establishment of British colonies in Australia after 1800. They explain the roles of significant individuals or groups in the development of an Australian colony and the impact of those developments. They explain the influence of people on the characteristics of places and in the management of spaces. Students explain the key values and features of Australia's democracy and how people achieve civic goals. They explain the nature of resources, and how they meet needs and wants.

Students develop questions and locate, collect and organise information and data from primary and secondary sources. They evaluate sources to determine origin and perspectives. Students evaluate information and data to identify and describe patterns or trends. They suggest conclusions based on evidence. Students consider criteria in proposing actions or responses. Students select ideas and findings from sources and use relevant terms and conventions, to present descriptions and explanations.