

**Visualizing**  
and  
**Verbalizing**

for  
Language Comprehension  
and Thinking

# FASCINATING PEOPLE



## Australia Day



**Imagine That!**  
**Stories**  
**Supplemental**  
**Lesson Pack**

## HELPFUL ADVICE

These are *Imagine That!* stories that can be used with any program of instruction to develop imagery for language comprehension, and can be used with the Visualizing and Verbalizing® (V/V®) program. Although these stories have been written at specific grade levels, you can use them with other grade levels as you feel is appropriate. Each story features a main idea or topic to be imaged, and then provides detailed imagery for the topic. While sentences or paragraphs may contain much concrete detail that can be imaged, others contain abstract concepts.

It is recommended that you start with the vocabulary to help students both with decoding and with imaging new words and concepts. While reading the story, be sure to ask imagery questions to elicit detailed imagery from the student. Some example imagery questions have been provided for you.

Once you have completed each story, move on to the Higher Order Thinking questions. These are main idea, inference, conclusion, evaluation, and prediction questions. The order of the HOT questions is such that they stimulate students' thinking first about the gestalt and then about the details of the story. Some questions may include contrast or introduce additional information, from which the students can extend their thinking about the story. It is not necessary to ask every question, but be sure you ask enough that your student has the gestalt of the story.

Additional activities are provided in the form of puzzles, pictures, and further exploration of the subject or topic.

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For more information on the Visualizing and Verbalizing program, *Imagine That! Stories*, and other Visualizing and Verbalizing products, go to [www.GanderPublishing.com](http://www.GanderPublishing.com).

ITS:AUS 2/15

Preread words for each story:

1

sailboat  
sails  
buoy  
crew

crank  
unfurled  
sped

3

outback  
ranches  
assigns  
seals

2

goanna  
tug of war  
straps  
clipped

Study and visualize the vocabulary:

**sailboat:** a boat that moves by catching wind with sails (*n.*)

**sails:** large sheets of fabric, often canvas, used to propel boats (*n.*)

**buoy:** something that floats in the water and is anchored in place as a marker (*n.*)

**crew:** a group of people who work on a boat or other moving vehicle (*n.*)

**crank:** a lever or handle that is turned in a circular motion (*n.*)

**unfurled:** made something that is rolled up or folded spread out and open up (*v.*)

**sped:** went fast, traveled with speed (*v.*)

**goanna:** a monitor lizard native to Australia (*n.*)

**tug of war:** a contest in which people on either side of a rope pull and try to drag the other side across a line in the middle (*n.*)

**straps:** strips of material, often with buckles, used to fasten or secure something (*n.*)

**clipped:** fastened with small devices called clips that attach one thing to another (*v.*)

**outback:** the inland areas of Australia where few people live (*n.*)

**ranches:** large farms (*n.*)

**assigns:** gives someone an assignment, or job, to do (*v.*)

**seals:** closes something securely (*v.*)

**Tip:** Use the *Picture to Picture* or a *Word Imaging* steps to reinforce vocabulary.



## A Race on the Sea

An Australian sailboat and an American sailboat raced from shore out to sea. With their huge sails catching the wind, the two boats rounded a buoy and headed back toward shore. They raced side by side on the choppy water until the American boat pulled ahead. To catch up, the Australian crew pulled a heavy crank on their boat's deck, and another sail unfurled from the mast. As this sail caught the wind, the Australian boat sped into the lead. The Australian crew cheered as their boat crossed the finish line ahead of the American boat.

Imagery Questions:

1. What did you picture for the Australian sailboat?
2. What did you picture for the huge sails catching the wind?
3. What did you picture for the sailboats racing side by side?
4. What did you picture for the crew pulling the heavy crank?
5. What did you picture for how the Australian boat sped into the lead?

Higher Order Thinking Questions:

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Do you think it was difficult for the two boats to sail on the choppy water? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think the Australian crew unfurled another sail?
4. Why do you think Australian crew cheered as their boat crossed the finish line?
5. What might have happened if the crew of the American boat also unfurled another sail?



Story from *Imagine That! Grade 5, Fascinating People*

**Tip: You can use this story at the Sentence by Sentence or Multisentence level.**

## Goanna Pulling

Goanna Pulling is a funny sport where two people play a difficult tug of war. First they lie down, facing each other. Short straps are wrapped around the backs of their heads and clipped to a ring between them. Then they each pull back on the straps with their heads, as hard as they can. The first to fall flat or get pulled over the line loses.

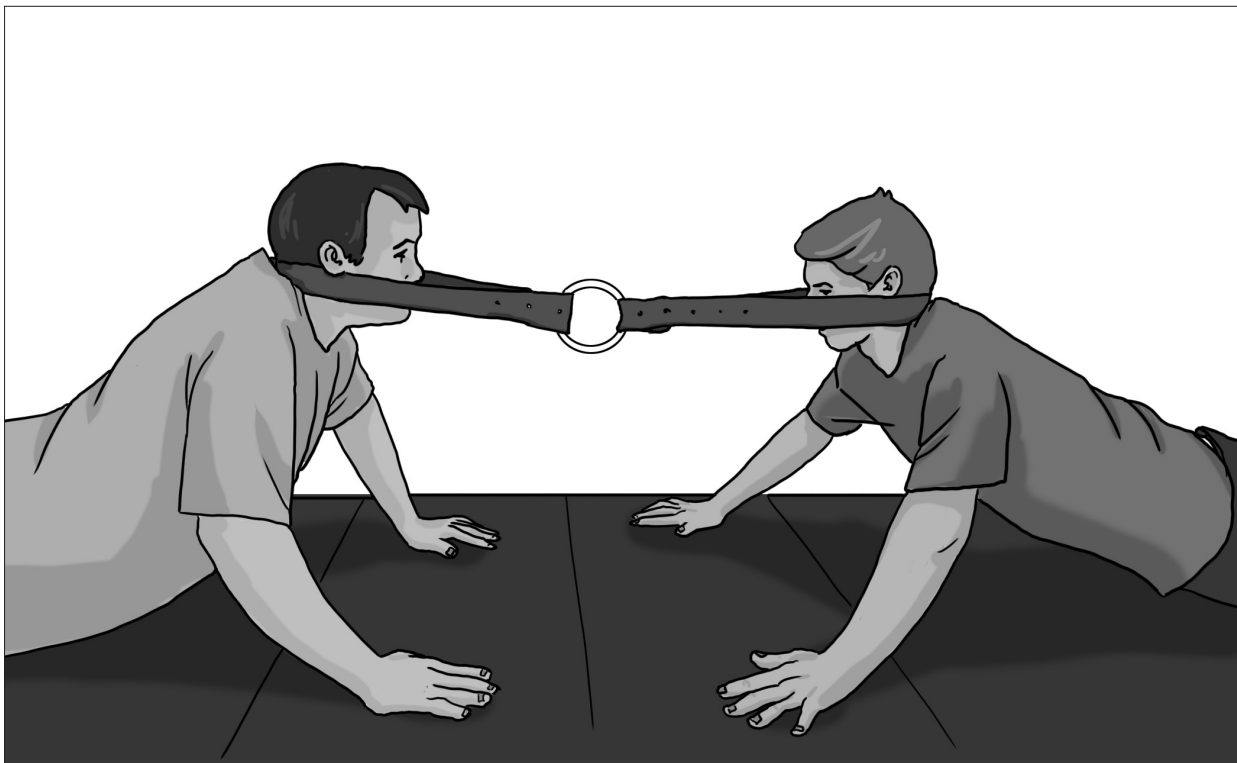
Imagery Questions:

1. What did you picture for the positions of the people?
2. What did you picture for the each person pulling back on the straps?
3. What did you picture for the mood of the person who lost?

Higher Order Thinking Questions:

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why do you think Goanna Pulling might be difficult?
3. A *goanna* is a large lizard that lives in Australia. Why do you think this sport is called Goanna Pulling?
4. Why do you think the story calls Goanna Pulling a “funny” sport?
5. Would you like to try Goanna Pulling? Why or why not?



Story from *Imagine That! Grade 2, Fascinating People*



## Long Distance Education

Kids in the Australian outback stay at home for school. They live on ranches far from any city or schoolhouse. Each day, a student turns on his computer to watch a live video of his teacher giving a lesson. At the end of the lesson, the teacher assigns the homework. The student hurries to complete the homework that night. The next morning, he seals it up in an envelope and mails it to the teacher. In a few days, he gets his homework back in the mail with a grade on it.

Imagery Questions:

1. What did you picture for the ranches in the Australian outback?
2. What did you picture for the teacher giving the lesson on live video?
3. What did you picture for the student completing and mailing his homework?
4. What did you picture for the student receiving the homework with a grade on it?

Higher Order Thinking Questions:

From what you pictured...

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. Why do these kids stay home for school?
3. The teacher can see and hear each student by video as well. Why would that be important?
4. Why does the student have to mail his homework assignment to the teacher?
5. Would you want to take classes this way? Why or why not?
6. Today people frequently use email to exchange messages. Why do you think these kids might use email instead of mailing their homework?



Story from *Imagine That!* Giant Books, Grade 5, Book B

From what you pictured...

1. Australia is an island country in which most people live by the coasts. Do you think sailing might be popular there? Why or why not?
2. The outback is a big desert-like place in the middle of Australia where not much grows. Why do you think most Australians live by the coast?
3. Why do you think there aren't many schools in the outback?
4. Do you think many people farm in the outback? Why or why not?
5. Do you think the kids who live by the coasts go to school, or stay home like the kids in the outback? Explain.
6. Do you think you have to be very strong to win at Goanna Pulling? Why or why not?
7. Goanna lizards have long necks. Do you think Goanna Pulling might have a different name if the contestants were strapped at the waist instead of their necks? Explain.
8. The story called the sport of Goanna Pulling "funny." Do you think people call the America's Cup a funny sport, too? Why or why not?

**Imagine you were in the leading sailboat during the sailboat race. Describe everything you see and feel as you race ahead:**

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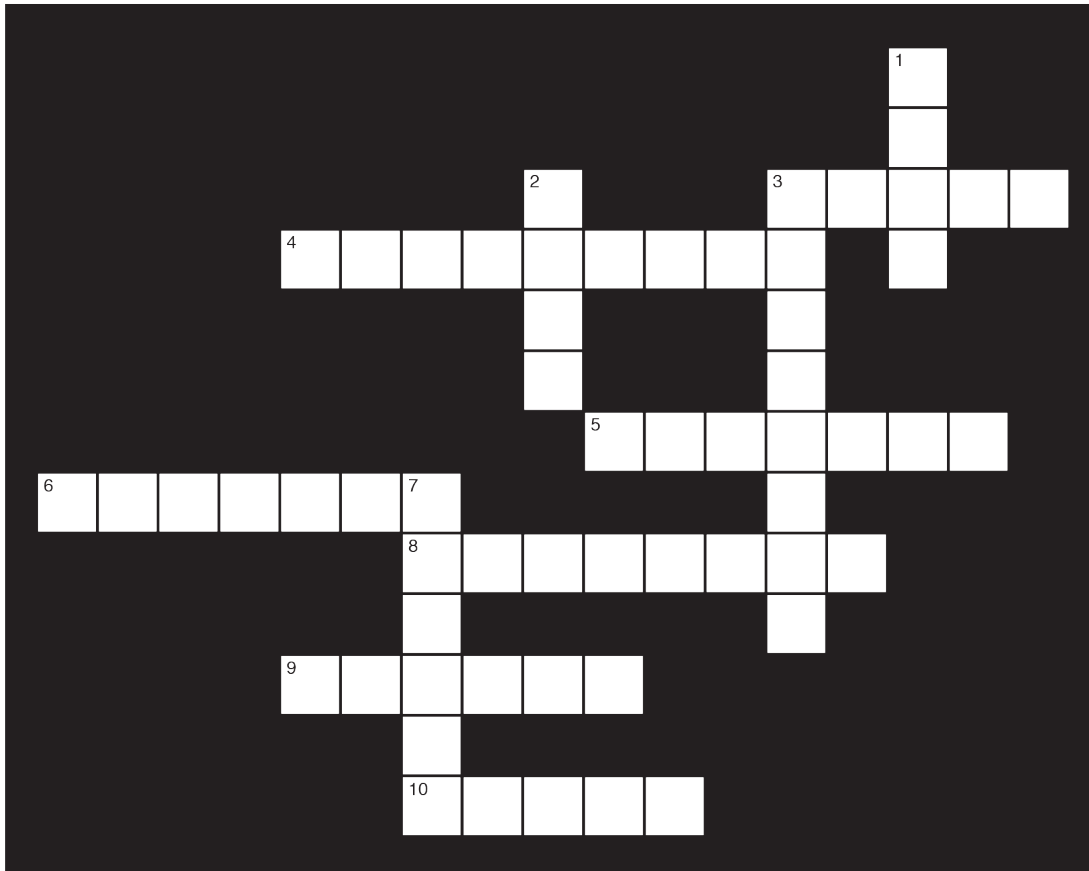
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Did you use any of the Structure Words? Check each one you used.

- |                                   |                               |                                     |                                      |                                |                                |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> What     | <input type="checkbox"/> Size | <input type="checkbox"/> Color      | <input type="checkbox"/> Number      | <input type="checkbox"/> Shape | <input type="checkbox"/> Where |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Movement | <input type="checkbox"/> Mood | <input type="checkbox"/> Background | <input type="checkbox"/> Perspective | <input type="checkbox"/> When  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound |



# Australia Day



## Across

- 3. Where the water meets the land
- 4. An island continent that includes the outback
- 5. The inland areas of Australia where few people live
- 6. Large farms
- 8. A contest in which people pull on either end of a rope and try to drag each other across a line in the middle (three words)
- 9. An Australian lizard
- 10. Large sheets of fabric used to propel boats

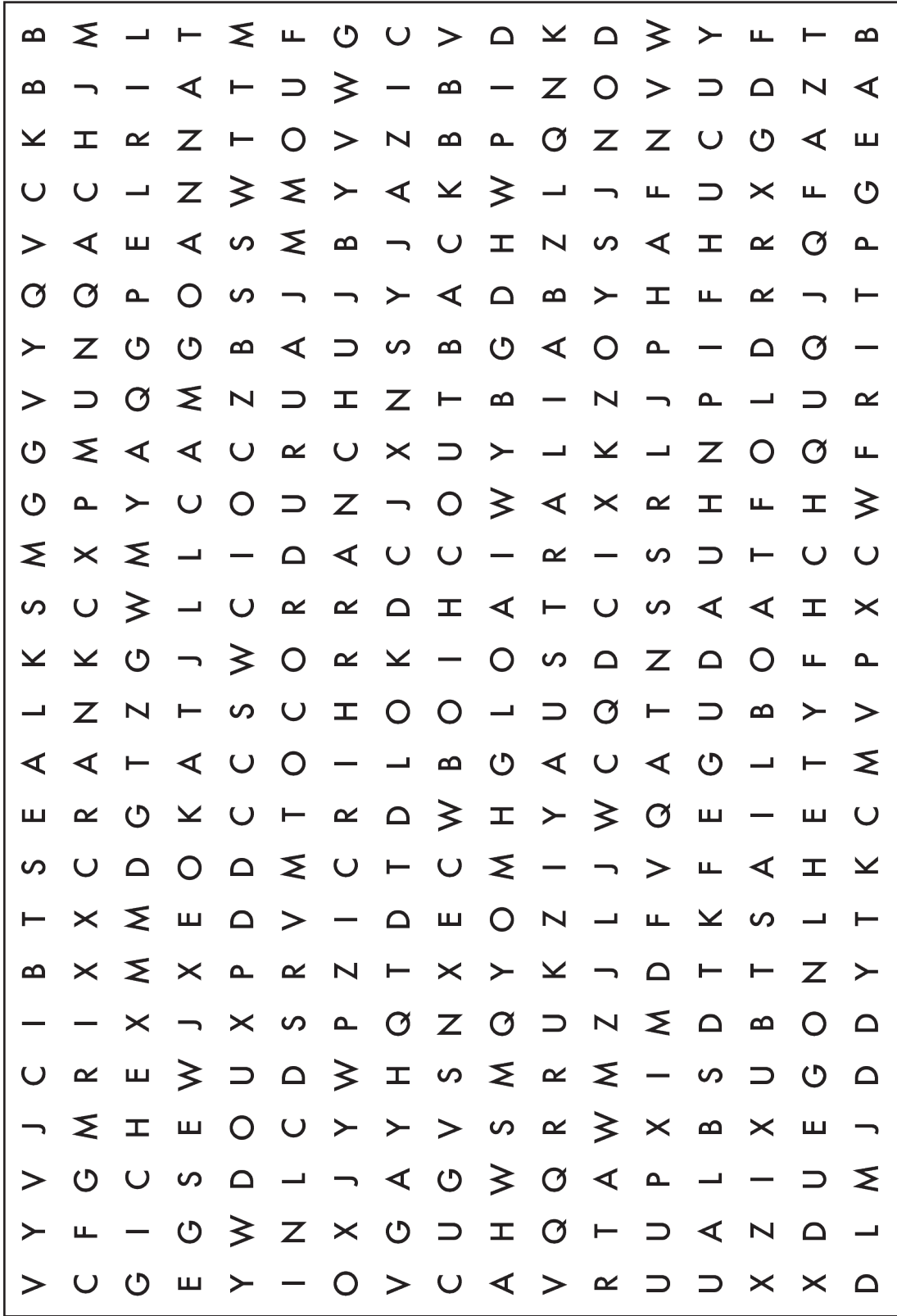
## Down

- 1. Something that floats in the water and is anchored in place as a marker
- 2. A group of people who work on a boat
- 3. A boat that moves by catching wind with sails
- 7. Strips of material used for holding something in place



# Australia Day

## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



- |           |         |          |        |
|-----------|---------|----------|--------|
| Australia | outback | video    | choppy |
| seal      | school  | sailboat | crew   |
| ranch     | crank   | buoy     | goanna |





## Australia:

Australia.com page on the outback:

<http://www.australia.com/about/australias-landscapes/outback-australia.aspx>

National Geographic page on Australia:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/australia/>

Mental Floss: 11 Exotic Edible Treats from South Australia

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/53585/11-exotic-edible-treats-south-australia>

Fact Monster page on Australia facts:

<http://www.factmonster.com/country/australia.html>

America's Cup race:

<http://www.americascup.com/>

## Conservation:

World Wildlife Fund page on conservation:

<http://www.worldwildlife.org>

Perth Zoo:

<http://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/animals-plants/australia/>

Pew Charitable Trusts:

<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/outback-australia>

