# Geography Alive: Stage 1 Geography (Topic 2; Unit 2)

# Lesson 1: Connections with other places

### Content focus:

In this lesson students explore their connections with other places and develop their knowledge of Australia's and the world's place geography. They reflect on the ways they are connected to other places and the importance of these connections. They plot these connections on a map of Australia and the world.

#### Resources:

- A globe of the earth
- Resource Sheet 1: Map of the world
- Resource: PowerPoint (Maps and lesson points)
- A large, wall mounted, maps of the world and Australia
- Oceans of the world This YouTube video introduces students to the world's oceans. It covers: bodies of water, proportion of water to land and the five (or four) oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and Arctic [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUAGVToKgLo]
- Picture books set in places. For example: Leigh Hobbs (2015), Mr Chicken Lands in London or Mr Chicken Goes to Paris, Allen & Unwin Children's Books.
- NASA Live Stream Views Of Earth from Space Video feed of Earth from the International Space Station (ISS) Cameras. Follow the ISS as it circles the Earth with our live ISS tracker [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDAmSOU913Q]

# Key inquiry questions:

- Where are places located in the world?
- How are people connected to places globally?
- What factors affect people's connections to places?

#### Outcomes:

- A student:
- describes features of places and the connections people have with places.

# Lesson sequence:

- Step 1: With the aid of a globe of the world, show students where they live. Highlight the location of Australia and the various states and territories. Identify the seven continents and discuss their relative size. Point out Australia's nearest neighbours (Indonesia, PNG, East Timor and New Zealand). Ask students what they know about them. Locate and names the world's principal oceans. Show them the YouTube video Oceans of the world. To reinforce the point that the earth is a sphere floating in space show them the NASA Live Stream from the International Space Station.
- Step 2: With the aid a world map (Resource Sheet 1 and the PowerPoint supplied) Promote a discussion of our connections with other places. To engage the interest of students read them a story (for example, Leigh Hobbs (2015), Mr Chicken Lands in London or Mr Chicken Goes to Paris, Allen & Unwin Children's Books), use a news event or a suitable video. Key inquiry questions might include: How are we connected to other places? For example, ancestry, culture, travel, trade, the foods eaten, sports played etc. Students could be encouraged to bring artefacts (photographs, clothes, objects etc.) to class that demonstrate their links to other places.
- Step 3: Ask students to put up their hand if they were born in a country other than Australia. Then, ask students to indicate if one of more of their parents/caregivers was born elsewhere. Tally the results. How many students were born in Australia of Australian born parents? How many were born overseas? How many had at least one parent born overseas? What does this tells us about the diversity of the Australian population? Use coloured pins to mark the various countries that students are linked to either directly (by birth) or indirectly (by the birth place of their parents).
- Step 4: Using the same map of the world and a wall-mounted map of Australia ask students to think of the connections they have with other places in the following categories:
  - Relatives and friends living in other places
  - Places visited by them or other members of their family
  - Places in the news
  - Places in which a film you have seen was set
  - Places to which their family has a special connection through ancestors or culture

Each of these categories could be distinguished by a different coloured Post-it-note. Include information related to: the name of the place; a brief phrase describing the connection; and the student's name. This activity is supported by the **PowerPoint Resource** supplied.