#### Year 1 General Studies

## Flags of Australia

A flag is a piece of cloth, or similar material displaying the emblem of a country, a community or an organisation. A flag is usually, but not always, rectangular and is attached by one edge to a pole.

#### **Australian National Flag**

It is Australia's leading national symbol and has become an expression of Australian identity and pride. The flag is paraded and displayed around the country at sporting events and by service organisations, schools, community



groups and private citizens. The flag has three elements on a blue background: the Union Jack, the Commonwealth Star and the Southern Cross.

#### **Aboriginal Flag**

It has become a symbol of Aboriginal strength. Representing Aboriginal people and their ongoing spiritual connection to the land. The top half of the flag is black to symbolise Indigenous people. The red in the lower half



stands for the earth and the colour of ochre, which has ceremonial significance. The circle of yellow in the centre of the flag represents the sun.

### **Torres Strait Islander flag**

The flag was created as a symbol of unity and identity for Torres Strait Islander peoples. The cultures and traditions of Torres Strait Islanders are strongly connected to the land, sea and sky — elements which are represented in the flag. Each part of the flag gives meaning to Torres Strait Islander culture and holds special legal and political status worldwide.



# Flags of Australia

## Questions

| 1. What three things are on the Australian flag?                                |
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|   |
| 2. All flags are rectangular.   |
| True / False  |
| 3. The top half of the Aboriginal flag is black to symbolise Indigenous people. |
| True / False  |
| 4. Where would you see any of the above flags?                                  |
| 5. Create your own Australian flag.   |
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