

Western World
Collection #1

The Land Down Under

Heart & Soul Guide

Created by Tresa Fowler, Kat Tilby, Melissa George, and Mindi Eldredge

© 2022 The Mindful Heart™

Cover art: *Warrenheip Hills near Ballarat*, by Eugène von Guérard, 1854

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transferred in any form—including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical means—without written permission from the publisher. For questions regarding this matter, please email support@themindfulheart.com.

Published by Outside the Box Educator, Inc.

Printed in the USA



The Land Down Under

Heart & Soul Focus

History: Aboriginal Australia, Colonization of Australia

Language Arts: Poetry, Scripture, Audio Recordings, Journaling

Art: Aboriginal Rock Art, Eugene von Guerard, John Glover

Music: Aboriginal Instruments, Australian Folk Song “Waltzing Matilda,”
Composer Percy Aldridge Grainger

Mapping: States, Capitals, and other Prominent Areas of Australia

Supplies Needed

One For Each Family Member:

- *Learning Guide—The Land Down Under, Western World Collection 1*
- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers

For the Family:

One of each of the following is needed to complete the unit:

- "Picture Pack—The Land Down Under, Western World Collection 1"
- *Welcome to Country: A Traditional Aboriginal Ceremony* by Aunty Joy Murphy
- (Optional) *The Man From Snowy River* by A.B. Banjo Paterson, illustrated by Freya Blackwood
- Read-aloud book—choose one of the following:

- *Flat Stanley's The Australian Boomerang Bonanza* by Jeff Brown
Interest Level: Alpha, Zeta, and Theta

Adventure with Flat Stanley in the Land Down Under as he explores the beautiful Great Barrier Reef with his brother Arthur. All is going well until the wind unexpectedly whisks Boomerang Stanley away to the Australian Outback. What encounters will Flat Stanley face by himself as he seeks to reunite with his family? Perfect as a quick read aloud or for independent readers to tackle themselves, the story of Stanley will be sure to engage its readers!

- *Where is the Great Barrier Reef?* by Nico Medina
Interest Level: Alpha, Zeta, and Theta

The Great Barrier Reef is a fascinating place to explore. This book takes you on a journey through its history, its exploration, its composition, and more! What is a coral-reef system and why is it important? Who were the first reef people? How did Europeans come to know about the Terra Australis Incognita? Add this to your reading pile and discover facts about the Great Barrier Reef and its surroundings in a fun and enjoyable way!

Note: Evolutionary language (hundreds of thousands of years and millions of years) is used in a few places in the book.

- *Music for Tigers* by Michelle Kadarusman
Interest Level: Alpha, Zeta, Theta, and Sigma

Sent to spend the summer with relatives, Louisa arrives in Tasmania upset. She doesn't want to be there and has no reason to believe her time there will be enjoyable! Join Louisa in her adventures as she learns firsthand what life is like in Tasmania and what secret lies hidden in the Tarkine bush. Her summer may just become unforgettable!

- *This is the Dreaming* by Jean A. Ellis
Interest Level: All Ages

The legends of the Aboriginal people come to life through a series of short stories collected from the indigenous people of Australia. The tales in this charming book teach about loyalty, friendship, honesty, heartache, and love. Learn about Australian animals as these heartwarming stories share the origins of rainbow-color birds, the kookaburra (Australia's famous laughing bird), the black snake, and the kangaroo.

- Picture Book: *My Grandma Lived in Gooligulch* by Graeme Base
Interest Level: Alpha, Zeta, and Theta

This book was lighthearted and amusing as it's rhyming story tells a fun story of Grandma who lived in Gooligulch, Australia. Grandma rides through the town on her different Australian animals. It is a fun read about what she will be doing next and includes amazing illustrations of the different animals that she engages with.

Note: This story mentions the words "wine" as well as "sobriety". It has an illustrated page with a wine bottle and wine glasses.

- Picture Book: *Koala Lou* by Mem Fox
Interest Level: Alpha and Zeta

This sweet book tells the story of a little koala who enjoys basking in her mama's love. However, as more koala babies have been added to the family, Koala Lou doesn't hear her mother tell her she loves her as much as she once did. On a quest to hear those beloved words once more, Koala Lou enters the Bush Olympics. Come read about Koala Lou's experience in the Bush Olympics and see if she finds just what she is longing for.



Waltzing Matilda

A.B. Banjo Paterson

arr. by Marie Cowan

C G C F C

1. Once a jol - ly swag-man camped by a bill - a - bong, Un - der the shade of a
 2. Down came a jum-buck to drink at that bill - a - bong, Up jumped the swag-man and
 3. Up rode the squat - ter mount-ed on his thor-ough-bred, Down came the troo - pers
 4. Up jumped the swag-man and sprang in - to the bill - a - bong. "You'll nev - er catch me a -

G C G C F

cool - i - bah tree, And he sang as he watched and wait - ed till his bil - ly boiled;
 grabbed him with glee, And he sang as he shoved that jum-buck in his tuck-er bag;
 one, two, three, "Wh-ose is that jum - buck you've got in your tuck-er bag?
 live!" said he, And his ghost may be heard as you pass by that bill - a - bong;

C G C F

7 Chorus

"You'll come a-waltz-ing Ma - til - da with me." Waltz-ing Ma-til - da, Waltz-ing Ma-til - da,
 "You'll come a-waltz-ing Ma - til - da with me." Waltz-ing Ma-til - da, Waltz-ing Ma-til - da,
 You'll come a-waltz-ing Ma - til - da with me." Waltz-ing Ma-til - da, Waltz-ing Ma-til - da,
 "You'll come a-waltz-ing Ma - til - da with me." Waltz-ing Ma-til - da, Waltz-ing Ma-til - da,

C G C G

You'll come a-waltz - ing Ma - til - da with me; And he sang as he watched and
 You'll come a-waltz - ing Ma - til - da with me; And he sang as he shoved that
 You'll come a-waltz - ing Ma - til - da with me; "Wh-ose is that jum - buck
 You'll come a-waltz - ing Ma - til - da with me; And his ghost may be heard as

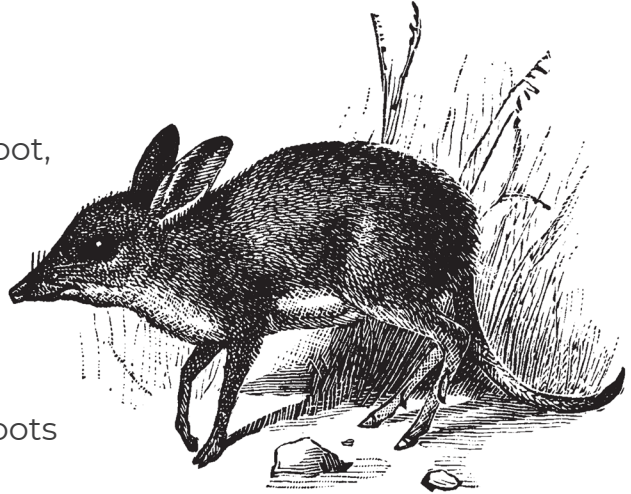
Benjamin Bandicoot

by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson

If you walk in the bush at night,
 In the wonderful silence deep,
 By the flickering lantern light
 When the birds are all asleep
 You may catch a sight of old Skinny-go-root,
 Otherwise Benjamin Bandicoot.

With a snout that can delve and dig,
 With claws that are strong as steel,
 He roots like a pygmy pig
 To get his evening meal,
 For creeping creatures and worms and roots
 Are highly relished by bandicoots.

Under the grass and the fern
 He fashions his beaten track
 With many a twist and turn
 That wanders and doubles back,
 And dogs that think they are most astute
 Are baffled by Benjamin Bandicoot.



Brumby's Run

by A.B. "Banjo" Paterson

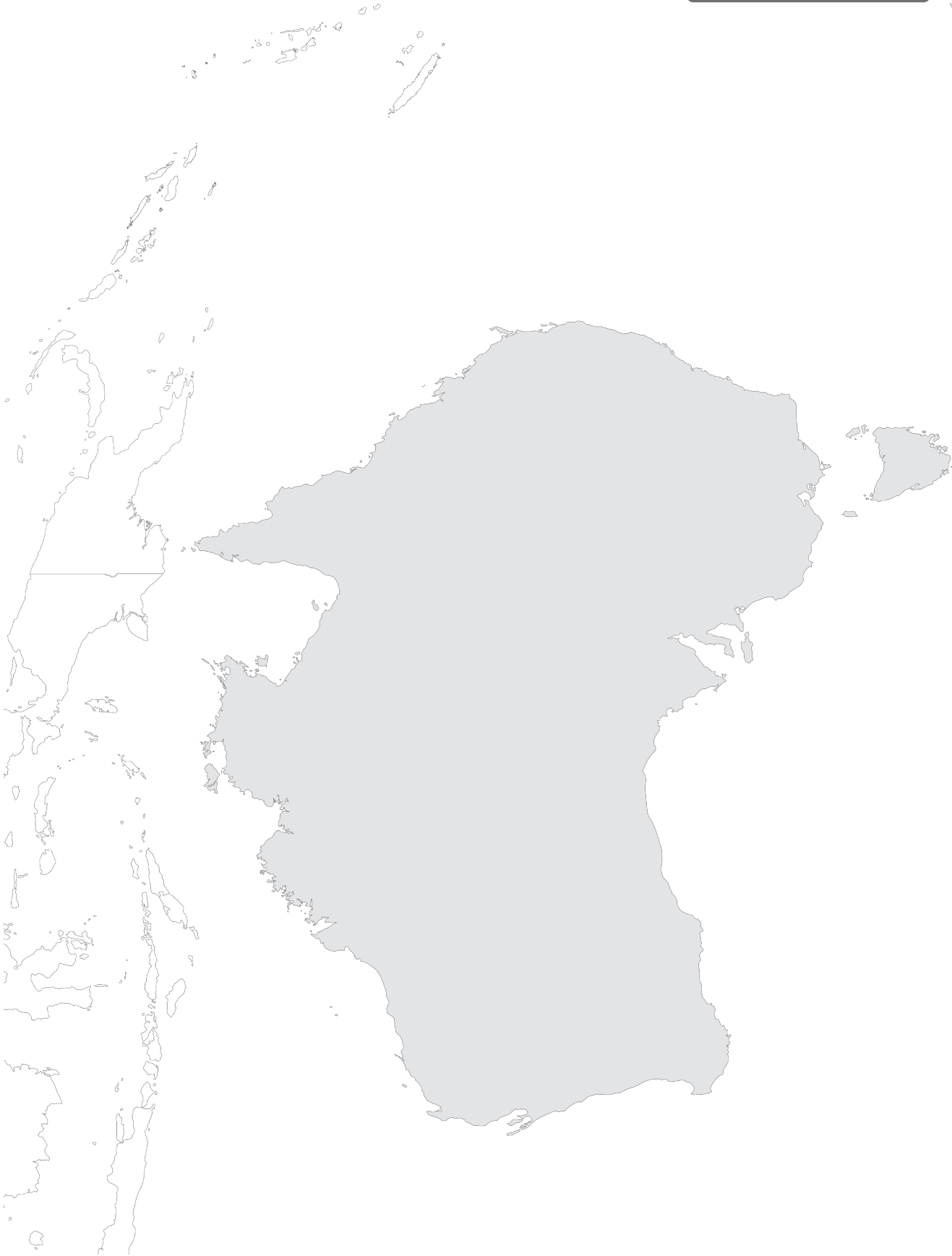
Brumby is the Aboriginal word for a wild horse.

It lies beyond the Western Pines
 Towards the sinking sun,
 And not a survey mark defines
 The bounds of "Brumby's Run".

On odds and ends of mountain land,
 On tracks of range and rock
 Where no one else can make a stand,
 Old Brumby rears his stock.

A wild, unhandled lot they are
 Of every shape and breed.





Introducing Australia

- Hymn, Prayer, Pledge, Calendar
- Scripture/Poetry Reading/Memorization
- **Mapping #1:** Australia and Surrounding Oceans



Read aloud:

Welcome to Australia! When you think of Australia's land, you probably think of brown deserts with sparse vegetation and scorching temperatures. But Australia is a nation that encompasses an entire continent—it is actually slightly larger than the mainland United States—and its terrain is vast and varied. Did you know that Australia has soaring mountain ranges that receive more snow annually than the famous Swiss Alps? Or that it includes more than 8,000 islands? Portions of Australia are covered in tropical rain forests, and its 16,000 miles of coastline boast both towering cliffs and serene beaches. The continent is surrounded by three of the world's five oceans and is home to the largest coral reef system on the planet.

On the Mapping #1 page, have the children label and/or color in Australia and the three surrounding oceans: Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean, and Pacific Ocean. (See the Mapping #1 Reference page.)

- **Video:** “Natural Wonders of Australia” (3:02)
- **Audio/Journaling:** “Early Australia” (6:31)
- **Art:** “Warrenheip Hills Near Ballarat” (see cover art for this Parent Guide)

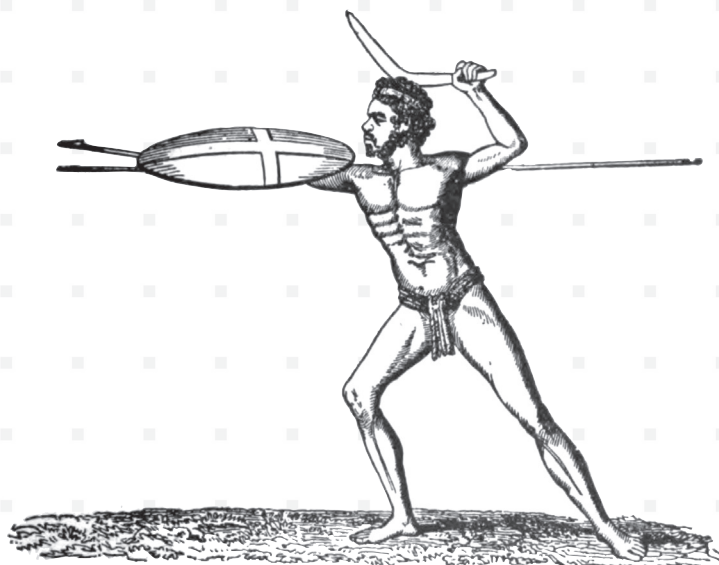
Read aloud the following as you and the children look at the art:

Imagine you lived long ago on the land now called Australia. What do you think life would have been like? How do you think you would have spent your time each day? Would the same things that are important to you in your life now be important to you there? Why or why not?

Over the next couple of weeks, as we learn more about the Aboriginal Australians, I encourage you to think about the following questions:

- *What do you think might have led the Aboriginal Australians to develop their specific customs, traditions, and beliefs?*
 - *How are their traditions and beliefs different from your own? How are they similar?*
 - *What can we learn from the Aboriginal people?*
- **Read-aloud**

Journaling:
Early Australia



Music

- **Hymn, Prayer, Pledge, Calendar**
- **Scripture/Poetry Reading/Memorization**
- **Mapping #2/Video:** State: Western Australia, Capital: Perth

Read aloud:

The western most state in Australia is Western Australia. The capital of this state is named Perth. The majority of Western Australia is made up of dry, hot, mainly uninhabited desert. However, areas closer to the coast are made up of grasslands, temperate regions, and even a tropic region to the north.

Invite the children to label Western Australia and it's capital, Perth. (See the Mapping #2 reference page.)

Then watch "Miriwoong: The Australian Language Barely Anybody Speaks" (3:40). Explain to the children that Miriwoong is a native language from a tribe in Western Australia.

- **Picture:** Aboriginal Instruments (page 30)

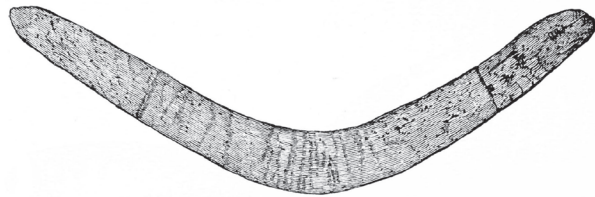
Show the pictures as you read aloud:

The didgeridoo might be the most famous Aboriginal instrument, but have you heard of clapsticks or a bull roarer? Not only did these instruments produce beautiful music, but they also served other purposes. Clapsticks were used to maintain a steady beat during ceremonial chants. Bull roarers could be used to warn distant clansmen, who were many miles away, of danger.

Many Aboriginal tribes used clubs, knives, spears, and spear throwers to defend themselves and provide food for their families. The most unique weapon was the boomerang; a fierce weapon and hunting tool that was also used for digging, as a percussion instrument, and for play. Many Aboriginal tribes used boomerangs and traded them with neighboring tribes, whose boomerangs might have different shapes, sizes, or decorations.

- **Video:** "Learn about Yidaki (Didgeridoo)" (21:04)
- **My Journal**
Consider listening to "Didgeridoo Meets Orchestra" (17:21) while the family journals.
- **Read-aloud**

Aboriginal Instruments



Boomerang

Boomerangs were used for multiple purposes including as weapons, tools, and instruments.



Clapsticks

By Andrewa - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=18277805>



Man Playing the Didgeridoo

By Steve Evans from Citizen of the World - Australia: Aboriginal Culture 009Uploaded by berichard, CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=14019524>

Abel Tasman

Abel Tasman joined the service of the Dutch East India Company as a common sailor and rose rapidly to the position of Master of a vessel, or skipper, as the Dutch call it. He had already commanded two important trading expeditions from Batavia to Japan and the North Pacific and had proved himself a capable seaman and bold leader of men. Some of his maps are still in existence, and show his considerable knowledge of cartography (the study of making and using maps).

In 1642, at forty years of age, Tasman was commissioned by the Council of Batavia to discover the extent of the unknown southern continent. Very little of this land was known then. There was no conception of its extent or configuration. At this time, the great Australian continent, the future empire of the South, was lying, like a sleeping princess, waiting for the discoverer to wake her into animated life.

Two vessels were commissioned for the voyage. They were bluff-bowed galliots, the Heemskirk and the Zeehaan. The expedition was not purely exploratory, the very practical and hard-headed directors of the Dutch East India Company were never motivated by any adventurous goals; neither did they believe that the honor of exploration, like the practice of virtue, was its own reward. Financial gains were the chief ends in view.

Tasman, taking on command of the expedition, wrote in his journal as follows:

Journal of Description by me, Abel Jansen Tasman, of a Voyage from Batavia for making discoveries of the unknown south land in the year 1642. May God Almighty be pleased to give His blessing to the voyage. Amen.

Tasman then left Batavia and began his voyage.

On the 24th of November, after a run of 47 days, mostly in stormy weather, Tasman and his crew were steering a course at about 40 degrees south of the equator, when in the afternoon they saw land about 40 miles off. They had discovered Tasmania!

Fearing that the coast of this new land might have hidden dangers, they stayed out at sea until morning. The next day was calm, but the succeeding day they were blown off the land by a northerly gale. It was not until four days after on the



The Australian Gold Rush



- Hymn, Prayer, Pledge, Calendar
- Scripture/Poetry Reading/Memorization
- **Mapping #2:** Territory: The Australian Capital Territory, Capital City of Australia: Canberra

Read aloud:

Just as Washington D.C. is the capital city of the United States, Australia also has a capital city named Canberra. Canberra is located in The Australian Capital Territory, a very small territory that is located in and completely surrounded by the south-east area of New South Wales. While some Australians do live in Canberra and the townships of The Australian Capital Territory, this city and territory's main purpose is to be the government headquarters of all of Australia. Many government buildings are found there including the Parliament House, the Government House, the High Court of Australia, the Legislative Assembly Building, and many more.

Invite the children to label The Australian Capital Territory and it's capital, Canberra. (See the Mapping #2 reference page.)

- **Shared Reading/Journaling:** "The Australian Gold Rush"
With the children, read "The Australian Gold Rush" text found on pages 52–55 of this Parent Guide and pages 28–31 of the children's Learning Guides. You may wish to read aloud while the children follow along or you may split up the text and have different children read aloud different sections of the text. Then encourage the family members to write notes of things they learned on The Australian Gold Rush journaling pages of their Learning Guides.
- **Art:** "Gold Diggings, Ararat" (Picture Pack #13)
Read aloud:
What do you see in this painting? What do you think might have been going on? How do you think the Gold Rush changed the future of Australia?
- **Folk Song:** "Waltzing Matilda"
- **Read-aloud**

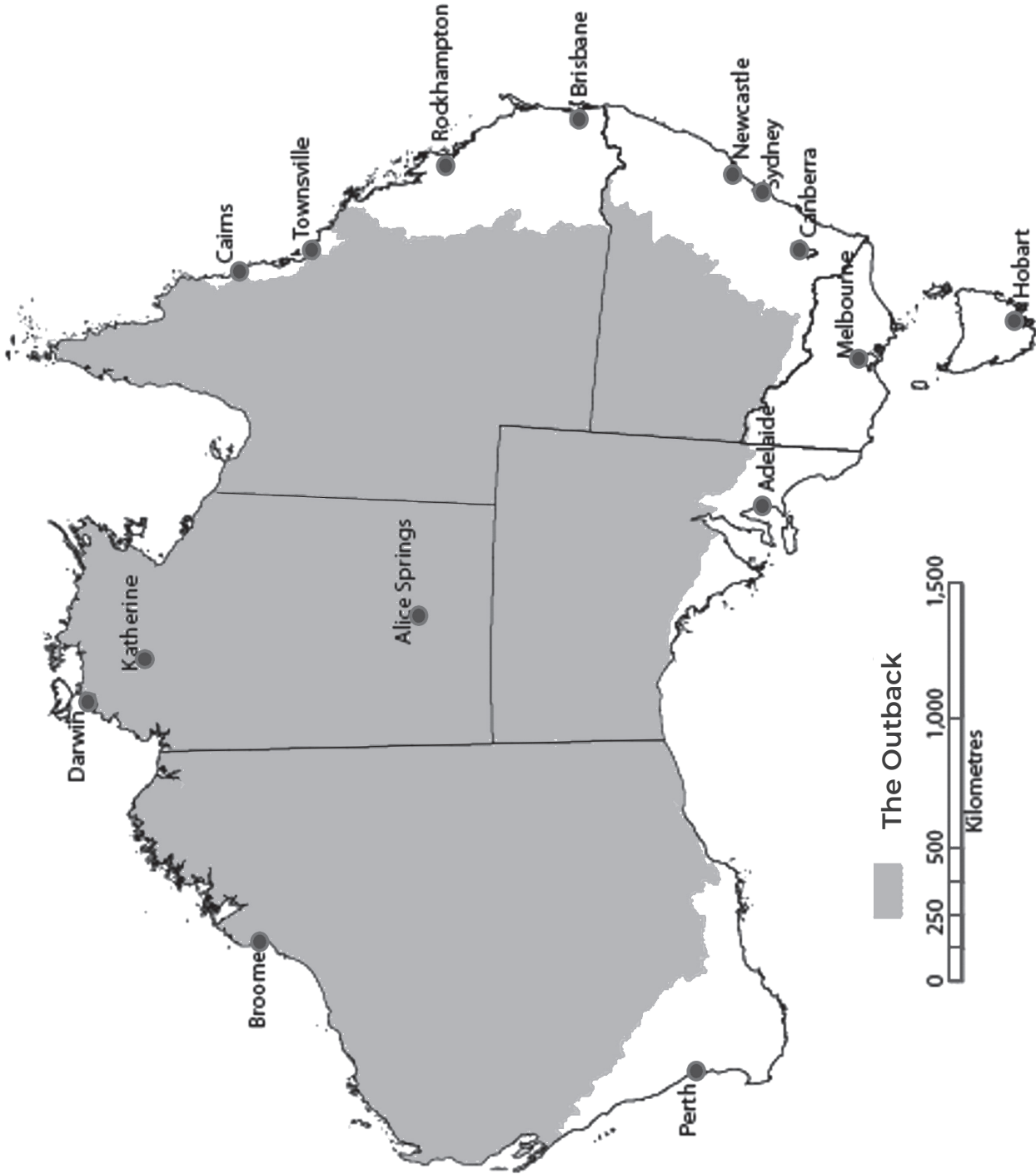
The Bush

Outside the populated areas of Australia lie vegetated forests known as the bush.

The Outback

Beyond the bush where the vegetation is more sparse lies the outback.

The outback covers an immense amount of land covering most of Australia (see the area shaded gray). In general, it is a dry, desert land in which only a small number of people live.



Map by Dr-Victor-von-Doom, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=118281445>. Image altered from color to gray scale and labeled as the Outback.