

Australian History Booklist

This booklist is aimed at children 6-8 years old. We have recommended a mix of engaging picture and easier chapter books.

We have endeavoured to select books that are likely to be accessible via your local libraries. The [John trilogy by Doris Chadwick](#) are purchasable from Living Book Press and we highly recommend these.

We have given you many options below in the hope that your library will have some of these. We are not recommending you read all of these books!

We estimate it will take 1-3 weeks to read each time period, a year in total.

We encourage you to read one chapter book, where available, and at least one picture book per time period.

Otherwise a selection of at least two to four picture books per time period, when available.

We have displayed the books suggestions in a visual grid below. This continues onto a second page.

Below the visual grid the books are organised under headings into time periods.

We haven't highlighted our favourites deliberately, as we want you to work within your local library and inter-library loans. We don't want you to go into debt.

We have further suggestions in our [Australian History database](#) although these are our top picks.

Create your own personalised list by opening your book choice and simply clicking the wishlist button to add to your list.

Key

*= Chapter Books

#=Graphic Novel

~ = Indigenous

Core & Overview Books

We recommend sourcing one of the following three as your Australian history overview. There are pros and cons to each book, our personal choices are the first two, although for a 6-8 year old I'd choose Our Sunburnt Country.

[*Our Sunburnt Country – Arthur Baillie \(sold by My Homeschool\)](#)

[*Australia from the Beginning - Eve Pownall](#)

[The Australia Book – Eve Pownall](#)

[My Place – Nadia Wheatley](#)

[~Sorry Sorry - Anne Maxine Kerr](#)

[~You and Me Murrawee - Kerri Hashimi](#)

pre-European Settlement

[*Dingo: the Dog who Conquered a Continent - Jackie French](#)

The Journey of the Great Lakes series by Percy Trezise.

We recommend this whole series.

[Home of the Kadimakara People](#)

[Land of the Brolga People](#)

[Land of the Dingo People](#)

[Land of the Echidna People](#)

[Land of the Emu People](#)

[Land of the Kangaroo People](#)

[Land of the Magpie Goose People](#)

[Land of the Snake People](#)

European Discovery of Australia

[* The Goat Who Sailed The World – Jackie French](#)

[Cook's Cook - Gavin Bishop](#)

[Meet Captain Cook – Rae Murdie](#)

[Matthew Flinders: Adventures on Leaky Ships - Carole Wilkinson](#)

Convicts/Early Settlement – 1788-1850

Highly Recommend! - First two sold by [Living Books Press](#)

[*John of the Sirius – Doris Chadwick](#)

[*John of Sydney Cove – Doris Chadwick](#)

[*John of Nanbaree – Doris Chadwick](#)

Jackie French – Chapter Books

[*Barney and the secret of the French spies](#)

[*Barney and the Secret of the Whales](#)

[*The Secret of The Black Bushranger](#)

~* [Nanberry: Black Brother White](#)

~* [Birrung the Secret Friend](#)

Our Australian Girl Series - Four in each series, begin with the first

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Letty - Alison Llyod](#)

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Nelliee - Penny Matthews](#)

[Beth: The Story of a Child Convict – Mark Wilson](#)

[Never Lose Hope : The Story of Australia’s First School - Mark Wilson](#)

[The Little Wooden Horse - Mark Wilson](#)

[My Name is Lizzie Flynn : A Story of the Rajah Quilt - Claire Saxby](#)

~[What's Your Story? – Rose Giannone](#)

~ [The Unlikely Story of Bennelong and Phillip – Michael Sedunary](#)

Out of Print - Library May Have

[The First Fleet – Alan Boardman](#)

The Rum Rebellion - 1808-1810

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Grace- Sofie Lagina& sequels](#)

[* The Secret of the Youngest Rebel – Jackie French](#)

[M is for mutiny! : history by alphabet – John Dickson](#)

Early Exploration

[* The Camel Who Crossed Australia – Jackie French](#)

[#The Mostly True Story of Matthew and Trim – Cassandra Golds](#)

[A Cat called Trim – Corinne Fenton](#)

[Mustara – Rosanne Hawke](#)

Out of Print - Library May Have

[The Crossing of the Blue Mountains – Alan Boardman](#)

[Bass and Flinders - Roland Harvey](#)

Bushrangers

[* The Horse Who Bit A Bushranger – Jackie French](#)

[Meet...Ned Kelly – Janeen Brian](#)

[Ned Kelly and the Green Sash – Mark Greenwood](#)

Gold Rush

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Poppy - Gabrielle Wang & sequels](#)

[Eureka! : A Story of the Goldfields – Mark Wilson](#)

Out of Print - Library May Have

[The Night We Made the Flag : A Eureka Story - Carole Wilkinson](#)

[To The Goldfields! – Rachel Tonkin](#)

Pioneers

[*Lost!: A True Tale from the Bush - Stephanie Owen Reeder](#)

[The Dog on the Tuckerbox - Corinne Fenton](#)

Out of Print - Library May Have

[The Great Bullocky Race - Michael Page](#)

Late 19th Century

[*Amazing Grace : An Adventure at Sea- Stephanie Owen Reeder](#)

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Poppy - Gabrielle Wang& sequels](#)

~ [Jandamarra – Mark Greenwood](#)

~ [Boomerang and Bat - Mark Greenwood](#)

~ [Free Diving- Lorrae Coffin](#)

[Meet...Nellie Melba – Janeen Brian](#)

[Meet...Mary MacKillop – Sally Murphy](#)

[King of the Outback: The Story of Sidney Kidman - Kristin Weidenbach](#)

[Born To Fly- Beverly McWilliams](#)

[Bob the Railway Dog- Corrine Fenton](#)

Early 20th Century

* [How the Finnegans Saved the Ship – Jackie French](#)

[*Will the Wonderkid : Treasure Hunter of the Australian Outback - Stephanie Owen Reeder](#)

[*Marvellous Miss May : Queen of the Circus - Stephanie Owen Reeder](#)

[Our Australian Girl: Meet Alice- Davina Bell& sequels](#)

[Our Australian Girl: Meet Rose- Sherryl Clark& sequels](#)

[Nancy Bentley : The First Australian Female Sailor – Tracey Hawkins](#)

[Meet ... Banjo Paterson – Kristin Weidenbach](#)

[Horace the Baker's Horse - Jackie French](#)

[Little Lon - Andrew Kelly](#)

[Queenie: One Elephant's Story- Corrine Fenton](#)

[Tom Crean's Rabbit - Meredith Hooper-Antarctica](#)

World War One

*[The Donkey Who Carried the Wounded – Jackie French](#)

*[Anzac Girl: The War Diaries of Alice Ross-King- Kate Simpson](#)

*[Battle Boy: White War- Charlie Carter](#)

~ [Alfred's War – Rachel Bin Salleh](#)

~ [Dreaming Soldiers – Catherine Bauer](#)

[A Soldier, A Dog and A Boy - Hathorn, Libby](#)

[And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda - Bogle, Eric](#)

[Anzac Biscuits - Phil Cummings](#)

[Bessie's War - Krista Bell](#)

[Digger:The Dog Who Went to War - Mark Wilson](#)

[Gallipoli – Greenwood, Kerry](#)

[Jack's Bugle – Krista Bell](#)

[Lone Pine – Susie Brown](#)

[Meet... the ANZACs – Claire Saxby](#)

[Simpson and His Donkey – Mark Greenwood](#)

[Midnight – Mark Greenwood](#)

[Message in a Sock – Kaye Baillie](#)

[My Mother's Eyes – Mark Wilson](#)

[Scratcher's War - Jill Mather](#)

[Simpson and Duffy- Mary Small](#)

[The Anzac Billy – Claire Saxby](#)

[The Anzac Tree – Christina Booth](#)

[The Horse Soldier – Mark Wilson](#)

[The House That Was Built in a Day : Anzac Cottage – Valerie Everett](#)

[The Little Stowaway : A True Story – Vicki Bennett](#)

[The Last Anzac – Gordon Winch](#)

Interwar Years

[Meet... Douglas Mawson- Mike Dumbleton](#)

Depression Years

[*Lennie the Legend : Solo to Sydney by Pony - Stephanie Owen Reeder](#)

[*Audrey of the Outback - Christine Harris](#)

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Daisy - Michelle Hammer & sequels](#)

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Ruby - Penny Matthews& sequels](#)

[It's a Miroocool! - Christine Harris](#)

[Good Enough for a Sheep Station- David Cox](#)

[The Day We Built the Bridge – Samantha Tidy](#)

[The Road to Goonong – David Cox](#)

[To the Bridge : The Journey of Lennie and Ginger Mack - Corinne Fenton](#)

[Meet ... Don Bradman – Coral Vass](#)

[Meet... Nancy Bird Walton – Grace Atwood](#)

World War Two

[*Our Australian Girl: Meet Pearl - Gabrielle Wang& sequels](#)

[Angel of Kokoda - Mark Wilson](#)

[Fair Dinkum War- David Cox](#)

[White Mouse: The Story of Nancy Wake – Peter Goldthorpe](#)

[Flapper VC – Mark Wilson](#)

[The Rats of Tobruk – Mark Wilson](#)

[The Happiness Box : A Wartime Book of Hope – Mark Greenwood](#)

[What Was the War Like, Grandma? : Emmy Remembers World War II – Rachel Tonkin](#)

[Meet... Weary Dunlop - Claire Saxby](#)

[Photographs In The Mud- Dianne Wolfer](#)

Stolen Generation

[~ Stolen Girl - Trina Saffioti](#)

[~Idjhil : ... and the land cried for its lost soul – Helen Bell](#)

Outback

[Radio Rescue – Jane Jolly](#)

[Tea and Sugar Christmas – Jane Jolly](#)

[Tom the Outback Mailman – Kristin Weidenbach](#)

[Bob the Railway Dog - Corinne Fenton](#)

[Meet ... the Flying Doctors – George Ivanoff](#)

[~Rodeo Darcy – Alison Gregory](#)

[~When I Was Little, Like You – Mary Malbunka](#)

Migrant/Refugee

[The Little Refugee – Anh Do](#)

[Ziba Came on a Boat – Liz Lofthouse](#)

[Grandma's Treasured Shoes – Coral Vass](#)

Vietnam War

[Vietnam diary - Mark Wilson](#)

[I Was Only Nineteen - John Schumann](#)

Afghanistan War

[The Afghanistan Pup - Mark Wilson](#)

Modern History – 1945+

[Meet... Sidney Nolan – Yvonne Mes](#)

[The Friendly Games - Kaye Baillie](#)

[Cyclone – Jackie French](#)

~[Say Yes : A Story of Friendship, Fairness and a Vote for Hope - Jennifer Castle- 1967 Referendum](#)

~[Day Break- Amy McQuire-Australia Day](#)

~ [Sorry Day – Coral Vass](#)

~[Blackfella whitefella : an inspirational Australian story – Neil Murray](#)