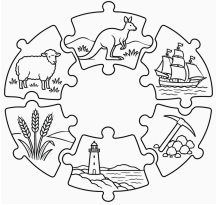


FROM COLONIES TO COMMONWEALTH

Name: _____ Date: _____

Federation created a national government while state governments continued.



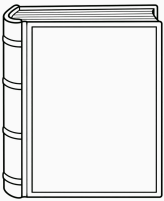
BEFORE 1901

Six separate British colonies.



DISCUSSIONS ABOUT FEDERATION

People debated joining together.



CONSTITUTION

A Constitution was developed; colonial votes and British legislation formed part of the process.



1 JANUARY 1901

The Commonwealth of Australia was established.

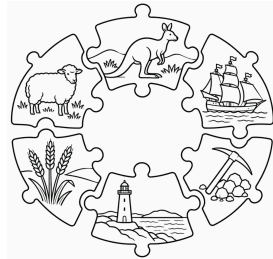
Write the four stages in order using just their headings.

First Nations peoples lived here long before British colonisation. Federation did not give everyone equal political rights; many First Nations people were excluded from political participation.

FEDERATION TIMELINE

Name: _____ Date: _____

Place the six cards from page 2 in time order. Use the dates to check the sequence. Events across different colonies could overlap.



1.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

2.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

3.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

4.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

5.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

6.

Card letter: _____

Date: _____

What stayed after Federation?

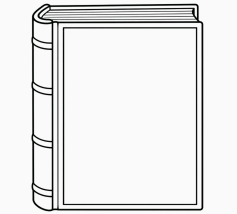
The national government was new; the states retained governments and law-making powers. This broad timeline does not list every colonial referendum or convention.

FEDERATION — EVENT CARDS

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cut along the outlines, or record letters instead.

A. 1898–1900



Colonial referendums take place; the British Parliament passes the Constitution Act in 1900.

B. 1 January 1901



The Commonwealth of Australia is established; the colonies become states.

C. Before the 1890s



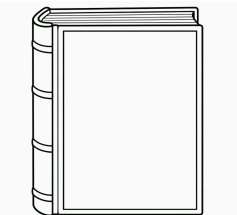
Six British colonies govern separately.

D. 9 May 1901



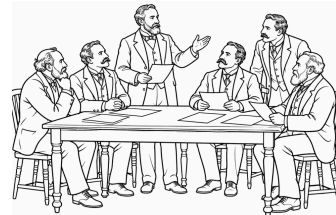
The first federal Parliament opens in Melbourne.

E. 1891 and 1897–1898



Conventions develop and debate a draft federal Constitution.

F. 1890



Delegates discuss Federation at a conference in Melbourne.

The colony puzzle pieces are symbolic, not maps of colonial borders.

WHY JOIN TOGETHER?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Match five broad Federation-era issues with national approaches. Write the letter in each box.



1. Defence

A. Coordinate links between regions.

2. Trade between colonies

B. Make decisions on shared national matters.

3. Immigration policy of the era

C. Coordinate defence across the country.

4. Transport and communication

D. Create a national approach to immigration.

5. National government

E. Reduce barriers to trade between colonies.

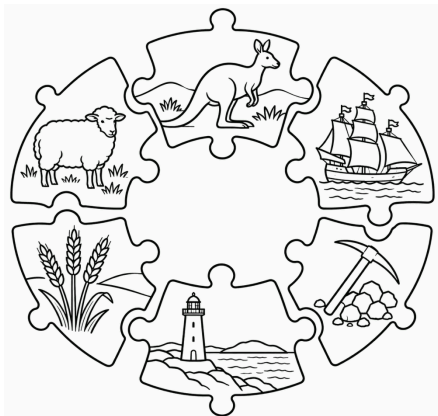
Immigration debates of the era included racist ideas and policies that excluded people. Describing those debates does not endorse them. A national approach can still be unfair.

Why should we ask who was included or excluded from decisions?

BEFORE AND AFTER FEDERATION

Name: _____ Date: _____

BEFORE



Six separate colonies.

AFTER



One Commonwealth; states remain.

Sort the page 2 cards, or write their numbers below.

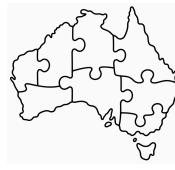
One change; one thing that continued

FEDERATION — SORT AND EXPLAIN

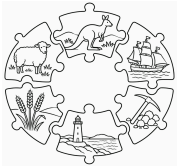
Name: _____ Date: _____



1. Six separate British colonies



2. A new Commonwealth government



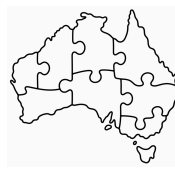
3. The former colonies continue as states



4. Separate colonial governments



5. State governments still manage state matters



6. No Commonwealth Parliament yet



7. A federal Parliament can make laws within its powers



8. Colonies discuss joining a federation

Did state government disappear?

The Commonwealth Constitution shares law-making powers within a federal system. Symbolic puzzle pieces do not represent colonial boundaries.