

WE ARE AUSTRALIANS



We Are Australians is a wonderfully emotive picture book written by **Duncan Smith** and **Nicole Godwin**, with paintings by **Jandamarra Cadd**.

For those born in Australia, it's easy to take citizenship and its responsibilities for granted. But there is much more to being an Australian citizen than having a passport and the right to vote.

Curriculum Links: HASS, Visual Arts, English, Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures (Cross-curricular priority) **Age Range:** Year 5/6

ACTIVITY: SHARING CONNECTIONS



What does it mean to be a citizen?

These activities are designed to highlight connections to land, culture and with each other.

Explore

Read **We Are Australians**. Take time to look slowly and notice the detail in the illustrations and way the story has been carefully crafted.

Consider

Take students outside to **explore and reflect on the natural environment**. Ask them to take a quiet moment to sit, look slowly and take notice of what they see, hear and feel.

Connect

In pairs, invite students to discuss what they notice. Repeat this, giving them another moment to look more closely before sharing again. Provide space for students to **share with each other a memory this setting** brings to mind. This can be about something they like to do outside, a connection to family or friends or a special event. It doesn't need to be a memory specifically about what they are looking at in this moment, but what it reminds them of.

Create

Using the templates below (print on A3) invite students to select a leaf to draw on. On one side **sketch the environment** they see in front of them, and the other **a memory** they discussed with their partner. This will make for a fantastic classroom display. Students can also add in artworks of native flowers to further connect this activity to the local environment.









