

From mountains to memorials

Teacher resource based in Years 7-8 Geography with connections to History and English

I acknowledge the Wurundjeri woi-wurrung as traditional owners of the land where this resource was created, and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I pay respects to all First Nations people across Australia and acknowledge their 65,000 years of unbroken culture and connection to Country.

Hi teachers! I hope you're doing well.

What is this resource?

This is a resource for you to use freely to build your own lessons and assessment tasks. The first suggested curriculum area is Geography, Years 7-8 with the substrand topic *landforms and landscapes*.

Landforms and landscapes focuses on investigating geomorphology through a study of landscapes and their landforms. It also develops students' understanding of the concept of environment and enables them to explore the significance of landscapes to people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

The resource emerges from the research and exploration embedded in the graphic novel [*Making the Shrine: stories from Victoria's war memorial*](#). Two self-contained comic strip stories of the graphic novel are provided for you to share and use with students.¹ **If you like this resource, please consider asking your school library to order a copy of *Making the Shrine* from their library supplier.**

The comic strip story called "1929: Bones" looks at an incident in the Shrine's history involving the digging up and taking away of ancient human remains from the site of the Shrine. This chapter was developed through a formal consultation process with traditional owner groups and drafts were shared with a wide group of Victoria-based First Nations people for feedback and comment. The relevant links, videos and readings recommended in this resource are created by or for First Nations people and organisations.²

¹ *Making the Shrine* and this resource have no affiliation with the Shrine of Remembrance.

The chapter titled "Bones" is a different version in the PDF from the version in the published book. The book version includes a quotation on the last page of lyrics from the song "[Travellin' Bones](#)" by Archie Roach AC AM. For copyright reasons the song lyrics have been replaced in the PDF with an excerpt of the inscription on the Kings Domain Resting Place plaque.

² Evaluated with [the criteria recommended by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies](#), this resource sits somewhere around the middle of the pyramid. It isn't created or managed by First Nations people. Development of the overall resource included seeking input and feedback from First Nations people and groups, and the videos, links and readings provided in it are First Nations created and managed resources wherever possible.

The story called “1931: Tynong” was created with the assistance and input of current residents of the Tynong district.

Two memorials and the mountains they’re made from

The [Shrine of Remembrance](#) and [Kings Domain Resting Place](#) are two key memorials of [recognised national significance](#) in Victoria. They’re historically important and deeply moving memorials which commemorate major and harrowing experiences of conflict and loss.

Both monuments are made of Victorian granite from the south-eastern tail of the Great Dividing Range - from Gippsland to the east of Melbourne, and the You Yangs to the west - sourced and presented in wildly different ways. The connections and contrasts between them are fascinating and throw a lot of light on the social and cultural importance of stone, and of stone brought from important places and extracted in specific ways, in the creation of public monuments.

Many secondary students will visit one or both places during Melbourne excursions and camps. The two monuments are very close to each other and can easily be visited in a single excursion. Therefore, the suggested timing for a learning sequence based on this resource is around the time your students are getting ready to undertake a city experience camp or excursion series.

How can you use this resource?

You’re the teaching professional here! You’re the one with the expertise in developing curriculum, and you know best what will work for your students. So please feel totally free to select, use, adapt, change, mix and match any of the materials compiled here.³ You can download some or all of the components from this link: <http://laurajcarroll.au/for-teachers>

Contents

These materials are designed as stackable. I suggest two equally good ways to use this resource, depending on your time and intentions. Your choice.

- **Part One only** for a smaller unit of work - maybe in the lead-up to a city excursion - of 2-3 periods. This could include reading the comics, a class discussion using the slide deck, watching some or all of the recommended short videos, and students completing the worksheet.
- **add on Part Two**, which is a project / assessment task for students: they plan and create a comic strip about a hypothetical community memorial for installation in a chosen area and constructed from Victorian stone.
They use the planner to embed the data and information they gathered earlier into a human story with characters and conversation. Then they use the comics template to make the comic, which must include a map.

³ Most materials here are provided under the Creative Commons licence [CC0 \(Public Domain\)](#) which means you can use, remix, adapt, build, distribute them in any format or medium with no conditions. The comics from *Making the Shrine* are licenced [CC BY-NC](#) which means they can be shared, adapted and remixed for noncommercial purposes with credit to the original creator.

Part One

- Comics from *Making the Shrine* (PDF). A synopsis, two stories and a page from the book's endnotes.
- Slide deck for you to guide a class discussion. Notes for teachers in the Speaker Notes section.
- Suggested videos:
 - [Landscapes and Landforms: Mountain Landscapes](#) by ABC Education, 8min. Focus on the geomorphology of the Great Dividing Range.
 - [Rock of Ages](#) by ABC Landline, 13min. Historical look at the building of the Shrine and the quarry at Tynong.
 - [Returning our Ancestors](#) by the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council, 28min. If that's too long for class you can use the segment between 4.55 and 10.36. This explains the taking and repatriation of ancestral remains and shows the 1985 reburial, and features the Resting Place memorial as it is today.
 - [Big Rock Cultural Connections, You Yangs Regional Park 360 Video](#) (4min) Looks at Indigenous cultural connections to landforms in the You Yangs, a navigable 360 video.
- Student worksheet. Working with the concept of mountains to memorials, students progress through a guided investigation into human, physical and environmental geography, concluding with creating a map. Teachers should provide more specific instructions to students about how the map should be created.

Part Two

An absorbing and fun task which would make a good project to include a city experience or similar cross-curriculum context. Building from the concepts, information, ideas and data students have gathered in the Part One worksheet, and looking at the Making the Shrine comic strip stories for ideas about representation, students develop and make a comic strip narrative about a community which plans, builds and uses a memorial for a ceremony. The comic strip template places a student-drawn map at the centre of the meaning of the story they devise.

- Planner which scaffolds the student through converting their ideas and data into the contents of a comic-strip narrative.
- Comic-strip template.

Thanks and I hope you and your students enjoy using this resource!