Group one: Australian science and nature

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Estimated arrival of the dingo, Australia's first domesticated species. | Date of the earliest evidence of a boomerang. | First nuclear weapons are tested at Maralinga. | Sea level rises – Tasmania is separated from the mainland. | The first case of COVID-19 is confirmed in Australia. |
| Australia’s first surf life-saving club is established at Sydney’s Bondi Beach. | Thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) becomes extinct. | The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is created. | Australian megafauna becomes extinct. | Bureau of Metrology adds an additional colour to its temperature scale to go up to 54. |

Group two: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ken Wyatt is elected as the first Indigenous member of the House of Representatives. | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are given the right to vote. | Archaeological evidence of the first peoples on the Australian continent. | National Apology to the Stolen Generations is given. | Earliest known rock art is discovered. |
| The beginning of trade links between Aboriginal people of Northern Australia and Makasar people from Sulawesi (Indonesia) is known. | Smallpox breaks out in Sydney killing approximately 70% of the local Aboriginal population. | The earliest human remains (Mungo Lady remains in dry Lake Mungo) are found. | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are counted in the census for the first time. | The Black Line – the attempt to corral Aboriginal people on Tasmania – begins. |

Group three: Australian sporting events

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The first game of Aussie Rules football is organised. | The AFL apologises to Adam Goodes. | The first Melbourne Cup is run. | Rugby league and rugby union are split. | The first test cricket match between England and Australia. |
| Cathy Freeman lights the Olympic flame and wins gold in the 400 m at the Sydney Olympics. | Yacht Australia II wins the Americas Cup. | Edwin Flack becomes Australia's first Olympian. | The Matildas are knocked out in the semi-finals of the Women’s World Cup. | First Australian Open Tennis tournament is played. |

Actual dates

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Australian science and nature | Years ago |  | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians | Years ago |
| First case of covid confirmed in Australia | 4 |  | Election of Ken Wyatt, the first Indigenous member of the House of Representatives | 14 |
| Bureau of Metrology adds an additional colour to its temperature scale to go up to 54 degrees | 11 |  | National Apology to the Stolen Generations | 16 |
| Great Barrier Reef Marine Park created | 49 |  | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people counted in the census for the first time | 53 |
| First nuclear weapons test at Maralinga | 68 |  | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people given the right to vote | 62 |
| Thylacine (Tasmanian Tiger) becomes extinct | 88 |  | The Black Line - attempt to corral Aboriginal people on Tasmania | 194 |
| Australia’s first surf life-saving club established at Sydney’s Bondi Beach | 117 |  | Smallpox breaks out in Sydney killing approximately 70% of the local Aboriginal population | 235 |
| Arrival of the dingo, Australia's first domesticated species | 5000 |  | Beginning of trade links between Aboriginal people of Northern Australia and Makasar people from Sulawesi (Indonesia) | 324 |
| Sea level rises – Tasmania separated from mainland | 12 000 |  | Earliest known rock art | 30 000 |
| Earliest evidence of boomerang | 20 000 |  | Earliest human remains (Mungo Lady remains in dry Lake Mungo) found in 1968 | 40 000 |
| Australian megafauna becomes extinct | 40 000 |  | Archaeological evidence of the first peoples on the Australian continent | 65 000 |

Teaching note:

Most of these dates were sourced from the National Museum of Australia’s website:

https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/defining-moments-timeline

The timeline provides additional information on the events, which could be used to discuss their significance, especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and to gain an understanding of Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander People, Histories and Cultures.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Australian sporting events | Years ago |
| The Matildas reach the semi-final in the Women's World Cup | 1 |
| AFL apology to Adam Goodes | 5 |
| Cathy Freeman lights to Olympic flame and wins gold in the 400m at the Sydney Olympics | 24 |
| Yacht Australia II wins the Americas Cup | 41 |
| Rugby league and union split | 117 |
| First Australian Open Tennis tournament | 119 |
| Edwin Flack becomes Australia's first Olympian | 128 |
| First test cricket match between England and Australia | 147 |
| The first Melbourne Cup | 163 |
| First organised game of Aussie Rules | 166 |

Actual dates

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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