

TIME HUNTERS



TIME HUNTERS – Outback Outlaw Chris Blake

Tasks

Task 1 (for readers aged 8-9) – Homework Task (Reading and Comprehension)

You are going to read about two well-known Australian outlaws – Ben Hall and Captain Thunderbolt (Frederick Ward). In the nineteenth century, Australia was a place where few wanted to live as Britain used it as a penal colony.

1. In your group discuss what you think the term ‘penal colony’ means. Share your ideas with the rest of the class before looking it up in a dictionary. Were you correct?
2. Now discuss why no one chose to live there and why there were many bushrangers or outlaws at this time in Australia.

Another very famous Australian outlaw was Ned Kelly.

1. Research Ned Kelly and create a report, which should be completed within the time set by your teacher. One good way of doing this is to make a PowerPoint presentation. Each page of your PowerPoint presentation should have a different interesting fact or group of related facts about the outlaw.

If researching on a computer, type ‘Ned Kelly for kids’ into the search engine. The following site is a good place to start:

<http://primaryfacts.com/1740/10-ned-kelly-facts/>

Your report should contain the following:

- A title and your name
- Facts about Ned Kelly’s early years and family – include a picture of Ned
- Why he became famous
- How and when he died



Task 2 (for readers aged 7-9) – Sequencing

You are going to work in groups of four to construct a text sequence and using the clues from your given text sections work out what the missing piece of text could have said.

1. Around the room are five numbered pieces of text – they are not in sequential order. You will each be given a number and when the two-minute timer is started you will need to find the correct piece of text and read it very carefully. When the time is up, go back to your group and write down what the text said, keeping as near to the words and ideas used as you possibly can.
2. Next, take turns for everyone in the group to read out their section of the text and work together to sequence them correctly. However, there are only four of you and there are five pieces of text around the room so you need to work out where in the sequence the missing piece of text would fit.
3. Try to write what you think might be missing.
4. Lastly, share your text reconstruction with the class, identifying the clues you used to write the missing section.



Task 3 (for readers aged 7-8) – Scanning

There are several Australian creatures mentioned in the story.

You will be given five minutes (your teacher may alter this time so listen carefully) to complete the following task.

1. Quickly scan pages 74 to 124 to find the creatures mentioned in the first column below. Enter the page number where each animal can be found in the second column.
2. When the time is up, consider the type of creature each one is and write this in the last column. Clues are given in the story. Choose from the following:

spider bird snake dog marsupial

Clue: Look at the example at the top of the table.

Creature	Page number	Type of creature
Kangaroo	27	marsupial
Kookaburra		
Copperhead		
Koala		
Wallaby		
Funnel-web spider		
Emu		
Dingo		



Task 4 (for readers aged 8-9) – Fact or Opinion

Facts are things that we know to be true. They can be checked and proved to be so. Facts are used as evidence in a court of law.

E.g. – Mount Everest is the tallest mountain in the world.

Opinions are points of view. They are beliefs held by one person or a group of people. They are not necessarily true.

E.g. – Everybody loves football.

1. As a class discuss the above statements and try to give some further examples of both facts and opinions.
2. In your jotter or on a piece of paper, use a ruler to draw a line down the centre of your page. Write the heading 'FACT' at the top of one column and the heading 'OPINION' at the top of the other.
3. With a partner read through the book and find five facts and five opinions. Write them in the correct column and write the pages where they can be found beside them.
4. Share and discuss your facts and opinions with the rest of your class.



Task 5 (for readers aged 7-8) – Meet the Real Outlaws

Read the information about Ben Hall, Captain Thunderbolt and Frank Gardiner that can be found on pages 136 to 138.

1. Complete the grid below by reading each description and matching it to one of these characters, writing their name in the right-hand column.

	Who am I?
I escaped prison by swimming through shark infested waters.	
I once locked a policeman in a prison cell.	
My girlfriend was part of my gang.	
Scottish by birth, I emigrated to Australia before moving to America.	
I was shot dead as I tried to run away from the police.	

2. Choose another character from the book. Write two or three descriptive sentences about this character without mentioning their name.
3. Read your description to the class. Can they guess who the character is?



Task 6 (for readers aged 8-9) – Write a Synopsis

1. With a partner talk about a time in history you would like Tom and Zuma to go back to. Some ideas are given below or you could think of your own.

dinosaurs

the Gunpowder Plot

first man in space/on the moon

A synopsis is a brief outline, sketch or summary of a longer piece of work.

Before writing a book, authors often create a synopsis of what they think might happen in their story.

2. Thinking about the time in history you would like Tom and Zuma to go back to, write a synopsis of your story. You are not being asked to write a story, just to give an outline of what it will be about. List main characters, describe the setting and mention the important things that will happen in the story. Include some pictures to help illustrate your ideas if you wish.
3. Display your synopsis on your reading wall. Read what the rest of your class would like to write about.