

UNIT 4: MY HERITAGE

Unit 4: My Heritage

Inquiry 2: What is the purpose of story in preserving heritage?

Description:

Students investigate the Diprotodon, a now extinct ancient Australian creature, in order to develop an understanding of how stories capture and preserve heritage.

Student Activity Sheets

MH2.1 – Links with the Land
MH2.2 – Research: Diprotodon
MH2.3 - Creating a Story and Sculpture

Additional Resources

Wombat The Size Of A Rhinoceros, Diprotodon, Found in Australia, The Huffington Post, 07/ 6/11
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/07/06/wombat-australia-diprotodon-giant_n_891208.html
Diprotodon Opatum, Carnivora
<http://carnivoraforum.com/topic/9331146/1/>

1. VIEW

As a class, view the *Wadu Matyidi* animation and Mini Doc: *The Scary Beast - Antyi, Yamuti Yurdlu Ya!*.

2. EXPLORE THE DIPROTODON

As a class, discuss how the traditional story of the Diprotodon contains knowledge of the ancient environment and is a focal point of heritage. Focus on the relationship between flora and fauna, e.g. propagation of the Iga by the Diprotodon. Pose significant questions to stimulate student thinking, such as:

- How is mega-fauna portrayed in the story?
- How do we know that the story has been handed down for thousands of years?
- Why is it called a traditional story about survival?
- What relevance does this story have within Adnyamathanha cultural heritage?

Instruct students to complete Links with the Land (Activity Sheet: MH2.1).

3. MARKETING CAMPAIGN: THE DIPROTODON

Instruct students to create a marketing campaign, such as a poster or advertisement, designed to attract people to visit a Museum to see the replica of a real Diprotodon. Direct students to research via the internet, in the school library or through a museum. Their campaign should feature the information captured in their Research: Diprotodon (Activity Sheet: MH2.2) including:

- The characteristics of the Diprotodon - body structure, size, appearance, weight, etc.
- Information about the Diprotodon's diet and habits
- Information about any known predators of the Diprotodon
- Some interesting facts or stories about the Diprotodon that will encourage Museum visitors
- A large, colour picture or drawing of the Diprotodon
- Information about why it became extinct
- Any connections that can be made between the Yamuti and the Diprotodon

4. SURVIVAL STORY

Ask students to write their own short story of survival which captures some of the same life lessons featured in the story of the Yamuti. You may wish to revisit the story of the Yamuti again with the class to identify what some of these lessons are. Have students make up their own mythical creature to feature in their story and use Creating a Story and Sculpture (Activity Sheet: MH2.3) as guidance.

Once their stories are complete, brainstorm different mediums that could be used to effectively construct their own mythical creature, e.g. clay, plasticine, recycled materials, fruit and vegetables. Provide students with suitable class time to construct their creature using the selected materials. Students should use Creating a Story and Sculpture (Activity Sheet: MH2.3) to help guide them through this task.



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Inquiry 2: What is the purpose of story in maintaining heritage?

Activity Sheets:

MH2.1 – Links with the Land
MH2.2 – Research: Diprotodon
MH2.3 – Creating a Story and Sculpture

1. View

Watch the *Wadu Matyidi* animation and Mini Doc: *The Scary Beast - Antyi, Yamuti Yurdlu Ya!*

2. Explore the Diprotodon

Discuss the story of the Diprotodon with your class. What messages do you think the story tells us about the ancient environment and 'rules for living'? Why do you think it is called a traditional story about survival? Share your ideas.

Complete your Links with the Land activity sheet, matching the words with their correct descriptions. Finish by drawing a picture that represents each word of the items described.

3. Marketing Campaign: The Diprotodon

Create a marketing campaign, such as a poster or advertisement, designed to attract visitors to a museum to see the replica of a real Diprotodon. Use the Research: Diprotodon sheet as a guide to your research and to capture all of the information you need to include in your campaign. You might like to use the Internet, a library or even your local museum as your information source.

4. Survival Story

Create a short story of survival. Think up your own mythical creature and write a story which has similar lessons to those in the story of the Yamuti. Use your Creating a Story and Sculpture sheet as a guide.

After you have written your own short story, brainstorm with the class different ways that you could construct a sculpture of your mythical creature. e.g. clay, plasticine, or recycled materials.

Work with the materials you have selected to turn your featured mythical creature into a sculpture. Use your Creating a Story and Sculpture sheet to guide you through this task.



UNIT 4: MY HERITAGE

Name: _____

MH2.1

LINKS WITH THE LAND

1. Draw a line to link the name to its description. There may be more than one link for some items.
2. In the final column, draw a detailed, colourful illustration to represent each of the names.

Name	Description	Illustration
Diprotodon	a native peach	
Story of the Yamuti	significant site	
Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby	Ancestral Creator Spirit	
Quandong	a generational story about safety	
cocky eggs	mega-fauna	
waterhole	preserved relics from the past	
Akurra	bush tucker	
witchetty grub	native fauna	
fossils	traditional tucker	



UNIT 4: MY HERITAGE

Name: _____

MH2.2

Research:

DIPROTODON

Marketing Campaign

Your local museum has been lucky enough to display the one and only replica of the Diprotodon. It is your job to create a marketing campaign, either an advertisement or a poster, to encourage people to come and visit the exhibit.

Use the Internet, library or a museum to research the following information about the Diprotodon and include it in your campaign:

- The characteristics of the Diprotodon, including body structure, size, appearance, weight.
- Information about the Diprotodon's diet and habits.
- Information about any known predators to the Diprotodon.
- Interesting facts or stories about the Diprotodon that will encourage people to go to the museum to see it in real life.
- A large, colour drawing of the Diprotodon.
- Details about why it became extinct.
- Any connections that can be made between the Yamuti and the Diprotodon.



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Name: _____

MH2.3

CREATING A STORY AND SCULPTURE

Step 1: Planning and writing your survival story.

Think about the following:

- What is the name of the mythical creature you will feature in your story?
- What does your mythical creature look like?
- Where does your creature live? e.g. a river, waterhole, cave, etc.
- Where does your creature hide?
- When does your creature become dangerous?
- What is/are the message(s) or lesson(s) about survival that you would like to feature in your story? e.g. do not swim too far out into the river.

Getting started:

- a. Write a rough draft.
- b. Check work and edit, e.g. use spell-check or ask an adult to read through the story.
- c. Present completed short story to your teacher for some feedback.
- d. Complete the final copy.

Step 2: Planning and constructing your mythical creature.

Think about the following and make notes:

- What makes your creature ferocious? Dangerous?
- What shape will the creature's body be?
- What features will be effective in making your creature look scary?
- What materials would be practical to use to construct your creature?

Getting started:

- a. Collect the materials required to create your creature.
- b. Construct your mythical creature. (Make sure you wear a smock and use lots of newspaper if you are using paint or glue.)