

YEAR 6, ACTIVITY 1

COOK CLAIMS AUSTRALIA

In 1770, Captain James Cook paved the way for European settlement by ceremoniously claiming the land for Britain. Cook claimed the land for England despite his own interactions with Aboriginals during his time in Australia.

The extract is from Captain Cook's personal journal where he claims Australia for Great Britain. Read the extract and answer the questions below.

1. Locate and label Possession Island on the map of Australia.

2. Locate, and rewrite, the sentence in which Cook sees Aboriginals.

3. According to Cook, to whom does the honour of discovering the 'Western side' of Australia belong?

4. What sections of the Australia did Cook take possession of in the name of the King George III?

5. On your map divide the Australia in two (east and west) and label which section was called New South Wales and which was called New Holland.

6. Which group of peoples does Captain Cook not acknowledge when he took possession of East Australia? Why do you think he didn't acknowledge them?
