

Flora

Native Trees

Suitable age group: 10 and older
These printable lessons will be
added to as time goes along.

(Solutions to questions are not provided)



Australian Trees 1

For each Australian tree below indicate its distribution on the map.

Then, in the spaces to the left and right of the map, write the tree's botanical name and three or four other facts of interest.

Blackboys



Eucalyptus



Moreton Bay Fig Tree



Flora





Native Flowers

Suitable age group: 10 and older
These printable lessons will be
added to as time goes along.
(Solutions to questions are not provided)



Australian Flowers 1

Find 5 interesting facts about each of these Australian flowers.

<p>Sturt's Desert Pea</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.
<p>Golden Wattle</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.
<p>Banksia</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.
<p>Kangaroo Paw</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.

Australian Flowers 2

Golden Wattle Australia's Floral Emblem



The Golden Wattle has been the Floral Emblem of Australia for many years though it only became the official emblem in 1988 (Australia's Bicentenary).

The Golden Wattle (scientific name *Acacia pycnantha*) is just one of about 900 species of wattle (*Acacia*) in Australia. Its flowers are bright yellow and scented; its leaves are a shiny dark green. When it flowers in late winter and spring, a mass of fragrant, fluffy, golden flowers are produced.

The Golden Wattle is found in all southern parts of Australia from east to west, very often in the under-storey of eucalypt forests; it thrives in dry, shallow soils.

The Australian Coat of Arms includes a wreath of wattle and the green and gold colours.



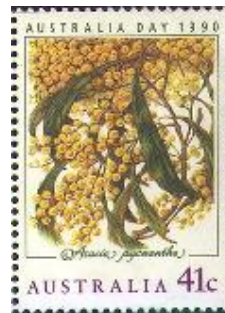
continued next page

Australian Studies



Australians representing their country in international sporting events usually wear the national colours, green and gold, said to be based on wattle foliage and flowers.

Here are some stamps and coins featuring the Golden Wattle.



Talk about or Write about

- 1) How many years ago did the Golden Wattle officially become the Floral Emblem of Australia?
- 2) Name the months when the Golden Wattle's flowers appear.
- 3) What do you think is meant by 'the under-storey of eucalypt forests'?
- 4) What does *thrives* mean?
- 5) Australia's Olympic athletes wear uniforms of green and gold -based on the colours of the Golden Wattle. Do you think our athletes' uniforms should, instead, be in the red, white and blue colours of the Australian flag?

More on Australia's flora coming soon.