

TEACHERS' TOOLKIT

THE MAGAZINE + WEBSITE FOR AUSTRALIAN TEACHERS WWW.TEACHERSTOOLKIT.NET.AU

HOMEWORKWEEKLY: MIDDLE PRIMARY 0040

Name _____

Class _____

Happy Birthday Postcard

140 years ago, on the first of October 1869, the Austrian postal administration issued the world's first postal card.

The private postal card was developed by John P. Charlton of Philadelphia (USA) in 1861. The first "non-Postal" postcard, meaning a privately made postcard where postage had to be affixed was introduced in Austria in 1869 and by 1870, picture postcards were all the rage!

A year later the British government bowed to public demand and issued cards of its own. The cards weren't illustrated and cost half a penny each.

Postcards were first issued in Australia at the Sydney GPO 1 October 1875.

A postcard is a rectangular piece of thick paper or thin cardboard intended for writing and mailing without an envelope. The postcards were made because people were looking for an easier way to send quick notes. The back is divided into two sections, the left section being used for the message and the right for the address.

The picture postcard, with its practical and pictorial charms, became the favoured form of correspondence.

A world-wide craze for card-collecting took hold in the early decades of the 20th century. Cards on every conceivable theme were printed, posted, treasured, traded and collected during what is now called the postcard's Golden Age.

Postcards are popular because of the wide range of subjects, with just about every subject imaginable being at some time, portrayed on a postcard. History itself can be tracked on postcards, from historical buildings, famous people, art, holidays and more.

Despite its popularity having been long overtaken by the telephone, the internet and now the text message, the appeal of the postcard persists. When did you last get a postcard from a friend or relative who was travelling overseas?

Have you ever sent an e-card or virtual postcard to a friend while on holiday? There are a number of websites to explore and here is just one to try: www.australianexplorer.com/electronic_postcard.html



Souvenir postcard of the Buderim Mountain Red Cross Carnival, 1917, showing 'types and characters' © [Maroochy Libraries](http://MaroochyLibraries.com). © MacquarieNet 2007 (online edition).

[Search **MacquarieNet** for *postcard* to learn more about this week's topic.]

Spelling

Mark any words that you are unsure about in the news article above and add them to your weekly personal word list. Write out your list of spelling words each day this week to help you learn them. Have a friend test you on your words on Friday. Colour in each box as you complete the task.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

After Reading

1. Where and when was the world's first postal card issued? _____
2. How many years after the above event did Australia issue postcards? _____
3. Why do you think that postcards became popular? _____

4. Are postcards still popular today? If not, why not? _____

5. How do you communicate with friends and family while away travelling?

Word study 1

Why do we change?

If the 'y' follows a consonant, we change the 'y' to 'i' and 'es'.

If the 'y' follows a vowel, we add 's'.

Write the plurals of these words.

1. factory	4. city	7. valley
2. country	5. bay	8. dairy
3. nursery	6. bakery	9. highway

Word study 2.

Abbreviations and acronyms. *Write out in full what the following mean.*

1. SOS _____
2. RAAF _____
3. RIP _____
4. ANZAC _____
5. ABC _____
6. SA _____
7. Dec _____
8. Qantas _____
9. Tel _____
10. Dept _____



Maths Headwork

1. Write 0.2 as a fraction _____
2. Write $\frac{1}{4}$ as a decimal _____
3. $\frac{1}{5} = \frac{?}{10}$ _____
4. T or F? $\frac{2}{5} > 0.2$ _____
5. $3 \times 11 =$ _____
6. $42 \div 2 =$ _____
7. Groups of 3 in 27 = _____
8. T or F? $81 \div 9 = 8$ and $8 \times 9 = 81$ _____
9. What fraction of 40 do you get if you halve it? _____
10. $(3 + 11) - (5 \times 2) =$ _____
11. What does 4 equal in 2341? _____
12. If you count in fives from 20 to 90, will 35 be included? _____
13. 73, 69, 65, _____
14. How many years are in a decade? _____
15. What is the Roman numeral for 15? _____

Chance and Data

Describe the chance of these things happening by putting the right letters beside each event in the table.

no chance (**N**), big chance (**B**), unlikely (**U**), possible (**P**), or definitely (**D**)

- There will be no rain today.
- You will win the lottery next week.
- A ghost will jump out of your lunch box today.
- Someone in your class will be away tomorrow.
- Next week there will be a heatwave.
- Your friend will lose a shoe today.
- The earth will explode next month.
- The sun will rise tomorrow morning.
- You will get all the answers on this worksheet correct!

Research

Postcards from outer space

Think of all the spacecraft travelling through the solar system. Imagine if they could send a postcard to your friends travelling to Venus! Here is one we received from the Venus Express.

Hello this Rema on the spacecraft Venus Express.
I've found that the planet is very cloudy. To see what's below the clouds, we have to use infrared vision. There are lots of volcanoes on the surface. Our spacecraft sensors have detected sulphur dioxide, a stinky gas, in the air below. Phew! Maybe the volcanoes are still active. The thick clouds above Venus make the planet very hot – about 460 degrees Celsius.



That's hotter than an oven! Glad I'm not heading down there.

We hope to be home by May, but I hope I get to stay a little longer to look at this beautiful planet. Rema

Write a postcard that you can send to Rema. Don't forget the stamp.

	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

Answers

After Reading

1. Austria 1869
2. 6 years
3. People were looking for an easier way to send quick notes other than a letter.
4. Not so popular today as people exchange information via other means.
5. Answers will vary, discuss in class.

Word Study

Word Study 1

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. factories | 4. cities | 7. valleys |
| 2. countries | 5. bays | 8. dairies |
| 3. nurseries | 6. bakeries | 9. highways |

Word Study 2

1. Save Our Souls
2. Royal Australian Air Force
3. Rest In Peace
4. Australian and New Zealand Army Corp
5. Australian Broadcasting Corporation
6. South Australia
7. December
8. Queensland and Northern Territory Air Services
9. Telephone
10. Department

Maths

Headwork

1.	$\frac{2}{10}$	6.	21	11.	40 or 4 tens
2.	0.25	7.	9	12.	yes
3.	$\frac{2}{10}$	8.	False	13.	61
4.	True	9.	$\frac{1}{2}$	14.	10
5.	33	10.	4	15.	XV

Chance & Data Open ended questions. Discuss in groups or in class

Research

Postcards

Share in class.