

1666-2006

# DUYFKEN VOYAGE

Our early maritime history



## Introduction

In 1606, the small Dutch ship *Duyfken* sailed from the Indonesian island of Banda in search of gold and trade opportunities on the fabled island of Nova Guinea.

Under the command of Captain Willem Janszoon, *Duyfken* and her crew ventured south-east. They sailed beyond Os Papuas (Papua New Guinea) and chartered part of the coast of Nova Guinea. Although they did not find any gold they did find the northern coast of a huge continent – Australia. The first recorded chart of the Australian coastline was made by *Duyfken's* skipper, Willem Janszoon, and the first time that Aboriginal Australians met people from the outside world was recorded during *Duyfken's* 1606 voyage of discovery.

A *Duyfken* replica is now bringing Australian history to life, thanks to support from the Australian Government.

The 1606-2006 *Duyfken* voyage marks the 400th anniversary of the first documented European contact with Australia. The story of this defining period in our history will be told as *Duyfken* visits 25 ports around Australia, reminding us of the importance of our coastal and maritime heritage and giving those who visit the ship an appreciation of history in the raw and the courage and skills of 17th-century seafaring explorers.

Students can track the current voyage of the *Duyfken* via satellite through the website [www.duyfken.com](http://www.duyfken.com) and by clicking on “Current Voyage” and scrolling down to Sat-Trak *Duyfken*.

## Curriculum focus

HSIE: Change and Continuity

Science and Technology: Design and Technology

English: Reading, Procedures, Writing, Research

Mathematics: Mapping

## Web links

[www.duyfken.com](http://www.duyfken.com)

[www.heritage.gov.au](http://www.heritage.gov.au)

[www.anmm.gov.au](http://www.anmm.gov.au)

## Learning outcomes

Students will be able to:

- explain the significance of particular people, groups and events in the past in developing Australian identity and heritage
- describe the involvement of people from other countries in Australia's heritage
- use maps and globes to locate global and Australian reference points such as hemispheres, lines of latitude and longitude and oceans
- locate places on a globe
- follow a procedure to construct a replica of a ship
- write meaningful journal/log entries as a recount.

## Discussion questions

- When and where was the *Duyfken* built?
- Where did the *Duyfken* sail to and from in 1606?
- What were the Spice Islands and why were they so important?
- What is latitude on a map? What is longitude?
- Compare ancient navigation with modern navigation.
- How do you think the Aborigines felt when they first saw the *Duyfken* and its crew?

## Classroom activities

### Ship's crew

Find out the job descriptions for the following roles on board a ship: captain, bosun, cook, first mate, second mate, deck hand. List any other positions you have heard of.

What is the captain's log? Read some excerpts from the captain's log on the current 2006 voyage ([www.duyfken.com](http://www.duyfken.com)). Compare and contrast conditions today on the *Duyfken* replica with conditions 400 years ago.



### Map out the voyage

On a globe locate the island of Banda where the original *Duyfken* began its voyage in 1606. Use an atlas to help draw the path of the voyage by the *Duyfken* replica on a detailed map. The ports of call are located on the website [www.duyfken.com](http://www.duyfken.com) under Current Voyage. Mark the latitude and longitude lines on Australia and Indonesia. Mark any oceans or seas.



### Captain's log

Read some log entries from the current voyage of the *Duyfken*. Imagine you were on the original *Duyfken* and record two days of sailing on your voyage. Include weather, living conditions, food, accommodation and distance travelled. Make your log look old by smudging it with a wet tea bag.

### Build your own *Duyfken*

Use the website [www.duyfken.com](http://www.duyfken.com) to build your own replica of the *Duyfken*. Click on "Building the Replica" followed by "Build your own *Duyfken*" to find the instructions and templates.

### Design a ship

Using the *Duyfken* as an example, sketch your own old style ship. Give it a name and invent an imaginary voyage where your ship and crew find a new undiscovered country. Name this country.

### Translation

Have a guess as to what the word *Duyfken* means. Write down your guess then try to find its real meaning. There is a clue in the "Current Voyage – Image Gallery".

### Great explorers

Choose from one of the following explorers: Captain James Cook, Arthur Phillip, William Dampier, Matthew Flinders, Dirk Hartog, William Wentworth, Abel Tasman or George Blaxland. Write a brief summary of who they were, when and where they lived, obstacles they faced and what they discovered. Report your findings to the class.

### Coastal and maritime heritage

Select one of the following National Heritage Listed sites along Australia's 25,000km coastline: Cook's Landing Place (Kurnell Peninsula), Port Arthur, Sydney Opera House, Fremantle Prison, Recherche Bay, HMVS Cerberus, Dirk Hartog Landing Site 1616 (Cape Inscription), Batavia Shipwreck Site and Survivor Camps Area (Houtman Abrolhos) or North Head. Write a brief summary of what the site is, where it is, why it is so significant to Australia's heritage, and how you think it has helped shape our nation. Report your findings to the class. Visit [www.deh.gov.au/heritage/national](http://www.deh.gov.au/heritage/national) for further information on these sites.



Australian Government