

VISITING THE CENTRE OF DEMOCRACY

A GUIDE FOR TEACHERS

THE CENTRE
OF DEMOCRACY



Open 10am - 5pm
Every day except
public holidays



FREE EXHIBITION

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HISTORY
TRUST

HISTORY
TRUST
OF SOUTH
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia

The History Trust of South Australia developed this education resource using the expertise, collections and resources of the History Trust of South Australia, its museums and partners. Our learning programs bring to life the stories, objects and people that make up South Australia's rich and vibrant history.

HISTORY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The History Trust of South Australia operates three museums - the Migration Museum, the National Motor Museum and the South Australian Maritime Museum, along with the Centre of Democracy managed in collaboration with the State Library of South Australia. The History Trust's role is to encourage current and future generations of South Australians to discover this state's rich, relevant and fascinating past through its public programs and museums including the Migration Museum, the South Australian Maritime Museum, the National Motor Museum and the Centre of Democracy.



history.sa.gov.au
Torrens Parade Ground, Victoria Dr,
Adelaide

CENTRE OF DEMOCRACY

The Centre of Democracy is a collaboration between the History Trust of South Australia and the State Library of South Australia. It is supported by the South Australian Government. Its vibrant program of education, public, and online programs engage and inform visitors about the ideas behind democracy, political participation and citizenship. The gallery features state treasures from History Trust and State Library collections, as well as items on loan from State Records of South Australia, the Art Gallery of South Australia, the Courts Authority, Parliament House, Government House and private lenders.



centreofdemocracy.sa.gov.au
Institute Building, Kintore Ave,
Adelaide

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

MAKE A BOOKING

Please complete a [School Booking Request form](#) to begin the booking process. Check our website for opening hours.

COVID SAFE

To ensure our visitors remain COVID Safe, hand sanitiser is provided at the main entrance and we recommend using it upon entry and exit. Please ensure all members of your group maintain physical distancing in the gallery.

Visit the [SA Health website](#) to keep up to date with current COVID-19 regulations and restrictions in the state.

PREPARING YOUR STUDENTS

Please let students know what to expect and what is expected of them when visiting the Centre of Democracy:

- Students can place large bags along the northern wall of the museum
- Use the touch-screen tablets to find out more about objects on display
- Discuss objects and information with other students and feel free to ask questions
- Be respectful of other people visiting the museum by keeping the noise to a minimum, walking calmly, and sharing spaces to view displays
- Be COVID Safe by using hand sanitiser and maintaining physical distancing

RESOURCES

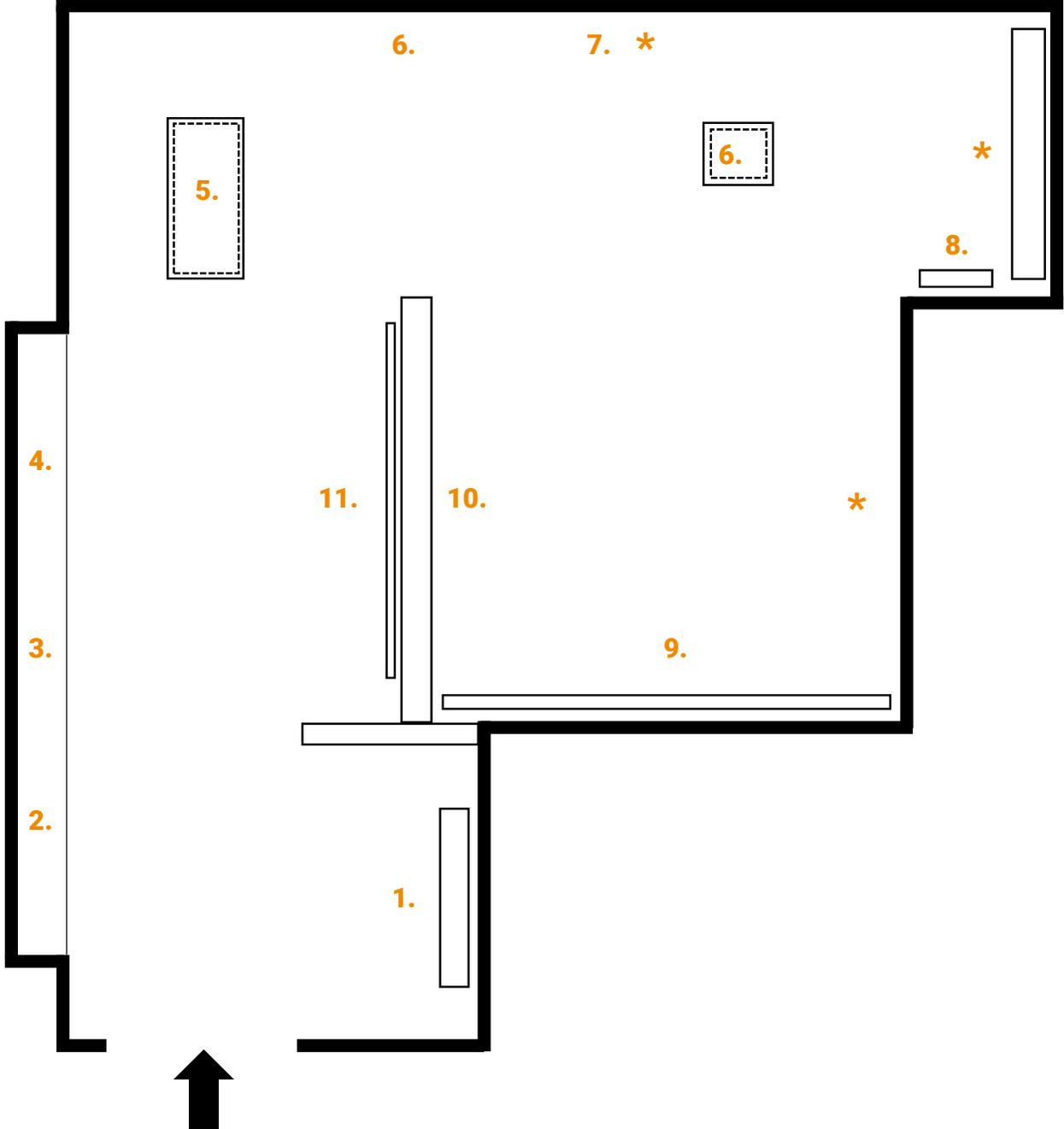
We recommend printing Reflection cards for your class to use in the gallery.

You may also like to print the discussion questions and information about Martha Berkeley's painting, *The First Dinner Given to the Aboriginies 1838*, found in the Governance in the Early Colony booklet.

See the Online Resources page below for more information and links to these documents.



AT THE GALLERY



AT THE GALLERY

1. PAINTING BY MARTHA BERKELEY

The event depicted in this watercolour painting by Martha Berkeley is sometimes referred to as Governor Gawler's feast. This image provides a great opportunity to use visual thinking strategies to analyse, discuss and reflect on the establishment of the colony and its effects on First Nations people. See the Governance in the Early Colony booklet and video for more information.

Questions for students:

- 1 What action is taking place in this painting?
- 2 Why do you think the artist chose to depict this moment during the event?
- 3 Think about the different perspectives of the people present. How do you think different people might have felt?

2. GOVERNANCE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

This display case contains Governor Gawler's plumes, which he wore at the event in Martha Berkeley's painting.

- 1 Identify five facts about Governor Gawler.
- 2 Gawler's plumed military hat earned him a nickname from local Aboriginal people. What was it?

3. PEOPLE WHO HAVE INFLUENCED SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY

The items featured in this display include clothing and accessories belonging to people who have made a significant impact on democracy in South Australia, including former Premier Don Dunstan.

- 1 Why do you think these items of clothing are on display? What do they represent?

- 2 How do you think people would react if our State Premier or Prime Minister was seen wearing shorts like this today?

- 3 Why do you think politicians are expected to dress a certain way? What other behaviours are expected of them?

4. MOVEMENTS IN DEMOCRATIC HISTORY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

This display case contains objects relating to democratic movements.

- 1 What is the oldest object in this case and what is the most recent? What connects these two items?
- 2 The sister basket was presented to the Governor of South Australia along with a copy of a petition. What was the petition for? Why would a gift be given with this petition?



Image featured: First Dinner Given to the Aboriginies 1838, by Martha Berkeley. AGSA collection.

AT THE GALLERY

5. WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In 1894 South Australian women, including Aboriginal women, gained the right to vote and stand for parliament. This was the first state in Australia to afford women these rights.

- 1 What does the term 'suffrage' refer to?
- 2 Do women have equal rights and opportunities in Australia now?
- 3 Are there parts of the world where women don't have equal rights?

6. UNIONS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS

Trade unions have fought for many of the rights we enjoy today, such as the 8-hour work day.

- 1 Why do you think there are different trade unions that represent specific industries?
- 2 What anniversary do the beer cans on display represent?

7. SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Social movements and the right to protest are important features of a free democracy. See the Social Movements in SA videos and teaching resource for more on this topic (link below).

- 1 What is a 'social movement'?
- 2 How do you think a social movement begins?
- 3 Can you think of an example of a recent movement or protest?

8. SPEAKER'S CORNER

Here you can record a video of yourself sharing your thoughts on democracy. What does it mean to you?

- 1 How would you describe what democracy means in your own words?
- 2 How does democracy affect your everyday life?
- 3 Can our Australian democracy be strengthened in any way?

9. YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Engage with the democratic process by expressing your point of view using the peg board and other activities.

- 1 Spin the wheel and complete one of the activities on coloured cards.
- 2 Can you think of a time at school when a democratic process was used?

10. HOW GOVERNMENT WORKS

This large graphic outlines the different levels of Government in Australia.

- 1 Use the information on the graphic to find which level of government is responsible for pet registration.
- 2 Why are there two houses of parliament at both state and national levels?
- 3 It is compulsory to vote in an election in Australia. Do you think that's a good or bad thing? Explain why.
- 4 Who is not allowed to vote in Australia?

11. DIGITAL WALL

This interactive tool allows students to explore the people, groups and movements that have impacted Australian society and democracy.

This touch screen works best with one person operating it at a time. Remember to use hand sanitiser before and after use. The digital wall is accessible outside the museum as the Picturing Democracy website.

- 1 Try to find profiles for some of the people featured in the museum, such as Don Dunstan and Julia Gillard.

* PROTESTS FOR PEACE: PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE ADELAIDE MORATORIUMS

This temporary exhibition displays Leo Davis' photographs of the anti-war protests in Adelaide, from 1970-1972.

- 1 These rallies protested the Vietnam War in general and the conscription of Australian men. What does the term 'conscription' mean? What are your thoughts on it?
- 2 What do you think is the most effective way to protest?



AFTER YOUR VISIT

We hope you and your class has an enjoyable and rewarding visit to the Centre of Democracy. To extend your learning back in the classroom, you may like to try one of the following activities.

MAKE A PROTEST BADGE

Discuss the display of protest badges in the gallery and why people might wear badges that express an opinion, such as these.

Ask students to identify some issues they feel passionate about, and would support by wearing a badge. Alternatively, the class could decide collaboratively on an issue that affects the school, or is in line with an upcoming event (e.g. Harmony Day, NAIDOC week). Students can brainstorm slogans and designs, and may like to consider symbols and colours that depict their chosen cause.

Students can design their badge in a simple circle on a sheet of paper, or create a digital illustration.

If you have a badge-maker at the school, even better! Encourage students to wear their badges with pride and be prepared to answer questions from their teachers and classmates.



SOURCE ANALYSIS

For source analysis information suitable for Primary and Secondary classes, download our Governance in the Early Colony and Social Movements in SA resources. See the Online Resources page for details.

ORGANISE A SOCIAL MOVEMENT

You will find this activity for Secondary students described in more detail in the Social Movements in SA booklet.

This activity can be modified for younger students by simplifying the language used and providing specific school-related issues.



ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit the [Centre of Democracy website](#) to view the full range of resources.

REFLECTION CARDS

The Reflection Cards are available for [Primary](#) or [Secondary](#) students and contain various prompts for exploring the Centre of Democracy. Activities include searching for objects, reflecting, and discussing the topics, issues and people featured.

We recommend printing enough Reflection Cards to be shared between pairs of students. Once they complete a card, they can swap it for a new one. There are four cards per page, so you may like to cut the cards up in advance.

GOVERNANCE IN THE EARLY COLONY

[This booklet](#) contains tasks for both Primary and Secondary students, and focuses on the establishment and early days of the South Australian colony. There are three short [videos](#) that support this resource.

Here you will find information and guiding questions about the Martha Berkeley painting prominently displayed in the gallery entrance. We recommend printing these pages in advance to help guide some visual analysis upon arrival. An extract from Governor Gawler's speech is also included, and could be read and discussed too.

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

[This booklet](#) connects with Senior Secondary topics, including Rights and Freedoms. It covers the trade union, women's rights and LGBTQI+ Rights movements, with a South Australian focus. There are three short [videos](#) that support this resource.

PICTURING DEMOCRACY

This [website](#) is based on the interactive digital wall created for the Centre of Democracy. Now you can explore the people, groups, and social and political movements that have made Australia what it is today, all from home or the classroom.

WOMEN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In December 1894, after decades of activism, legislation was passed that made South Australia's colonial parliament the first one in Australia to allow women, including Aboriginal women, the right to vote and stand for election. [Here](#) you can read articles and search the names of those who signed the 1894 Petition for Women's Suffrage.

DEMOCRACY TIMELINE

This interactive [timeline](#) features key events relating to democracy in Australia and around the world, beginning in 60,000 BCE.

ONLINE COLLECTION

[View](#) a selection of objects that have been featured in the Centre of Democracy gallery.



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Check out the History Trust collections online and visit our museums.



history.sa.gov.au
Torrens Parade Ground, Adelaide
(08) 8203 9888



migration.history.sa.gov.au
82 Kintore Ave, Adelaide
(08) 8207 7580



motor.history.sa.gov.au
Shannon St, Birdwood
(08) 8568 4000



maritime.history.sa.gov.au
126 Lipson St, Port Adelaide
(08) 8207 6255



centreofdemocracy.sa.gov.au
Institute Building, Kintore Ave, Adelaide
(08) 8203 9888

Here are some additional History Trust resources to use and share with students.

- SA History Hub
sahistoryhub.com.au
- Adelaidia
adelaidia.sa.gov.au
- Bound for South Australia
boundforsouthaustralia.com.au

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Saturday and Sunday
10am to 3pm

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