



Teacher Resource

World Refugee Day

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Why did Yasamin and Hadia leave Afghanistan?
2. What is the definition of a refugee?
3. How many refugees are there around the world?
4. What organisation created the Refugee Convention?
5. How did this story make you feel?

Activity: Personal Response

Write a personal response to the BTN World Refugee Day story by completing the following sentences:

- It was interesting to learn...
- It's important to learn about refugees because...
- BTN covered this story because...
- The story made me feel...

Activity: Class Discussion

Discuss the information raised in the BTN World Refugee Day story.

Use the following questions to guide the discussion:

- Who is a refugee?
- How do refugees differ from asylum seekers?
- Who is a migrant?
- Where do refugees come from and why?
- What do you think would be one of the most difficult things about moving to another country?



People don't plan to become asylum seekers or refugees. Usually circumstances beyond their control force them to flee. Discuss reasons why people might leave their homeland. Ask them to think of three reasons and write them on post-it notes. Collate student responses and discuss.

EPISODE 17

18th June 2024

KEY LEARNING

Students will develop an understanding of who is a refugee and why people become refugees. They will also explore the theme for Refugee Week 2024.

CURRICULUM

History – Year 3

Causes and effects of changes to the local community, and how people who may be from diverse backgrounds have contributed to these changes.

History – Year 6

The motivation of people migrating to Australia since Federation and throughout the 20th century, their stories and effects on Australian society, including migrants from the Asia region.

Civics and Citizenship – Year 4

Diversity of cultural, religious and/or social groups to which they and others in the community belong, and their importance to identity.

Civics and Citizenship – Year 7

How values based on freedom, respect, fairness and equality of opportunity can support social cohesion and democracy within Australian society.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN World Refugee Day story. Here are some words to get them started.

REFUGEE	ASYLUM SEEKER	PUSH FACTORS
FLEE	PERSECUTION	PULL FACTORS

Ask students to write what they think is the meaning of each word (including unfamiliar words). They will swap definitions with a partner and ask them to add to or change the definition. Check these against the dictionary definition.

Activity: Refugee Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN World Refugee Day story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students' knowledge? Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose a question below.

What do I <u>know</u> ?	What do I <u>want</u> to know?	What have I <u>learnt</u> ?	<u>How</u> will I find out?

- What challenges do refugees face when they flee their home country?
- What are push and pull factors affecting refugees? Give examples of both.
- Which countries around the world resettle refugees and people in humanitarian need each year? What proportion does Australia accept? Display the information in a table.
- What rights do refugees have under international law?
- What is the Refugee Convention? What is the core principle of the convention? What rights do refugees have under the convention?
- Choose a well-known person who came to Australia as a refugee. [Here are some examples](#). Create a biography about them that tells their journey.
- How do refugees find safety and support in a new country?
- How can individuals and communities promote empathy and understanding towards refugees?
- Approximately how many refugees are there in the world? What is the role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and how does it relate to Australia?

Activity: Welcoming Refugees

Discuss as a class the importance of belonging to a community. Think about the diversity in backgrounds, experiences, interests and age of people in your school community. Broaden your discussion and talk about your local community and Australia as a whole.

Explain to students that developing positive relationships can help build a sense of belonging and inclusion. Provide a range of opportunities for students to share their personal stories to create an atmosphere of cultural respect and acknowledgement of diversity.

- What do you like about being part of your school community?
- What makes you feel safe in your school community?
- How do you welcome new students to your school community?
- What are some of your school's values?
- Describe some of your school's traditions. Why are they important?
- What are the advantages of belonging to a culturally diverse community?
- How does your school value and celebrate cultural diversity?

Welcoming Refugees

Brainstorm ways that you could welcome refugees at your school. UNHCR has some great suggestions.

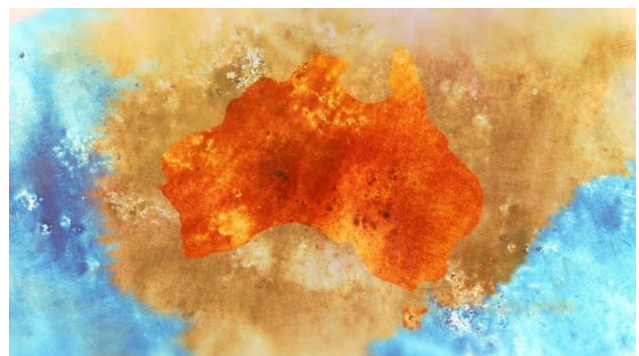
[Check them out](#)

Activity: Stories of Refugees and Migrants

Seeking Refuge is a series of short, animated documentaries portraying the real-life stories of young people who have sought asylum. [Watch on iView](#)



Creating a Nation: Modern Immigration Stories tells the experiences of six first generation migrant Australians. Each migration story includes a video and questions for students to discuss and respond to. [Explore the interactive resource](#)



Activity: Refugee Week 2024

The theme for Refugee Week 2024 is *Finding Freedom: Family*. Discuss as a class and record students' responses. Below are some questions to guide discussion.

- What does the theme for Refugee Week 2024 mean to you?
- Why do you think this theme was chosen?
- How can we encourage Australians to improve our nation's welcome for refugees?
- Students will design and create a poster to reflect the theme for Refugee Week 2024 and hold an art exhibition to present their artworks. The exhibition will celebrate the courage, resilience, strength and contributions of people of refugee backgrounds. Invite other classes to participate in the exhibition.
- Organise your own Refugee Week event or activity at your school. Visit the Refugee Week website and download their [resource kit](#) for a guide on planning your own event.



Useful Websites

- [World Refugee Day](#) – UNHCR
- [Refugees in Australia](#) – BTN
- [What is a refugee?](#) – UNHCR
- [Refugee Week 2024](#) – Refugee Council of Australia