



Teacher Resource

Mary Reibey

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. Which banknote is Mary Reibey on?
2. What challenges did Mary Reibey face growing up?
3. Why was she sent to Australia as a convict?
4. What were some of Mary's achievements? Name at least two.
5. Imagine you could sit down and talk to Mary. What question/s would you ask about her life and achievements?

Activity: Personal Response

- Mary Reibey is an important Australian because...
- It was interesting to learn...
- These are five words that I would use to describe Mary Reibey...
- This story made me feel...
- It is important to celebrate Mary Reibey because...

Activity: Class Discussion

After watching the BTN story, hold a class discussion using the following discussion starters.

- What did the BTN story tell you about the life of Mary Reibey?
- Name at least two of her achievements.
- Why do you think Mary Reibey became so famous?
- What questions do you have about Mary Reibey?



EPISODE 7

18 March 2025

KEY LEARNING

Students will learn more about the life and work Mary Reibey.

CURRICULUM

HASS – Year 3 and 4

Pose questions to investigate people, events, places and issues.

Locate and collect information and data from different sources, including observations.

HASS – Year 4

The experiences of individuals and groups, including military and civilian officials, and convicts involved in the establishment of the first British colony.

HASS – Year 5 and 6

Develop appropriate questions to guide an inquiry about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

Locate and collect relevant information and data from primary sources and secondary sources.

History – Year 6

The contribution of individuals and groups to the development of Australian society since Federation.

HASS – Year 7

Construct significant questions and propositions to guide investigations about people, events, developments, places, systems and challenges.

Activity: Key words

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

Convict

Colonial

Pioneer

Transported

Servant

Entrepreneur

Penal colony

Free settler

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: Who was Mary Reibey?

Students will develop a biography of Mary Reibey. Begin by discussing with students what a biography is. What information is included in a biography and what does it tell us about a person? The biography organiser template at the end of this activity will help students to structure their biography. Students can use the following questions to guide their research.

- When and where was Mary Reibey born?
- What challenges did she face and how did she overcome them?
- What was Mary's journey from convict to businesswoman?
- What contributions did she make to Australian society?
- What do you admire about her?
- What is Mary Reibey's legacy?



Further Investigation

- What do you think helped Mary Reibey to succeed as a businesswoman after being sent to Australia as a convict?
- How might Mary Reibey's life been different if she had stayed in England?

Interview

- Imagine you could sit down and talk to Mary Reibey. What questions would you ask about her life and achievements?
- In pairs, students can role play the interview – one taking on the role of interviewer, the other, as Mary Reibey.

Portrait

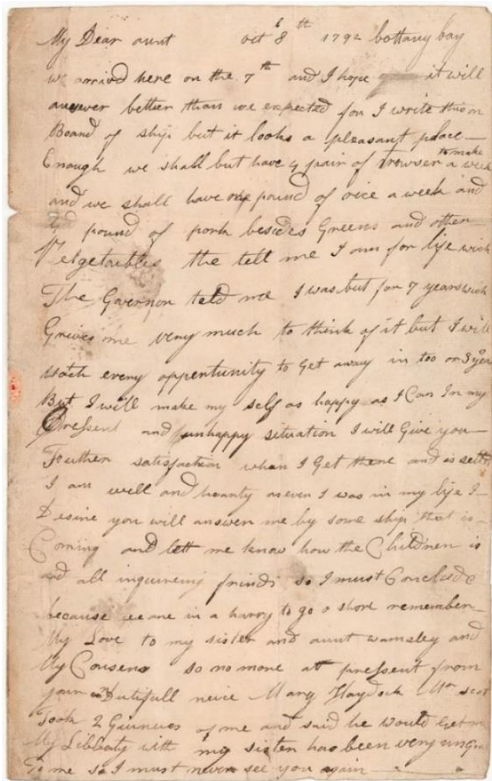
- Create a portrait of Mary Reibey.
- Explore and experiment with different techniques and mediums to produce a portrait.

Journal Entry

- Imagine you are Mary Reibey. Choose a moment in your life to reflect on and write a journal entry. Possible themes to focus on include:
 - Life before transportation to Australia.
 - Life as a convict
 - Adapting to your new life in Australia

Activity: Analysing a source

Below is a letter written by Mary Haydock (Mary Reibey) to her aunt Penelope Hope. Students read the letter and respond to the questions below. Note: Mary's spelling and grammatical errors have not been corrected.



To Mrs Hope
Church street blackburn
Lancashire
Octb 8th 1792 bottany bay

My Dear aunt

We arrived here on the 7th and I hope it will answer better than we expected for I write this on Board of ship but it looks a pleasant place - Enough we shall but have 4 pair of trowser [trousers] to make [last?] a week and we shall have one pound of rice a week and 4 pound of pork besides Greens and other Vegetaibles the [they] tell me I am for life[1] wich [which] The Governor told [told] me I was but for 7 years[2] wich Grives [grieves][3] me very much to think of it but I will watch every oppertunity to get away in too or 3 years But I will make my self as happy as I Can In my Pressent and unhappy situation I will Give you - Further satisfaction when I Get there and is settld I am well and hearty as ever I was in my life I - Desire you will answer me by some ship that is - Coming and lett me know how the Children is and all inquiring friends so I must Conclude because we are in a hurry to go a shore remember - My Love to my sister and aunt wamsley and My Cousens so no more at pressent from your undutifull neice Mary Haydock Mr Scot Took 2 Ginnues [guineas][4] of [off] me and said he would get me My Libberty with my sister has been very ungrat [?] To me so I must never see you again

- When and where was Mary's letter written?
- What information was included in the letter?
- Why did Mary write the letter? Who was the letter for?
- How do you think Mary was feeling as she wrote the letter? Give reasons for your answer.
- What does the letter tell us about Mary's life?
- Is this letter a primary or secondary source? Explain your answer.

Activity: Mary Reibey - Noteworthy person

The \$20 banknote celebrates the contribution made by Mary Reibey. Students can examine the banknote in detail on the [RBA website](#) The following questions can guide students' investigation:

- What do you see? Write down as much detail as you can about what you see.
- Can you find any icons, images, writing or clues about Mary Reibey on the banknote? Record your discoveries.
- What is the significance of the ship on the banknote?
- Why do you think Mary Reibey is on the \$20 banknote?
- What questions do you have about what you see on the banknote?



Students will [explore the next generation of banknotes](#) to discover the components of Australia's banknotes including their representation of Australia's history and culture, and their unique design and security features. Focus on the \$20 banknote and find out as much as you can about Mary Reibey.

[Listen to the microprint excerpt](#) from Mary Reibey that lists the ships in Reibey's fleet. These ships travelled the globe transporting goods for the people of Australia.

Useful Websites

- [Mary Reibey](#) – Reserve Bank Australia
- [Mary Reibey](#) – Australian Dictionary of Biography

BIOGRAPHY

Name

Born

Family

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