# KID CURATOR & THE BALLOT BOX

This video is part of a series, created as a collaboration between Michael Mills and the History Trust of South Australia. The Kid Curator series explores local South Australian history through historical objects. The videos provide a curatorial description of the object and period in history blended with narrative-based reenactments. Each video focuses on an object from the History Trust of South Australia's State History Collection and provides differing point of view on the history of the object in question. View the video and use the dedicated education resource for a cross curricular exploration of the history of South Australia.

BALLOT BOX

# **The Ballot Box**

This video showcases Ballot Box 31, a container which was used to collect remote votes from rural areas of South Australia. Boxes in this style were designed to be carried by camel to remote polling places around the state. This particular box was used in Pimba, a small settlement located on the transcontinental railway line approximately 500 kilometers from Adelaide. It is often on display in the Adelaide CBD in the Centre of Democracy. The video considers the perspectives of a person from the Adnyamathanha nation who is unable to vote, and a woman living rurally, excited to vote for the first time.

# **Curriculum Map**

#### Year 4

the differences between "rules" and "laws", why laws are important and how they affect the lives of people (AC9HS4K07) diversity of cultural, religious and/or social groups to which they and others in the community belong, and their importance to identity (AC9HS4K09)

#### Year 5

the key values and features of Australia's democracy, including elections, and the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives (AC9HS5K06) how citizens (members of communities) with shared beliefs and values work together to achieve a civic goal (AC9HS5K07)

#### Year 6

changes in Australia's political system and to Australian citizenship after Federation and throughout the 20th century that impacted First Nations Australians, migrants, women and children (AC9HS6K02)

the key institutions of Australia's system of government, how it is based on the Westminster system, and the key values and beliefs of Western democracies (AC9HS6K06)

# **Focus Questions**

## **Before watching:**

- 1. What is a human right? Can you name some rights?
- 2. Is a law the same as a right? Why/why not?
- 3. In Australia we have a democracy which means that all citizens get to have a say in who is in our government. Describe what you know about voting and democracy.

## After watching:

- 1. How do we ensure that laws are upheld?
- 2. Did you know about the struggles that First Nations peoples had in getting the vote? How do you think they and the rest of society felt about this?
- 3. What are some key shared values of Australians? Are they visible in our democratic system? Why/why not?

# **Class Activities**

### **Famous For?**

There were many people in the suffrage movements who helped shape the political world we have today. Research one person and create a historical profile in a creative format, ready to present to your class. Your profile format could look like a social media profile, newspaper clipping or take another, creative, form.

People you could profile:

- Rose Birks
- Mary Colton
- Augusta Zadow
- Catherine Helen Spence
- Jessie Cooper
- Dorothy Tangney
- Enid Lyons
- Joyce Steele
- Maud Tongerie
- Gladys Elphick
- Charles Cameron Kingston
- Lucy Morice

This profile could include:

- significant dates
- biography
- career information
- quotes
- timelines
- maps
- newspaper clippings
- family tree
- images



## Tip:

Try researching using the Australian Dictionary of Biography, The Australian Women's register and Trove.

# Where to Next?

Learn more about the process of making a law using Australian resources like this:

https://www.parliament.act.gov.au/visit-and-learn/resources/lesson-plans/year-8-law-making

Learn more about the rights of children in Australia using resources like this:

https://humanrights.gov.au/education/students

