



HOLDEN & ME

Tales from a Working Life

Lesson 3: Exploring Objects
Middle School



In this lesson, we will...

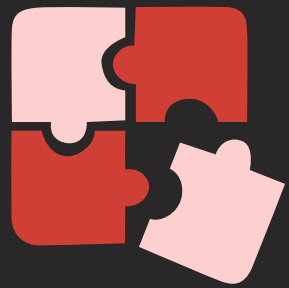
Discuss what special objects are, and what makes an object 'special'.

Think about important objects in our lives.

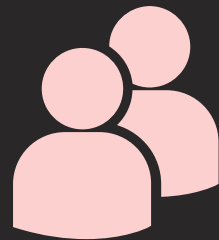
Examine some special objects that belong to other people, and think about why they are special to them.



At the end of this lesson, I will be able to...



Identify the different parts and materials of an object.



Understand why an object can be important to different people for different reasons.



Reflect on my relationship to special objects.



Important Words

Employment

Perspective

Heirloom

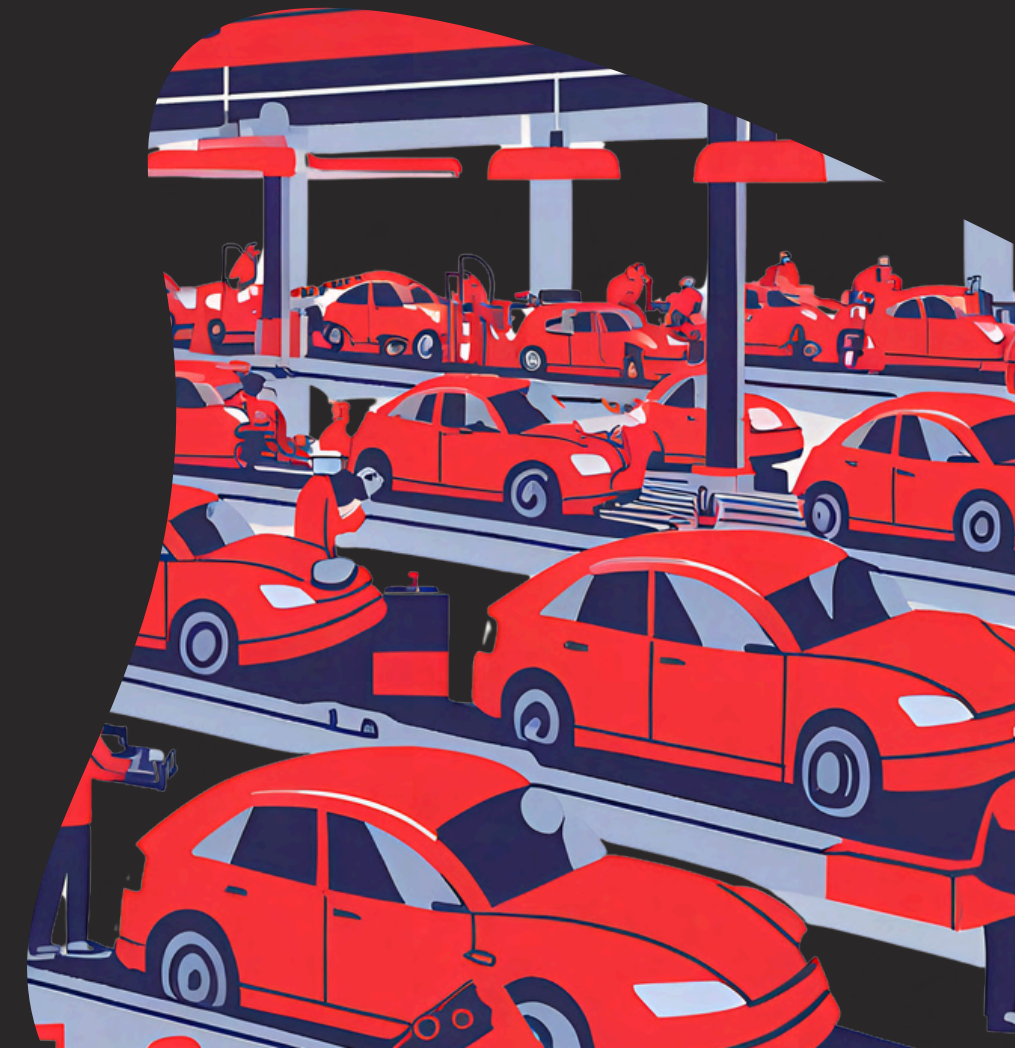
Retirement

Material

Significant

Object

Special

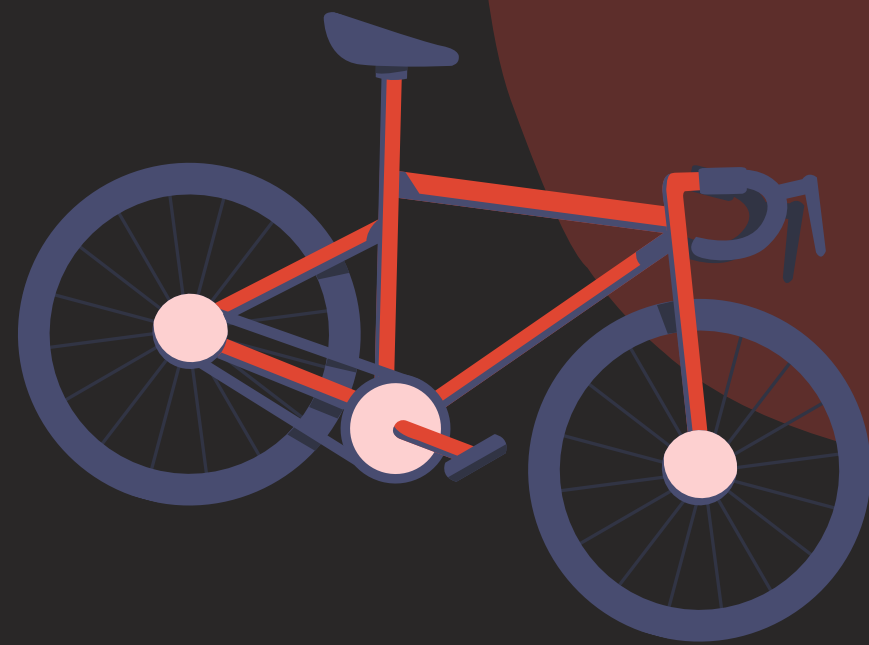




Special Objects

Can you think of an object that is special to you or your family?

What makes it special?



Special Objects

An object can be special to us for different reasons. Sometimes special objects can be very old, rare or worth lots money, but not always.

An object could be special because it...

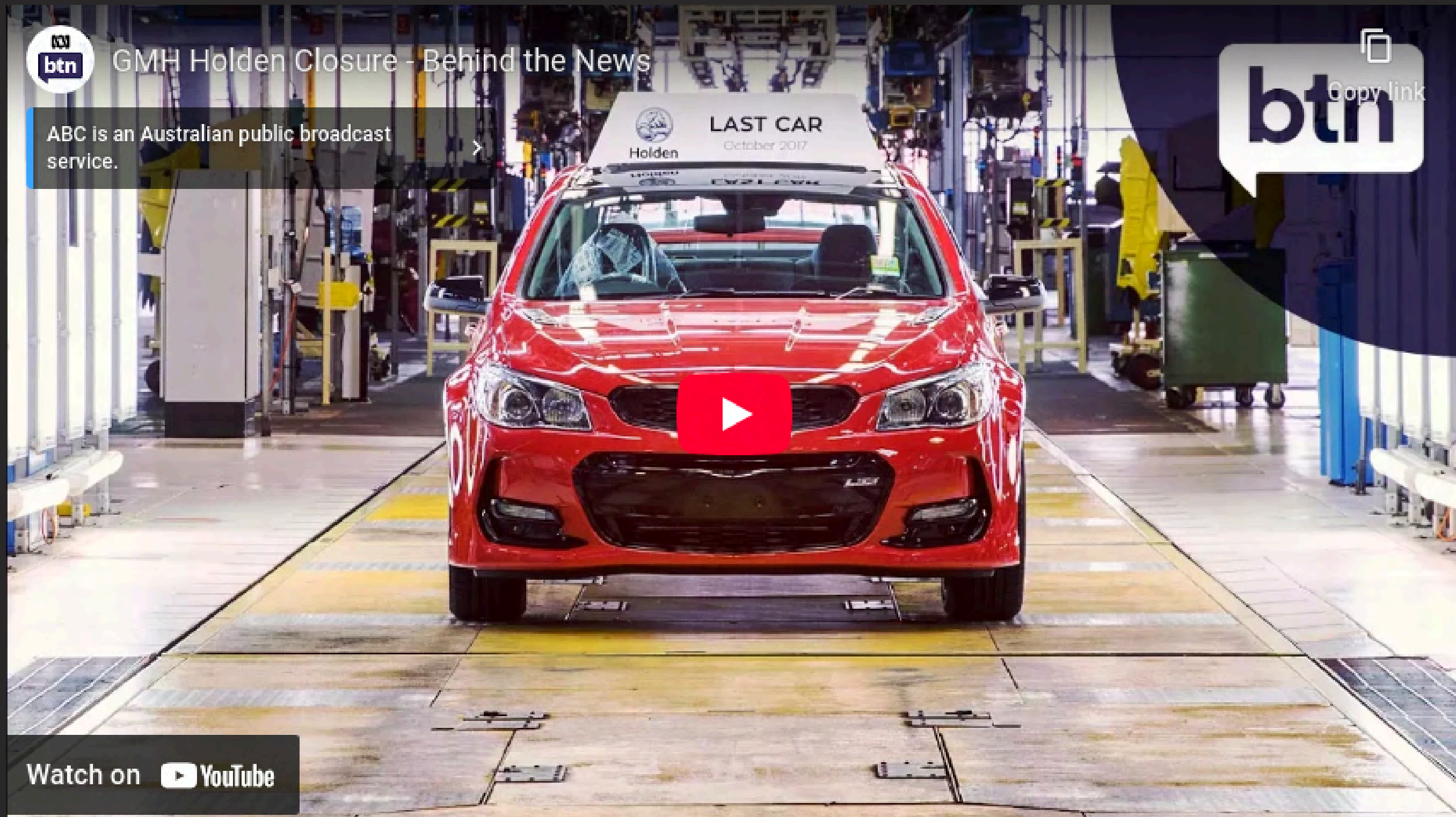
- belonged to someone important to us.**
- was given to us by someone special.**
- reminds us of an important memory.**





Brainstorm:
What do you know about...

HOLDEN

Holden's History



Parts, Perspectives, and Me

Parts	Perspectives	Me
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the different physical parts of this object?• Can you list what the parts are made from?• Can you see how the parts are connected or work together? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who was the original maker?• Who was the original owner?• Why is this a special object to the owner now?• Who might this object be important to in the future? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you think about this object? What do you think is special about it?• How are your ideas about the object different or similar to the original owner?• Do you have any objects that are special to you that others might not know are special right away? 

Holden Oral Histories

Joan & David Matthews



Joan's started working at Woodville Holden when she was 15-years old in the typing pool. She met David while he was working in electrical maintenance. They have been married for more than 60 years.

Lynette Tainsh



Lynette has fond memories of attending Holden Christmas parties long before she became an electrical fitter like her father. She was only the second female apprentice at Elizabeth and later became a supervisor

George Vassallo



George migrated with his parents from Egypt after World War II. He did an apprenticeship at Woodville, and later relocated to Elizabeth. His father also worked at Holden. George worked hard to create a specialist tool and was recognised for his work.

Keith Hamilton



Keith started at Elizabeth as a 19-year-old. He held a variety of roles from forklift driver to warehouse team leader. Some of his happiest memories are of lunchtime games of indoor bowls, darts and table tennis, and soccer and cricket games against other factories.

Joan & David Matthews Tools



The tools and the sewing kit belonged to David's father Alf, whose initials are etched into the handle of a small hammer.

Alf began work at Holden & Frost as a leather worker when he was 12. When he died, his tools passed to his son.

Joan & David Matthews Sewing Kit



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Alf began work at Holden & Frost as a leather worker when he was 12. When he died, his tools passed to his son.

Lynette Tainsh Award



The piston award was presented to workers in 2013 who were at the Elizabeth factory when the closure was announced.

The award is proudly on display in Lynette's home, and is engraved with her employment number and her years of service.

'It's recognition of a very big part of my life,' she says. 'It's the majority of my working life... and it's a reminder of what we've lost.'

Lynette Tainsh

Model Monaro



The limited employees' edition scale model Monaro was presented to all workers when Holden relaunched the iconic car in 2001. The models came with a numbered certificate.

Some workers sold them immediately, or gave them to children. But some people, like Lynette, kept them as family heirlooms.

George Vassallo Trophy



In 2008, George wanted to retire, but the factory needed him for one last job – correcting a tool needed to make cars for an order to the US.

After many long nights, George came up with a solution, and the cars were shipped to America ahead of schedule.

On his last day, his co-workers presented him with the part he had engineered mounted on a wooden block, with a plate reading ‘the Vassallo lip’.

Keith Hamilton

Indoor Bowls Shield



The Plant 7 Sports & Social Club was founded by Keith's father, Des. He wanted all employees – from managers to warehouse workers 'to get to know each other and work together as a team'.

Keith later became social club chairman, and has a lot of trophies from those days.

The indoor bowls shield is special to him because he and his father both won it, in 1979 and 1984 respectively.

Keith Hamilton

Medallion

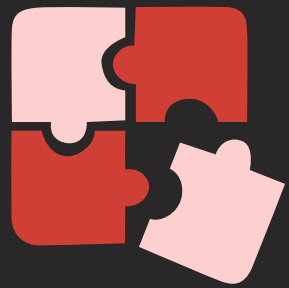


Some of the social soccer and cricket games Keith played were against teams from interstate Holden Factories.

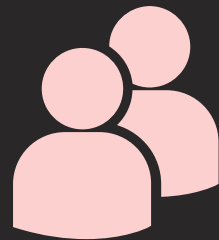
The medallion is a souvenir of a controversial indoor cricket tournament played against workers from Dandenong, Victoria in 1987.

The result of this game is still disputed!

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