

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE

Lesson Plan

The Point of Poison

Lesson Plan for *Australia*

Grade 1

Objective

To help students use photos to answer questions and make basic inferences.

Things Needed

- *Australia* book
- QR code scanner or access to the “Australia” web page on the Pop! website:
<http://popbooksonline.com/continents/australia/>

Before the Activity

Read *Australia* out loud to students.

Activity

Australia is home to many unique plants and animals. Read the text on page 12 again. Then have students look at the pictures on page 13. The photo on the bottom left shows the yellow flowers of the acacia plant. The photo in the bottom middle shows a eucalyptus tree. These plants are not poisonous—in fact, the photo at the top of page 13 shows a koala eating eucalyptus leaves. Ask students, “What advantage would being poisonous give a plant?” (Answer: It would help the plant not be eaten.)

To learn about a poisonous animal that lives in Australia, scan the QR code on page 13 or click on the “Learn More” tab of the “Australia” web page on the Pop! website. Read the text on this page out loud to students. Then ask the following questions:

- What animal is shown in this picture? (Answer: a platypus)
- What part of the platypus is poisonous? (Answer: spurs on its back feet)
- What advantage would this give the platypus? (Answer: It could defend itself if another animal attacked it.)



Then, turn to page 17 and show students the picture of the taipan. The taipan is a venomous snake. Fangs in its mouth produce poison. Ask students, "How would the taipan's poison help it survive?" (Answer: The poison in its bite would help it kill prey.)

Evaluation

Could students identify how poison could help each plant or animal survive?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.7).

