

# Australian flag

**OBJECTIVES:** To understand the composition of the Australian flag and why we wave it, salute it and fly it on Australia Day and at other times.

5 minutes

## Opening: Hop, flag break and welcome

10 minutes

## Game: Build stars for a cross

Before the meeting, prepare four cardboard squares with a seven pointed star pattern on each one, and four stars the same shape as the pattern. Cut each star into fourteen pieces.

Divide the Joeys into four teams, place the four cardboard squares at one end of the hall and give each team one set of pieces to make up a star. Each Joey runs in turn to the cardboard square and places his/her piece where it fits on the pattern. When they have made their star they can help with the next activity.

5 minutes

## Activity: Put together your own Australian flag

Have a large sheet of blue paper to put on the floor when the stars have been completed. Using the star patterns from the relay, plus the federal star (larger than the rest), epsilon star (five pointed) and Union Jack which you have made beforehand, make your flag.

20 minutes

## Activity: Colour a flag

Give each Joey a copy of the flag provided on a separate sheet and provide coloured pencils. Each Joey colours in their sheet using the large flag as a guide.

10 minutes

## Let's talk about: What does our flag represent?

Discuss why we salute the flag after breaking it at the start of the meeting, and at the end before lowering it? Discuss why it looks as it does? Sometimes a story about the flag will help. You can find one at your local library.

5 minutes

## Talk about: Where do we see the Southern Cross?

It can only be seen in the southern hemisphere particularly from Australia and New Zealand.

5 minutes

## Closing: Hop, and lower the flag

### Prayer

We give thanks, Dear Lord, for the stars in the sky and for them being on our Australian flag.

Amen.

Farewell and any notices.

## RESOURCES

For the game you will need four cardboard squares with a seven pointed star pattern and four stars to fit the patterns, each cut into fourteen pieces.  
For the activities you will also need a large sheet of blue paper, a federal star an epsilon star, a Union Jack, copies of the flag provided and coloured pencils.

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