

Australia in film

Walkabout, which you know as a text, has also been filmed. But there are also many other films which are set in Australia.

Imagine that your school decides to have an 'Australia Week'. The Biology classes are planning to do various projects on the animal world, and the English classes have been asked to organize a 'mini film festival' with four films. But which ones are you going to show?



Made in Australia and a hit around the world: *Strictly Ballroom* (1992)

1 What films do you already know?

Say which films about Australia you might already know. What were they about? Say what you liked / didn't like.

2 Expectations

- a) With a partner, take a few minutes to write down things that most people might expect to find in a film about Australia. Here are some general categories to think about – but you can add your own!

natural environment • action/adventure • Aboriginal culture • everyday Australians •
historical/important people • food • sports • comedy • a very unusual aspect of Australia • ...

- b) Compare your results with the other pairs' results. What elements are mentioned the most often?

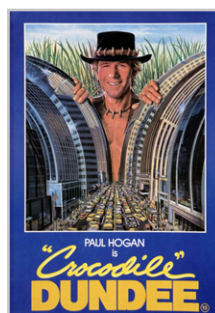
3 Choose and watch a film

Divide into groups of four and then do the following:

- Each group chooses a different film. It can be one of the films mentioned on this page – or something completely different. But the main storyline must involve Australia/Australians.
- Before you watch the film as a group, prepare an outline of the storyline (plot, setting, main characters). Make sure you all know what the film is about.
- Get a copy of the film in English and watch it together as a group.
- Directly afterwards, add more information to your outline.
- Prepare a short classroom presentation (incl. film stills, maybe even trailers / other film clips) in which you explain the storyline to the class. Give your recommendation: 'thumbs-up' or 'thumbs-down'. Explain why it is/isn't the kind of film which should be shown during your school's Australia Week.



Picnic at Hanging Rock
(1975)



Crocodile Dundee
(1986)



Australia
(2008)