

**Grade 5 HASS**  
**Australian History**

# **Australian Explorers**

# **Charles Sturt**

**4 fun activities!**

Mini-Unit Title Page

Biography Research

Comprehension Activity

Expedition Time Line

Australian Icon Cloze

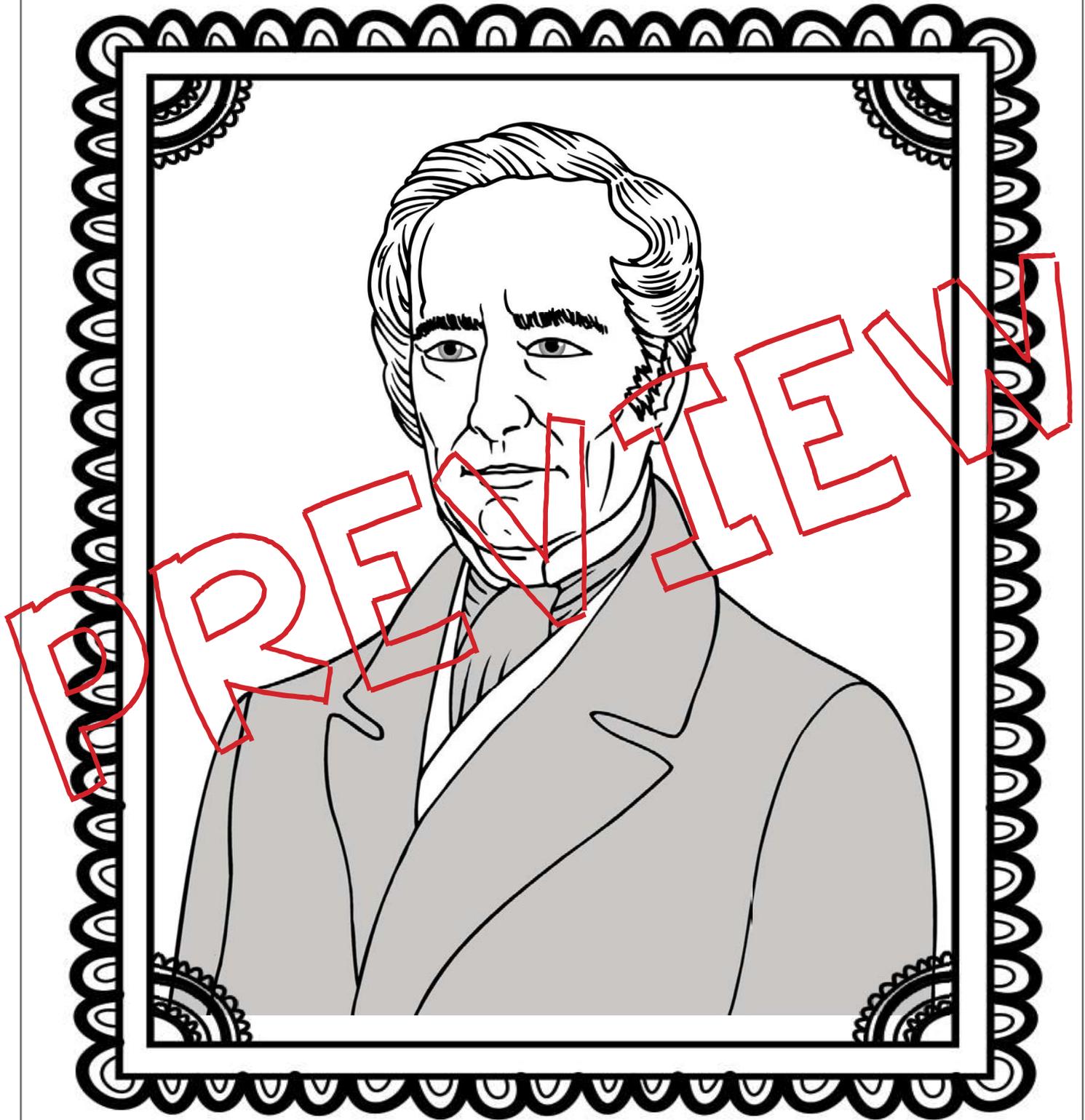
Activity



**Aussie Star**

RESOURCES

# Exploring the Australian Explorers



Charles Sturt

# Captain Charles Sturt

When was Charles Sturt born ?

Where was Charles Sturt born?

What was Charles Sturt's job before he came to Australia?

When did Charles Sturt arrive in Australia?

What year was Charles Sturt's first expedition?

What major Australian waterway did he explore?

Who did Charles Sturt hire as his Assistant?

When and where did Charles Sturt die?

# Charles Sturt Biography

Charles Sturt was born 28th of April 1795 in India. He was one of eight sons and one of thirteen children. His father's name was Thomas Napier Sturt and he was a Judge in Bengal India. Charles was sent to England to live with relatives when he was five and after his schooling served in the British Army.

In 1826 Sturt was one of a group of soldiers from his regiment, called a detachment, who were sent to Australia aboard the ship "The Mariner" and were responsible for a group of convicts who were bound for New South Wales. The ship arrived in Sydney on 23rd of May 1827 and not long after Sturt began working for the Governor, Sir Ralph Darling. While Sturt was an excellent soldier he heard stories of a series of rivers that were charted by John Oxley and Allan Cunningham that seemed to lead inland suggesting there was a large inland sea. These stories inspired Sturt who requested the permission of the Governor to lead an expedition to explore the interior of Australia.

On November 10 1828 Charles Sturt left Sydney with 3 soldiers and eight convicts. Once they reached Bathurst they were joined by experienced explorer Hamilton Hume who Sturt had hired as his assistant due to his previous experience of expeditions exploring the coast. This was to be the first of several expeditions to the interior of Australia which earned Sturt legendary status as one of Australia's finest explorers and the first to chart the Murray River.

After living in South Australia and being involved in the South Australian Government for a number of years Charles Sturt eventually returned to England with his family where he died June 16, 1869 aged 74.

Cut out the boxes below and sort them in to chronological order. Then glue them in the correct box on the timeline to show the journey Captain Charles Sturt and his men took down the Murray River.

Charles Sturt and his party reached the banks of the Murrumbidgee at Jugiong on the 23rd of November.

A week later on the 9th of February the group arrived at a large lake which Sturt called 'Lake Alexandrina'. While on the lake they discovered the mouth of the Murray on the Goorong but couldn't explore for long as supplies were getting low and the local Aborigines were very hostile towards Europeans.

On the 2nd February Sturt and his party reached what is now called Morgan on the 'Great North West Road'.

After being instructed by Governor Darling to "follow the course of the Murrumbidgee River, wherever it lead." Charles Sturt left Sydney on the 3rd of November 1829, with his assistant George McLeay, a group of soldiers, convicts, bullock wagons, and the parts of a whale boat.

On the 14th of January the party found the point where the Murrumbidgee entered the Murray which Sturt described as a 'broad and noble stream'.

On Christmas Day Sturt and McLeay travelled north to explore marshlands which they decided were part of the Lachlan river.

On the 27th of December they arrived at a point between Hay and Balranald near the town of Maude. At this point they stopped to assemble the whale boat and a small supply boat to continue their journey on the river, leaving behind a group of men as a depot for supplies and materials.

On the 12th of February the party camped on Sir Richard's Peninsula on the Goorong and in the morning walked 6 miles to see the mouth of the Murray. They then returned to their camp and started their journey home.

On the 7th of January 1830 Sturt, McLeay, 3 soldiers, and 3 convicts boarded the whale boat and set off down the Murray.

On the 11th of April the party arrived at Hamilton's Plains near Narrandera where they met up with the rest of their original party and travelled home.

On the 23rd of January they arrived near what is now called Wentworth and discovered the point where the Darling enters the Murray. It was here that Charles Sturt raised the flag and named this new large river The Murray to honour Sir George Murray who was the Secretary of State for the Colonies at that time.

**PARALLEL**

# Copyright and Terms of Use

At Aussie Star Resources we work hard to create resources that meet your needs and make life easier. Did you know that purchasing this resource is no different to buying a book from one of the big publishers? We know you wouldn't photocopy an entire book and distribute it amongst your colleagues, because that would breach copyright, but did you know that you shouldn't do that with this resource either?

If your colleagues would like a copy of the resource additional licences can be purchased at a discounted rate. Email [info@aussiestarresources.com.au](mailto:info@aussiestarresources.com.au) and we will hook you up! Thank you!

Aussie Star Resources. All rights reserved by author.

This product is to be used by the original downloader only.

Copying for more than one teacher, classroom, department, school, or school system is prohibited.

This product may not be distributed or displayed digitally for public view.

Failure to comply is a copyright infringement and a violation of the Copyright Act 1968.

Clip Art and elements found in this PDF are copyright protected and cannot be extracted and used outside of this file without permission or licence.

Intended for classroom and personal use ONLY.

Additional licences can be purchased at a discounted price by emailing [info@aussiestarresources.com.au](mailto:info@aussiestarresources.com.au).

The clip art and images in this resource are the property of Aussie Star Resources or the talented artists who created them. These are not to be copied, reproduced, or distributed in any likeness without prior permission.

# Credits

Click on the thumbnail to visit the artist's store.

