


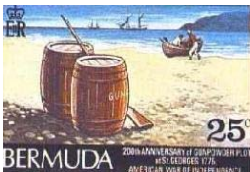
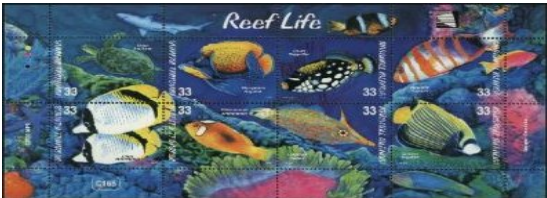

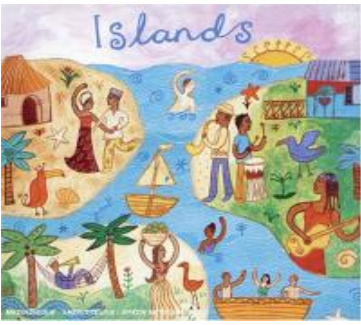
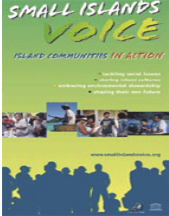





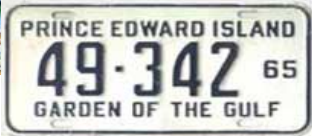







Island communications

What is the importance of an island's language to its identity and how do island communities maintain their language in the face of the need to communicate with the outside world?

Transport and communications remain important lifelines linking islands with the outside world. While dramatic technological breakthroughs over the last decade, such as the development of the Internet and satellite communications, have mitigated the traditional isolation of small islands, transport and communication nevertheless remain important challenges in the promotion and implementation of sustainable development nationally and in their regions.

| STRATEGY | Suggested ideas: |
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| <p>ANALYSIS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construct a graph to show the main means of communication on your island. ▪ What are the specific news communications needs of communities living on islands? Outline your island's current means of news communication. Is this sufficient or insufficient? Back up your response with examples. ▪ What are the most common family names of people on your island? Can you trace your ancestors to other islands around the world? ▪ Write a commercial that promotes your island. Record it on video and show it to audiences. ▪ Investigate the postage stamps of your island. Start a collection of stamps and summarise what the stamps indicate about your island. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate the stamps of other island nations and describe what they tell about the island. ▪ For example why is Albert Einstein on a stamp from the Cook Islands? The Comoros stamps feature minerals. Why? Some of Bermuda's stamps feature beach scenes, whereas the Marshall Islands stamps feature colourful fish, people and flowers. <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div> |
| <p>SYNTHESIS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What songs best describe your island? Collect some of the lyrics and tunes and record your favourite song. ▪ Find songs about islands or island life. Read the lyrics and see if there are common elements about each, e.g. <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center; margin-right: 20px;">  </div> <div> <p>Christmas Island - Leon Redbone My Island Home – Neil Murray Island of Love (about Hawaii) - Elvis Presley I am a rock, I am an island – Simon & Garfunkel Let's Go to Tahiti - J. J.Cale Montego Bay - Bobby Bloom Seven Island Suite - Gordon Lightfoot The Town Where You Live - Mel Street Thunder Island - Jay Ferguson Blue Hawaii – Andy Williams Bali Hai – <i>South Pacific</i> (Roger & Hammerstein)</p> </div> </div> |
| <p>PARADOX</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does the statement that 'no man is an island' apply to your island? Discuss this statement. ▪ Explain the phrase 'Intelligent Island'. Which islands of the world have taken the theme intelligent island to shape their future directions? What actions have they taken to be more intelligent? |

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| <p>ATTRIBUTE LISTING</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start collecting and exchanging words for 'hello' from different island languages. Draw an island language map. 'Small Islands Voice' is an inter-regional initiative focusing on small islands - both small island developing states, and islands with other affiliations - in the <u>Caribbean</u>, <u>Indian Ocean</u> and <u>Pacific</u> regions. Make connection with the group if you are on a small island and share your ideas and initiatives and ways you might help each other. http://www.unesco.org/csi/smis/siv/sivindex.htm Photograph car number plates used on your island and share the design with students on islands around the world.         <p>Design a car number plate, complete with slogan and / or an image that best fits your image of your island. Collect images of number plates from islands around the world to learn more about each island's image.</p> |
| <p>ANALOGY</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find the emblem, flag and native flora and fauna emblems of your state or nation island (where applicable) and share them via the website. Explain to students on other islands around the world what the emblems mean.    <p>Design your own emblems which represent what you think is important about your island.</p> |
| <p>DISCREPANCY</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think there is a discrepancy between what your island projects as a tourist destination and what actually exists? Discuss your views in a blog, or online forum. Draw up a list of key messages and images that your island wants to portray and write 'yes' or 'no' or 'partly' against how well you think each message conveys reality on your island. |
| <p>PROVOCATIVE QUESTION</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should indigenous languages be preserved? Discuss this question. Is preservation of languages a human rights issue? Debate this question. Research the issue at: http://www.otherlanguages.org/hungarian0.html Do local symbols reflect and enhance your sense of place on your island? What island symbols are important to you? These are some symbols of the Bahamas. Draw the symbols that best represent your island. Invent new symbols that you think best represent your island.  |
| <p>EXAMPLES OF CHANGE</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a set of questions and interview older island residents about their lives on the island when they were your age. Compare their thoughts and reflections with those obtained by students from other islands. Are they similar? Some island languages may have been lost and no longer used. Can you find examples of these languages? There are many communities and organisations around the world trying to save and revitalise native languages – describe any native languages that are still being used on your island; share some common words and their meanings. |
| <p>TOLERANCE FOR AMBIGUITY</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What if everyone on every island spoke the same language? Outline possible outcomes and issues. What are the commonest spoken languages on islands? Graph your findings. |

EXAMPLES OF HABIT



▪ The island nations of the Caribbean have relied on various means of communication over the years. Can you track the different types of communication through time? How might these communication developments be similar to that developed on your island? How might it reflect current communication developments? Survey how many of your fellow students use the following means of communication to people not on your island and the frequency of use:

- telephone
- mobile phone
- email
- radio transmitter
- postal mail.

- Most island languages are hybrids of several languages, e.g. English is the common language on Norfolk Island, but between themselves the Islanders use their own language - a mixture of Dutch, 18th Century English and Tahitian, brought to the island by the Pitcairners. This local language is not usually written and there are not formal rules regarding spelling. (<http://www.pitcairners.org/language.html>)
- Can you trace the influences on your island language? Show them in a MindMap and / or world map.
- There is no television on Pitcairn Island and limited telephone service. Mail to and from Pitcairn Island is very slow. Ham radio appears to be the most reliable form of communication to Pitcairn Island. List the ways in which communication on your island is similar or different.

▪ As with species, languages can become extinct. Language is one aspect of cultural diversity. Each language reflects a unique world-view and culture, mirroring the manner in which a community has resolved its problems in dealing with the world, and has formulated its thinking, its system of philosophy and understanding of the world around it. With each vanishing language, an irreplaceable element of human thought in its variations is lost forever.



There are about 6,000 languages spoken in the world today, most of them in several dialects. About a third of these are located in the Greater Pacific Area, comprising approximately 1,200 Austronesian languages (principally the Malayo-Polynesian group) and about 800 Papuan languages.

UNESCO's work on endangered languages includes support to initiatives to describe and record these languages, as well as to preserve and maintain them.

Does preserving endangered languages sound like interesting and important work to you? Research this area and write and enact a play that highlights the issues. Perform the play to a large audience and video it for sharing with students on other islands.

Use UNESCO's endangered languages map to locate the languages: <http://www.tooyoo.l.u-tokyo.ac.jp/Redbook/>



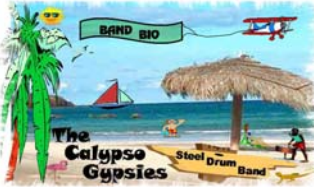


- 1995 – 2004 was the 'International decade of the world's indigenous people. One of the key issues that was addressed was for indigenous people to receive education in their indigenous language. Interview indigenous island people about their own language. Learn to speak some words and understand their meaning.



ADJUSTMENT TO DEVELOPMENT



▪ Known as *Rapa Nui* to the island's inhabitants, Rongorongo is a writing system comprised of pictographs. It has been found carved into many oblong wooden tablets and other artefacts from Easter Island. Explore the pictorial languages on different islands. Are there any similarities. Invent a pictorial language using your island's environment as inspiration.

- Read 'How the alphabet was made' from Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling. How might this story relate to your island?

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| <p>SKILLS OF SEARCH</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify names of places and features that originate from an island language and find out where the name comes from and how it relates to the history of the island.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The photograph shows 'Snake Island' in the Philippines. Can you find the names of more islands that are named after their shape? If you re-named your island after its shape what would you call it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some place names on your island that won't be found anywhere else? What do the names mean? List the names and their meanings on the website. Search for the CD covers of island music around the world. Print them off and form a collage. With each cover write the words that describe the images you have of the island and the music; For example,  <p>blue skies tradition old lands sentimental relaxing warm water community</p>  <p>tropical fun lively spirited innovative beaches</p> <p>Does the music reflect the island's culture and physical environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research some traditional means of communication on islands and why they developed: e.g. hand signals, <u>Canary Islands whistle communication</u> – the Silbo Gomero language, drum beats and pidgin. |
| <p>INTUITIVE EXPRESSION</p> |  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imagine that people on your island had a completely unique way of communicating with others (both human and non human); invent a communications system for your island which might include a new language as well as new technologies. |
| <p>STUDY CREATIVE PROCESS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List words that are new to your island's language; that is, they are being used by islanders over the past few years. List these words and try to find their origin and meaning. Share this information with students on other islands and compare notes. Include some 'slang' http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/anonymous@FFA28378085/-/p/dict/weekly.html |
| <p>EVALUATIVE SITUATIONS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review your island's brand. Write to the island's government if you want to advise of any possible changes or improvements. For example, Tasmania's brand is outlined at: http://www.brandtasmania.com/ There are statements such as: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Tasmania is an island of difference. Its people are resourceful, applying their creativity and design skills to artistic endeavours, scientific research and production.</i> <i>It is the innovation and resourcefulness of Tasmanians that make Tasmania a place beyond imagination.</i> <p>Discuss these statements and provide feedback at the website.</p> From discussions in online forums with students on other islands, determine which communication strategies will be best for your island in the future. Rate these strategies in a Top 10 Chart. |
| <p>CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Second World War minority languages such as island languages could have been used to encrypt military messages. Use an island language to send a simple secret message to a friend. Write a short story in the original language of your island. Seek assistance from experts to help you do this. Many islands have rainforests. Read about scientists' visits to the rain forests of the San Blas archipelago and the Kuna people at: http://rainforest.montclair.edu/pweb/rainforest.jsp Read also the student responses and write about your island in the style of a scientist visiting your island for the first time. Include your writing and hyperlinks to a photograph gallery. http://rainforest.montclair.edu/pweb/rainforest/Rainforest/RF C2002/Journals/RFC02_05_K.html  |

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| <p>CREATIVE READING SKILLS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Read <i>Message in a Bottle</i> by Nicholas Sparks, or view the DVD of the 1999 movie. ▪ Read about some of the early communications on Rangitoto Island, at: www.rangitoto.org/heritage/communications.htm. Create a blog to describe the early communication systems on your island. ▪ Sending a message in a bottle is often associated with people stranded on a <u>desert island</u>, attempting to be rescued. Send a message in a bottle in the ocean or sea and include your contact details. Read some details about some famous messages in bottles. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Message_in_a_bottle ▪ Undertake the 'Mystery Island Webquest' where you and other students will investigate characteristics of selected islands to narrow down the precise location of a sunken ship. You will use clues from a message in a bottle to help them make their decision. http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webquests/shipwreck/t-index.htm ▪ Undertake the 'Letter in a Bottle Webquest' where you need to find the letter writer on one of the following islands – Rottenest, Kangaroo, <u>Groote Eyland</u>, <u>Christmas Island</u> or <u>Norfolk Island</u>. http://www.schools.nt.edu.au/braitps/letter/process.htm  |
| <p>VISUALISATION</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create your own blog, to communicate your island life. ▪ Design a stamp or postcard for your island, post it or email it to a partner school, discuss the benefits and problems of the two communication forms. ▪ Illustrate the oral histories into comics or films. ▪ Create your own series of ePostcards that best represent your image of your island. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ http://www.discovertasmania.com.au/home/index.cfm?siteid=676&display=webclub&webclub=selectpostcard ○ http://www.caribbeancards.com/template/index.htm  |
| <p>CREATIVE LISTENING SKILLS</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interview someone who no longer lives on your island and record their memories of how it was and why they left. ▪ Learn to sing an island song. Record it. ▪ Exchange MP3 files of songs sung in island languages. ▪ Where applicable, listen to any original language of the indigenous people of the island. Learn some of the meanings of the words. For example, listen to the original language recordings located at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery of Fanny Cochrane Smith. ▪ Listen to island songs. In Tasmania listen to Debra Manskey's songs. Make contact with a local singer and see if they will work with your class on lyrics and music for a song about your island. Read the Kids Ezine work on poems and lyrics from King Island at: http://resources.education.tas.gov.au/item/edres/2269adeb-a8ec-9081-e3c2-eff2a3cbd84d/1/ViewIMS.jsp ▪ In 1995, Neil Murray was awarded the APRA song of the year for 'My Island Home' a song of heart-felt belonging, originally written for the Warumpi Band in 1985 and re-recorded by Christine Anu in the early nineties. Listen to the lyrics http://www.reinventingmyself.com/aussiesongs.html and say why this song appeals to many island people. |
| <p>STUDY OF PEOPLE</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study the main authors and poets on your island; those who write about the island. Who are your favourite authors / poets? Share your favourite story / poem about your island. ▪ Who are the key communicators on your island? Describe their work and skills. ▪ Make a list of islands around the world that are named after someone. Research some key information about the person. Is there a pattern about the type of person or their roles that emerges from your research? Talk to students on these islands and see whether the person is still well known on the island. ▪ Describe some typical body language that exists on your island, including etiquette and manners. For example, how do you greet people? How do you show affection? What are important manners that people need to have? |