

Families of the World: Australia

A) Eight-year-old **Phoebe** lives in Attunga, a town northwest of Sydney, with her parents, 10-year-old brother Forbes and their dog Jake. Phoebe contributes to the family chores. At school it is Sports Day, a friendly athletic competition with other schools. She also has many things to do after school. B) **Joshua** is a seven-year-old who lives in Sydney with his mom, dad, five-year-old sister Phoebe and their pets. Dad works as a journalist, while Mom, a former journalist, is a stay-at-home mother and novelist. We learn how Joshua's family deals with the long Australian droughts by conserving water. We also visit with Joshua at school and with his grandparents.



Vocabulary

1. mum (n): mother
2. cereal (n)
3. honey (n)
4. gather (v)
5. drought (n)
6. camel (n)
7. recess (n)
8. cattle (n)
9. sheep (n)
10. wool (n)
11. washing machine (n)
12. rinse water (n)
13. flush (v)
14. tank (n)
15. shear (v): cut animal hair
16. sort (v)
17. bale (n)
18. field hockey (n)
19. scrambled eggs (n)
20. journalist (n)
21. spell (v)
22. penmanship (n)
23. supper (dinner) (n)
24. Dominoes (n)

Part 1: While Watching**A) Phoebe:**

1. Why do only some kinds of animals such as the kangaroo only live in Australia?
2. During what months is it cold in Australia?
3. What is her job (chore) in the morning?
4. How long has her family been farming the land?
5. T or F? A lot of the interior of Australia is desert.
6. For how many years have they had a drought?
7. Why are there so many wild camels in Australia?
8. T or F? The Anglican Church is the oldest European religion in Australia.
9. What year did the Europeans arrive in Australia?
10. What is Phoebe's first class?
11. What is Phoebe learning to do during recess?
12. T or F? They can't cut the sheep's hair if it is wet.
13. Who lives in the house they are rebuilding?
14. What is one of the ways the family saves water? (There are several.)
15. Why does her father want her to learn to ride a motorcycle?
16. Why do they have to sort the wool?
17. What game does she play while her dad works?



B) Joshua:

1. T or F? Sydney is Australia's largest city.
2. What is his sister Phoebe's job (chore)?
3. What is his job in the morning?
4. What does he make for breakfast?
5. T or F? Australia has good public transportation.
6. What is his dad's job?
7. Where does his dad eat breakfast?
8. What is his mother writing at home?
9. What is he learning in English class?
10. T or F? People from all over the world live in Australia.
11. How many weeks of vacation do students have in Australia?
12. What does he learn after recess?
13. It gets cold in Sydney, but it does not freeze. What do his grandparents grow in their backyard?
14. What game do they play after supper?
15. What do they do just before bedtime?

Part 2: After Watching Questions →

