

THE BLEDISLOE CUP: CELEBRATING AUSSIE AND KIWI DIVERSITY



At a glance

- What is the Bledisloe Cup?
- Why does the Bledisloe Cup evoke both respect and rivalry between players and fans?
- What are national symbols of pride displayed during the Bledisloe Cup?
- What is the Haka and why does it deserve respect?
- What is the Anzac legend?
- How is Australia and New Zealand similar and different in terms of geography, history and culture?

OVERVIEW

The Bledisloe Cup has become a fiercely contended rugby trophy between Australia and New Zealand but it signifies much more than just talent and skill on the rugby field. In this learning experience students explore the history of the Bledisloe Cup including the respect and rivalry it evokes, as well as the similarities and differences between Australia and New Zealand including geography, history and culture. Students discuss the importance of valuing diversity in communities.

LEARNING AREA

- Health and Physical Education

FOCUS AREA

- Relationships and sexuality

Strand: Personal, social and community health; Movement and physical activity

Sub-strand: Communicating and interacting for health and wellbeing (ACPPSO37)

Sub-strand: Contributing to healthy and active communities (ACPPSO24; ACPPSO42; ACPPSO60)

GENERAL CAPABILITIES

- Intercultural understanding: Recognising culture and developing respect.
- Ethical understanding: Understanding ethical concepts and issues; Exploring values, rights and responsibilities.
- Literacy: Comprehending texts through listening, reading and viewing; Composing texts through speaking, writing and creating.
- ICT capability: Investigating with ICT.

STIMULUS

- PowerPoint Presentation – ready to use!
- History of the Bledisloe Cup YouTube (5:01)
- The magic of Bledisloe (Episodes 1, 2 and 3)

POSSIBLE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES / TASKS

- Discuss what people might already know about the Bledisloe Cup including why the Bledisloe Cup is so important to players and fans in Australia and New Zealand.
- Watch one or more of the 'Magic of Bledisloe' episodes and identify examples where both the Australian Wallabies and New Zealand All Blacks show respect for each other, as well as examples of their fierce rivalry.
- Reflect on personal experiences in sport when you have respected your opposition yet also been fiercely competitive with them i.e. rivals.
- Explore the concept of national pride and discuss the symbols of national pride when we watch the Australian Wallabies and New Zealand All Blacks play in the Bledisloe Cup.
- Discuss the importance of respecting the Haka war dance as a national symbol of New Zealand.
- Talk about the importance of our shared history with New Zealand in terms of the ANZAC legend.
- Research other similarities and differences between Australia and New Zealand in terms of geography, history and culture.
- Talk about the importance of celebrating the differences between Australia and New Zealand and how valuing difference can influence the wellbeing of the community – i.e. school, local, country.

REFLECTION

Students reflect on the similarities and differences between Australia and New Zealand and discuss how sport, like Rugby's Bledisloe Cup, can be a great platform to celebrate diversity.

EXTENSION IDEAS

- Research well-known Anzac Day sporting matches (e.g. Rugby, Rugby League, Cricket, Netball, AFL) played between Australia and New Zealand including celebrations of diversity and shared history.
- Develop a timeline summarising key events in the history of the Bledisloe Cup.
- Find a copy of the CD or video Anthems – A Celebration of Australia by John Williamson. Listen to 'Waltzing Matilda 2000' with 100 000 people singing at the 1999 Bledisloe Cup Rugby game at Stadium Australia.

WORKSHEETS

- LP - Colour in Aussie and Kiwi flags
- MP - Aussie and Kiwi word search
- UP - Super Rugby Geography Quiz

ASSESSMENT IDEAS

- LP - Talk about 'Aussies and Kiwis'
- MP - Story about respect and rivalry
- UP - One minute speech 'The Bledisloe Cup is not just about Rugby.'