



## Terrific Trivia Tidbits

Use the fun facts below to start thinking about the fun theme (a visit to Australia) and about God's design of the human body. The trivia tidbits can be used for training meetings, during arrival and dismissal times at VBS, or during any downtime while kids wait to get to their next rotation. [Presentation images](#) are available in the Digital Resources.

### Aussie Trivia

- Is Australia an island, a country, or a continent? All of the above!
- Australia is actually a land of opposites, with the highest temperatures over 107°F (42°C) and the lowest at -10°F (-23°C). Two-thirds of the country is desert, but there are also lush rain forests and mountainous regions. Can't get much more opposite than that!
- It's raining. It's . . . snowing? Yep, it snows in parts of Australia!
- How would you like to live in a town called Batmania? One city, Melbourne, used to have that name.
- Other spots in Australia are called Banana, Foul Bay, Woolloomooloo, Nowhere Else, Mt. Hope, Wagga Wagga, Tin Can Bay, Moo Ball, Paradise, Dunedoo, Woy Woy, Woolloongabba, and Wollongong.
- Dislike going to the doctor? In Australia's outback, the doctor comes to you by plane as part of the Royal Flying Doctor Service!
- The Royal Flying Doctor Service has a fleet of planes that have full operating rooms and intensive care units inside them.
- Ever been to the beach? If you lived in Australia, you'd have over 10,000 beaches to choose from.
- Ho ho ho! One of the islands off Australia's coast is called Christmas Island.
- During election season, you better not forget to vote. Voting is not optional, and people are fined if they don't.
- Ever look up your house on Google Maps? You can thank Australians for the invention of those maps.
- Australian inventions: UGG boots, the selfie, the pace-maker, the ultrasound, the black box in planes, the electric drill, and boomerangs.
- The longest fence in the world runs through Australia. It's called the Dingo Fence. Can you guess why it was built?
- Uluru, the biggest monolith rock in the world, is like an iceberg on land because most of the rock can't be seen from aboveground. The majority of it sits underground.
- Uluru was formed about 4,300 years ago during the flood of Noah's day!
- Uluru, perhaps meaning giant pebble, is so big it would be hard to miss. In 2006, however, one man waved down some police officers to ask for directions to the rock. Ironically, he was only 330 feet (100 m) away from it!
- How would you feel if a 12-foot (3-meter) crocodile tried to enter your tent? In 2006, a family was camping at a park when a croc tried to come in. Thankfully, it got scared and ended up running away.
- Australia's Kakadu National Park has more lightning than any other place on earth. During the monsoon season, lightning slices the sky for hours each day. Yikes!
- Have you ever heard of an ocean post office? The Great Barrier Reef, which has the world's biggest group of coral reefs, has the only floating post office in Australia.
- During World War I, an Australian soldier named Leonard Keysor caught bombs thrown by the enemy and tossed them right back. During one battle at Gallipoli, Turkey, he kept this up for 50 hours.
- In 2010, Sydney Opera House hosted a canine concert. One thousand dogs howled and barked for 20 minutes straight. It was the first ever dog concert.
- If you put all the roof sections of the Sydney Opera House together, they would form a perfect sphere. The architect, Jorn Utzon, got his inspiration for the roof from seeing an orange peeled.

### Human Body Trivia

- A baby's skeleton has more bones than an adult's. So how does a person end up with fewer bones as he grows? Some of a young child's bones fuse together over time.
- God made skin different thicknesses. It's thicker on the soles of your feet (where it needs to be tough) but thinner on your delicate eyelids, for instance.

- Each person has on average 100,000 hairs on their head. God knows the exact number you have at any time!
- If all the muscles in your body pulled together, guess what they could lift? A bus!
- Mucus is gross! Or is it? God made it to protect your skin and lungs, and even help you swallow food.
- Did you know that while you're sleeping, your eyes stay clean by rounding up the dirt? Eye crud's cool after all!
- No joke—your upper arm bone is called the humerus. But your “funny bone” isn't actually a bone at all! That funny feeling you get after you bump your elbow comes from a nerve that bumps against your humerus.
- Some people dream in black and white and some dream in color. Wonder what your dreams look like?
- Talk about globe-trotting! If you laid out your blood vessels end to end, they would circle the globe.
- Get out the nail clippers and clip those nails. But wait! Your fingernails grow faster than your toenails—up to four times faster.
- The surface of your brain (the cerebral cortex) has lots of bumps and ridges. If you smoothed it out flat, it would be large enough to cover a bed.
- Isn't it gross to throw up? But did you know God designed your body to vomit, cough, sneeze, or itch to get rid of unwelcome germ visitors?
- God gave us amazing cooling systems. When we over-heat, drops of perspiration pour out of sweat glands to cool us off. Isn't that “cool”?
- In one human brain, there's probably more electrical circuitry than all the computer systems in the world put together.
- Echidnas look like their feet were put on backwards, but this design actually helps them dig and burrow below the earth better.
- Ever own a pet lizard? It might be hard to have a pet goanna. This Australian lizard can be over six feet long and can run 20 miles per hour (9 meters per second)!
- Did you know a flying fox isn't actually a fox? It's really just a giant bat.
- The smallest jellyfish is the size of an adult's thumbnail.
- In the mood to hop? A kangaroo can jump across a two-lane highway in a single bound!
- A wallaroo is another member of the kangaroo kind!
- Koalas snooze up to 20 hours a day. What sleepyheads!
- There are about 50 million large red crabs that live on Christmas Island. When they migrate, so many cover the roads that people have built bridges and tunnels to help them safely cross.
- Robber crabs have been known to steal silverware and watches out of people's homes. What unusual thieves!
- Are you a snake lover? You may want to plan a trip to Australia, where 20 of the world's 25 most venomous snakes live.
- Australia has roughly 104 million sheep. There are four times as many sheep in Australia as there are people.
- Did you know crocodiles have strong muscles that can snap their jaw shut, but weak muscles for opening their mouths? A rubber band around the snout is all that's needed to keep a croc from opening its mouth.
- In the early 1900s, Australian people shared ideas on how to reduce the amount of shark attacks. Some people suggested using explosives to blow up the sharks. Others thought mounting machine guns on the cliffs to shoot the sharks would work.
- Ever heard of a pistol shrimp? This incredible sea creature is small, but when its claws shut, the sound is louder than a jet engine. The sound stuns its prey.
- Did you know kangaroos never stop growing during their whole lifetime? Good thing humans don't do that!
- Australia's little penguins are the world's smallest penguins, weighing 2 pounds (0.9 kg) each and measuring just 10 inches (25 cm) in adulthood. Awww!
- Cane toads release a poison from their skin. Weirdly enough, this poison has been used by dentists to cure toothaches.
- There are about 30,000 kinds of flies in Australia. One specific kind likes to feed on secretions around people's eyes and mouth. Yuck! As a result of people trying to flick these pests away, the “Australian salute” was born.

## Australian Animal Trivia

- Is that someone's cell phone ringing? No, it's just Australia's lyrebird, a creature that can imitate the sounds of a cell phone, chain saw, car alarm, and more!
- As well as eating chocolate bunnies at Easter, Australians eat chocolate bilbies, which represent a marsupial that looks like a combo mouse/rabbit.
- Saltwater crocodiles can grow up to 20 feet (6 m) long. Yikes!
- If you ever climb a tree to get away from a crocodile, don't forget that crocodiles can jump more than 6 feet (1.8 m) in the air!
- Australia's blue-tongued lizard can break off its tail if caught by a predator. That's convenient!
- Baby crocodiles chirp in their eggs when they're ready to hatch. How . . . cute?
- A baby echidna is called a puggle.