

## Memories (Years 7–8)

This collection of digital content allows students to explore different ways people understand the concepts of memory and remembering, the importance of memories and the different ways memories can be constructed and interpreted. The different types of multimodal texts used in this collection – discussion, animation, photography, film, audio interviews and historical research – could also serve as models for further student work.

### Teachers' notes

For additional background information read the useful journal article 'Mixing Memory and Desire: A Family Literacy Event', *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy* (Faust, Mark 2004, pp 564–572, [http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson\\_images/lesson805/faust.pdf](http://www.readwritethink.org/lesson_images/lesson805/faust.pdf)). The article discusses the importance of memories and how they relate to teaching language and literacy.

### Collection items



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#### 'I Think ...' – Remember

R6084

This is a clip from a richly animated short film featuring the unscripted voices of a group of 5- to 9-year-old children discussing the concepts of memory and remembering. The children take turns to explore differences in the way they each perceive memory and remembering by explaining, describing and using analogies and metaphors. Sound effects and colourful, varied forms of animation are used to illustrate, reinforce and expand upon the children's discussion. The clip demonstrates how conceptual discussion can promote reflective and abstract thinking – the children provide everyday examples of memory and remembering, and use higher order thinking skills, such as describing, explaining, considering and disagreeing, synthesising and verbal reasoning, to arrive at clearer understandings of the concepts; the intangibility of memory and remembering is explained as not just something you see but as something you feel, something that is ongoing, tied to individual perspectives and experiences and therefore unique to each person.



#### Mervyn Bishop: the early years

L4108 – Years 9–10

In this learning object students explore a personal perspective on Australia's Indigenous heritage through the photos and personal notes of Indigenous photographer Mervyn Bishop. They can look at his childhood experiences and teenage years and find out how he became one of the first Aboriginal people ever to work on a major Australian newspaper. They can trace his early life, how his family background and race affected his ambitions and opportunities. The object includes an option to print notes compiled by the student.



### **This house: Port Adelaide**

L2705 – Years 3–4

In this learning object students explore the life stories of a range of people who lived in a house in Port Adelaide between 1860 and 1956. They find out where the migrants came from, how they got to South Australia and what they brought with them. The students answer questions about each of the people to demonstrate understanding about why they moved to Port Adelaide. A printable table and key graphics help students summarise and interpret migrants' experiences. This learning object is one in a series of eight objects, each of which enable students to explore a house from different regions in Australia in different time periods.



### **Old Bernie's story**

L26 – Years 3–4

In this learning object students interview a farmer, 'Old Bernie', whose family have lived near a local pond for generations. They ask him a series of questions about the ecology of the pond and how things have changed in the environment over time and can watch his answers via video clips. The questions can serve as a model for students forming their own interview items.



### **All about Olive, 2004: Back to school**

R7495

This is a clip from the documentary *All About Olive* (2004). This clip shows 105-year-old Olive Riley returning to her school in Broken Hill in western New South Wales, to talk to the students. Olive recalls details of her schooldays during the early 1900s, as contemporary footage and black-and-white archival stills are shown. Olive meets the current students and regales them with anecdotes about her student days. Olive's story of being bullied highlights the potentially serious consequences of her actions.