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#### **First Contact**

### An account of Cooks landing

250 years ago Captain Cook landed in Botanty Bay. This was the start of European colonisation of Australia. He landed in 1788 after being secretly sent to find Terra Australia or out of latin Unknown Southen Land. This is what is now known as Australia. However there were already people living there.

## **Botany Bay**

When Cook landed in 1768 aboard the HMS Endevour in Botany Bay he and his crew encounted first nations people. They couldn't understand each other. They stayed there for 8 days. Cook interacted the Guugu Yimithirr peple. We know a lot of this because of Cooks journal, which he wrote in while these events were happening. In 1770 the HMS Endevour hit the Great Barrier Reef and was beached for 7 weeks.

#### Terra Nullius

After Cook got the Endevour off the land he sailed to Possesion Island and claimed the eastern coast for King Geoge III. He called it Terra Nullius which translated out of latin is 'Nobodys Land'. Cook did not recognise the first nations people as the tradional owners of of Australia. Because of the declaration of Terra Nullius the British Government could "lawfully" take the land. The colonists bought smallpox that killed many Aborigials. The Aborigials had no rights.

# **Different Perspectives**

When the Europeans arrived they bought with them a whole new culture. This was a lot different to the Aborigial culture, like how you had to eat with cutlery and there was a range of new foods, like refined sugar. Europeans shared history through books and the Aborigials shared history through song, dance and ceremonies. Europeans had houses and Aborigials had shelters made of natural resources. They both had

different religions. The Europeans thought there was only one god and the Aborigial people belived in Spirits and the dreamtime.