

**Information/plan document**

**Before visiting the museum you may find the following suggestions helpful**

- large wall map of Australia - showing early rail lines, in particular Adelaide to Perth  
[www.arts.uwa.edu.au/HistoryWWW/Maps/Map11.html](http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/HistoryWWW/Maps/Map11.html)
- search your school library or local library for information concerning the building of the TransAustralia Railway and information on the Tea and Sugar train
- ask your parents/friends or people in the local area what they know about the people that built the rail line or worked on the train - gather some oral histories, or perhaps invite a guest speaker
- see if you can find some photos of the Tea and Sugar train
- check for any videos on early Australia which involves rail, country trains, rail workers
- research the environment where the TransAustralia Railway was built - what were the conditions like to work in, heat, shelter, water supply for steam trains
- discuss what it would have been like for a family to live in a town along the track of the TransAustralia Railway
- discuss what impact you think the building of the track had upon the aborigines

WWW

- checkout some of the following web sites:

<http://www.lib.flinders.edu.au/resources/collection/.special/teasugar.html>

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/outbackvisions/stories/open/s537413.htm>

[http://www.naa.gov.au/./The Collection-Collection/transport/rail.html](http://www.naa.gov.au/./The%20Collection-Collection/transport/rail.html)

<http://www.nla.gov.au/exhibitions/sun/styles/transport/post-z383.html>

<http://www.federation2001.sa.gov.au/history9.htm>

<http://primeministers.naa.gov.au/meetpm.asp?SelectName=14&pmSelectDate=&Submit=Go>

<http://john.curtin.edu.au/railway/activities/timeline.html>

<http://john.curtin.edu.au/railway/opposition/railway8.html>

<http://www.railpage.org.au/comrails/common/lounge-cars.html>



**At the museum - some ideas or plan before you go**

- Record the name or names of a famous person recorded on the TransAustralia map
- Record (four) towns on the map, make note of where they are in Australia
- Record what you particularly like about the exhibition - make notes to share with class upon your return
- See the famous Tea and Sugar train - Butchers Van, Provisions Van, Pay Van and Relay Van
- Choose a worker on the Tea and Sugar train - find out what his duties were, where did he sleep, how long was his stay upon the train, what happened to his family when he was working, how did he spend his free time
- Divide class into small groups to research information on a carriage or van of their choosing
- Record some information about this carriage eg where did it travel, what did travellers do in this carriage, what articles are in this carriage
- See story board *Railways and a diverse Society* - read and record the impact that the building of the line had upon the aborigines
- Explore visual information - maps and story boards
- Interact with the touch screens housed in the Vans of the Tea and Sugar train

## Pack 1 For the student

### After the visit to the museum

- Encourage the students to group construct a model of the track
- Find out further information about some of the towns on or near the rail line - how many people live there today, what do they do?
- Find out further information about the famous people that you listed upon your visit to the museum
- Find out and record further information about your choice of towns on the TransAustralia Railway
- Would you have liked to have lived in a town on the rail line - share with class upon your return
- Have you ever travelled on a long train journey? Tell of the places, people you met etc (English activity)
- What are some of the things you would do on a long train journey? Read, games etc
- Describe some of the difficulties that you think the builders of the railway may have encountered - environment and conditions
- Discuss some of the hardships that men and women faced who worked and lived upon the rail line
- Look at other famous train journeys in Australia - the Ghan
- What did you like about your visit to the museum? (Evaluation)



## Pack 1 For the student

### Worksheet

(suggested students bring this sheet with them when they visit the museum)



1 Refer to the display wall map TransAustralia Railway and write down the names of at least three famous persons recorded on the map - also note the information on the people you choose.

2 Record four towns on the TransAustralia Railway map, at least one must be in Western Australia.



3 Go and explore the following vans -Pay Van, Butchers Van, Provisions Van, Relay Brake Van (Tea and Sugar consist) Make notes about what you see in the vans, listen and note audio information.

4 Choose a worker on the Tea and Sugar train. Make notes about his duties, what he wore, what were his tools of trade, where did he sleep, how long was his stay upon the train.

5 Explore (break students into small groups) some other locomotives, carriages or vans in the museum, record information about them eg visual description, where did it travel, when was it built, what materials is it made from etc.

7 The GM2 and the G1 locomotives - record some information about their physical appearance, what fuel did they use? Size and number of wheels etc. How many workers were needed to operate the loco?

8 Record some information about the Commonwealth Railways - see display boards.