



EDUCATOR RESOURCE : YEARS 7 – 10

This resource has been designed for middle-school educators (years 7-10) and connects specifically but is not limited to, the HASS, Science and Design and Technologies elements of the Australian Curriculum.

Summary

Magnificent Makers tells eight stories of canny creations, daring discoveries and imaginative inventions that trace a path through Queensland's history since the late nineteenth century. These are stories of individuals and groups who applied ingenuity, innovation, perseverance and empathy to create preferred futures. Through these stories, students have opportunities to reflect on how society, times, available technology and culture shape our responses to problems and opportunities alike.

This resource, combined with a visit to the exhibition, encourages students to connect and empathise with the people behind the stories, considering just how determination and creativity might effect positive change in our world.

Plan your visit

<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on/school-and-group-tours>

Exhibition Activity

Letter to a Maker

This activity has been designed to complete in the exhibition space or as a reflective activity back at school. Print out enough **A Letter to a Maker** templates for your students (one per student).

Students select one of the eight stories featured in the exhibition and consider how social, ethical, technical and sustainability considerations influence the design of innovative and enterprising solutions to meet a range of needs ([Technologies Achievement Standard, Years 7-8, ACARA, 2017](#)).

Curriculum links

The **Letter to a Maker** activity connects most specifically to, but is not limited to the following:

Australian Curriculum Elements

[Technologies \(Design and Technologies\) Years 7-10: Knowledge and Understanding](#)

[Humanities and Social Sciences \(HASS\) Year 7: Inquiry and skills](#)

[Science \(Science as a Human Endeavour\) Years 7-10: The use and influence of science](#)

General Capabilities

[Literacy](#)

[Critical and Creative Thinking](#)



Consider extending your visit to *Magnificent Makers* in the classroom by

Design and Technologies: Develop the sketch at the bottom of the *Letter to a Maker* worksheet to **create** a designed solution. Consider asking students to establish criteria for successes and use the design process to develop their ideas. Students may be required to research, sketch and annotate their ideas. Students could ultimately make a three-dimensional prototype of this idea using recycled or craft materials or CAD drawings and 3D printed objects to communicate their ideas.

Science: Use your visit to *Magnificent Makers* as a platform to **discover** more about the story of the Prickly Pear, still regarded as the **most successful example of biological weed control in world history**. This unit could be developed as a research project, ideal for students in regional areas of Queensland where opportunities to connect to the story more authentically may be found.

Further Reading and Resources

To familiarise yourself or revisit the stories from *Magnificent Makers* with your students be sure to visit www.makers.slq.qld.gov.au for access to:

- descriptions of each 'Magnificent Maker'
- portraits of each 'Maker' and objects related to their story
- full room brochure with extended exhibition information and content list, all searchable through SLQ's OneSearch catalogue available on the home page (<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/>)
- digital stories on four 'Magnificent Makers', also available through SLQ's OneSearch catalogue
- TV and old newsreel footage to view together in class