

Inspiration: The Nuremberg Chronicle

In this activity sheet students will:

- see text and images from a very early printed book as well as one of the first books printed in English
- view an educational video about the copy of the *Nuremberg Chronicle* held at the State Library of Victoria
- explore medieval world views through text and images
- consider the specific impact of printing on the English language, as well as recent and future trends in English
- critically evaluate the validity of historical and contemporary encyclopedias and online information
- have an opportunity to create their own dictionary/encyclopedia.

Answers to question time

1. Approximately 40 years
2. 19 months
3. 1800 woodcuts
4. a) Students discuss. b) Australia, North America, South America
5. Many people thought that these creatures existed, so they were included in the encyclopedia.
6. a) Though an excellent source of information for its time, not everything in it was accurate or reliable information as many gaps in knowledge were filled with superstitions and common beliefs shared by people at the time. The same is true of our encyclopedias and history books today; knowledge and information evolves.
b) Yes, people today express fear of unknown phenomena such as UFOs, alien abductions and the paranormal.

Answers to Activity 5 - Alphabet encyclopedia race

Atlantic	Hedgehog	Orange	Uluru
Bible	Iceland	Port Phillip	Vivian
Canberra	Juice	Qur'an	Will
Dandenong	Korean	Rose	X-Men
Everest	Library	Sausage	Yarra
Football	Mediterranean	Tasmanian Tiger	Zimbabwe
Ganges	Nuremberg Chronicle		

Sources consulted

The following sources were used in the development of these activity sheets:

Cowley, Des, *Curators Online: A Video Presentation on the Nuremberg Chronicle*, State Library of Victoria.
<http://slv21.com>

Wilson, Adrian, 1977, *The Making of the Nuremberg Chronicle*, Nico Israel, Amsterdam.

The Nuremberg Chronicle (Liber Chronicarum), University of Maryland Library website.
<http://www.lib.umd.edu/RARE/Exhibits/Nuremberg/>

Nuremberg Chronicle, Morse Library, Beloit College website.
<http://www.beloit.edu/~nurember/inside/about/index.htm>

