

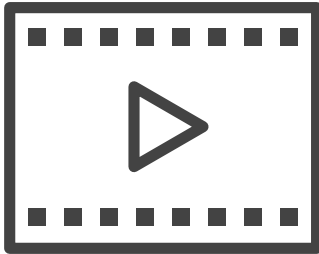
The High Court of Australia

Resources & Classroom Ideas - the High Court and the Constitution



Teacher Resources

Content information and resources to further your understanding of the High Court of Australia and the Australian Constitution



Documentary

Produced by the High Court of Australia

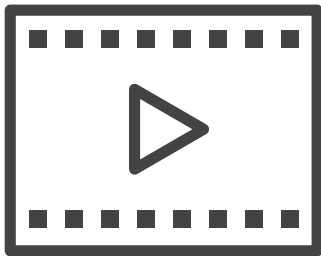
A short documentary covering the history and role of the High Court, as well as the Canberra building and significant artworks in its collection.



Australian courts

Developed by the Attorney's-General Department

This web page outlines the jurisdiction of Australia's principal federal courts, and provides easy links to each of the state and territory's supreme court websites for further exploration.



Separation of powers

Presented by Renato Costa for Aussie Law

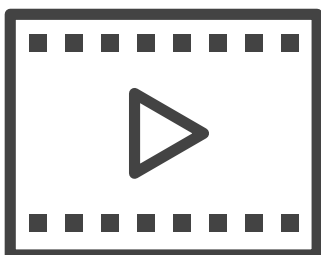
An explainer video on the doctrine and application of the concept of the 'separation of powers', and how it plays out in Australia's democracy.



How common laws are made

Produced by the Museum of Australian Democracy

This web page summarises the founding of the Australian Constitution and how this document affects all Australians.



What is the Constitution?

By the Legal Information Access Centre of the State Library of NSW

This video outlines the Australian court hierarchy, the jurisdiction of different courts and how courts create common law.

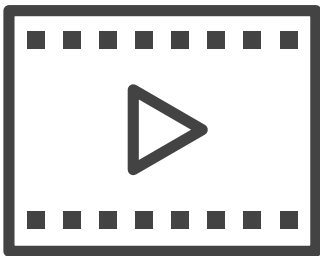
Classroom Resources

Valuable resources to further your students' learning



The first High Court

By Joshua Lawson for the Australian Constitution Centre
This web page outlines the establishment of the High Court of Australia, from its conception to the appointment of the first Bench.



'The High Court of Australia' BTN episode

Produced by the ABC

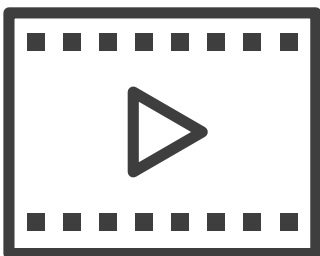
This episode of *Behind the News* unpacks Australia's court hierarchy and the role of the High Court as the final court of appeal.



Parliament and the courts

By the Parliamentary Education Office

This web page explains the principle of 'separation of powers', and the role of each branch of government - the judiciary, legislature and executive.



'Democracy' BTN special episode

Behind the News special produced by the ABC

An introductory video covering the history of democracy, Australia's representative democracy, and the history of voting in Australia.



Documenting a Democracy

By the Museum of Australian Democracy

Discover countless documents relating to the formation of the Australian Constitution and our unique democracy, including the original *Judiciary Act 1903* which established the High Court.



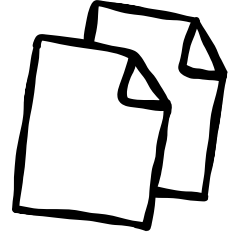
Classroom Activities

Ideas to engage your students with the history and role of the High Court of Australia



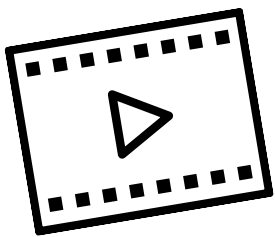
Create a class mind map of wonderings around federation, the Constitution, parliaments and the High Court.

Develop a glossary of new terms and ideas, including federation, separation of powers, constitution, democracy, jurisdiction, statutory law and common law.



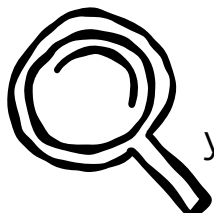
Design a diagram to identify Australia's court hierarchy and the powers of the High Court of Australia.

Create a class model of the Separation of Powers concept for your classroom rules. Elect members for parliament, select your executive and appoint your judiciary. Then develop a set of classroom rules.



Produce a stop motion film about the role and impact of a key player in the development of the Australian Constitution, such as Sir Samuel Griffith, Andrew Inglis Clark, or Catherine Helen Spence.

Create a timeline of key events focusing on either federation, drafting the Australian Constitution or voting.



Search for a political cartoon from 1900 about federation. Who is depicted and how? What idea do you think the cartoonist is trying to communicate? Is it positive or negative towards federation?

