

Asia-related literary texts to support the Australian Curriculum for English

YEARS 3 - 4

Sorted by Title

Title	Author	Text type	Setting	Further information
Across the Dark Sea	Wendy Orr	Novel, historical, illustrated	Vietnam, Australia	Vietnam boat refugee story based around a boat in the National Museum. Boy protagonist. Classroom resources available at: http://www.nma.gov.au/kidz/making_tracks/across_the_dark_sea/classroom_activities/
China, Land, Life and Culture: Wildlife	Jackie Tidey & John Tidey	Resource text, nonfiction	China	Information about the wildlife of China.
Just One Wish	Sally Rippin	Novel	China, Australia	The main character narrates her experiences when her family returns from Melbourne to Shanghai. It is not easy until her grandmother grants her a wish.
Nips Xi	Ruth Starke	Novel	Vietnamese – Australian context	Vietnamese born Tran sets up a cricket team in Australia.
Sarindi and the Lucky Buddha	Janine Fraser	Novel, short novel series	Indonesia	This is the story of a young boy who visits sacred sites and prays for his mother's recovery from illness. It investigates the concept of faith and love from a child's point of view and themes about what these mean to different people.



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Seams of Gold	Christopher Cheng	Novel, historical	Chinese – Australian context	This story evolves from a Chinese sewing basket, an artifact from the 1850s gold rush era in Australia. Danny is the main character.
Snapshots of Asia - China	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	China	Big book format with information about the distinctive aspects of daily life in China. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy knowledge and speaking, listening, reading, viewing and writing skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsasia/snapshots_landing_page.html
Snapshots of Asia - India	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	India	Big book format with information about India in the form of photographs, fact files, board games and stories of daily life in India. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy and numeracy skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsasia/snapshots_landing_page.html
Snapshots of Asia - Japan	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	Japan	Big book format offering information about Japan in the form of photographs, fact files, board games and stories of daily life. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsasia/snapshots_landing_page.html



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Snapshots of Asia - Malaysia	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	Malaysia	Big book format with information about Malaysia in the form of photographs, fact files, board games and stories of daily life. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy and numeracy skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsofasia/snapshots_landing_page.html
Snapshots of Asia - Philippines	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	Philippines	Big book format with information about the Philippines in the form of photographs, fact files, board games and stories of daily life. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy and numeracy skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsofasia/snapshots_landing_page.html
Snapshots of Asia - Vietnam	Richard Ledger & Sue Ledger	Range of text types including: stories, fact files, games, pictorial stories	Vietnam	Big book format with information about Vietnam in the form of photographs, fact files, board games and stories of daily life. Accompanied by a teacher guide and activities designed to enhance literacy and numeracy skills. More information on the Snapshots of Asia series is available at: http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/curriculum_resources/english_cr/snapshotsofasia/snapshots_landing_page.html
The Garden of Empress Cassia	Gabrielle Wang	Novel	China, Australia	A girl is teased about her father's herbal medicine shop, but she gains love through the gift of drawing.



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The Happiness of Kati	Jane Vejjajiva	Novel, short novel	Thailand	This is the story of Kati's family life in both rural and urban Thailand. Suitable for independent readers. This is a good example of text in translation.
The Most Beautiful Lantern	Sally Heinrich	Picture book	Singapore, Malaysia	This illustrated text evolved from the writer's Asialink residency in Malaysia, and her enjoyment of the Mid Autumn festivals held by the Chinese communities there.
The Peasant Prince: The True Story of Mao's Last Dancer	Li Cunxin & Anne Spudvilas	Picture book, autobiography	China, USA, Australia	Inspiring story of Li Cunxin's journey from rural China's cultural revolution to becoming a world acclaimed ballet dancer.
The Race for the Chinese Zodiac	Gabrielle Wang	Picture book	China	This is a fabulously illustrated quest for 13 animals to become part of the Chinese zodiac, even though Emperor Jade has only 12 places.
Vietnam	Robert Gott	Resource text, nonfiction	Vietnam	This book provides maps, history, geography, language, unique plants and cultural information about Vietnam.
Waiting For Mummy	LeeTae-Jun & Kim Dong-Sung	Picture book	Korea	Translated from Korean, this text requires mediation of the historical context. It has received many accolades in Korea.

