Overview

This short, pictorial book, which contains first-hand accounts and photographs from the campaign at Gallipoli, provides a poignant primary account of an important event. From reading it one gets a first-hand account of the reality of the landing at Gallipoli and what conditions were like for those involved. It gives the modern-day reader a true picture of what the campaign was all about and what the day-to-day living of the soldiers entailed. The pictures provide a primary source to construct the images that accompany the words of the soldiers who fought there.

Activities

• Imagine you are an eighteen-year-old who has joined up to fight and you have been sent to Gallipoli. Give your own description of the first day - who was there, when and where you landed and what happened. Particularly refer to how you felt on your first day of fighting; where you had come from and who comprised the force that landed; how many of you were there; who commanded you; and what the purpose of the whole campaign was.
• Look at the progression of pictures. What do the first ones depict? Comment on the landing and subsequent primary sources. After studying them in detail write about what you have learned.
• Write a letter home saying what the chief tools of war are. Mention also what you eat, what the weather is like and how it affects you, who the enemy is and how far the enemy is away from you. Say, too, how much ground you have captured. Write about what a typical day is like - what is happening around you; how and when you bathe.
• What was the Western Front? What was the significance of Quinn's Post, Lone Pine? What was the importance of strong-holds and how were they established?
• What was the duration of the Gallipoli Campaign? Why and how did it end?
• Why do you think the Gallipoli Campaign was such a disaster?
• Why do we remember an event that was such a disaster?
• Look at the different texts the reader is presented with - personal narrative, author's words and interpretation, and photographs that provide a visual meaning to the events presented in words.
• Maps also provide a means of understanding or extending the text words. Study the geography of the area.

• To search for war records of a relative or someone you know who fought, go to the Australian War Memorial's site: www.awm.gov.au. Enter the person's name and address.