

## Reading the neighbourhood: houses, street signs and shops

**Level:** 3–4

**Curriculum focus:** *Historical Concepts & Skills*  
*Continuity & change*  
Identify and describe continuity and change [VC2HH4S06](#)

*Historical Concepts & Skills*  
*Using historical sources*  
Identify the features and content of historical sources [VC2HH4S03](#)

*Historical Knowledge & Understanding*  
*Community, remembrance and celebrations*  
Causes and consequences of changes in a local community and the contributions and experiences of people from diverse backgrounds to a local community [VC2HH4K02](#)

**Learning outcome:**

Students understand how to identify old and new landmarks like houses and shops and can compare how these change over time through the use of photos.

Students understand and can investigate why street signs are named after significant people, places, or objects.

**What's included:**

- Activities
- Discussion questions
- Further resources

## Activities

### Activity one

Watch the video [Reading the Neighbourhood: houses, street signs and shops](#)

Pause and discuss the video as needed.

### Discussion questions

- Why do you think we name streets after important people, places or objects?
- What or who would you name a street after? Why?
- What are the differences between big, old houses like Rippon Lea and Labassa, and newer houses?
- How can you tell a shop building is new or old? Are all parts of it old? What new parts might have been added to the building?

## Activity two

Take a walk in your neighbourhood using the following worksheet on clipboards. Or, have a look at your local area on Google Maps Street View.

**Make sure you are with a teacher or trusted adult.**

**Always walk on the footpaths and never cross the road by yourself.**

Return to school and discuss findings.

### Street names:

Name three streets you saw on your walk.

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What is the name of the street your school is on?

Why do you think these names are important?

## Houses:

What types of houses can you see in your neighbourhood (apartments, townhouses, mansion, etc.)? Are they old or new? How can you tell?

## Shops:

What shops are near you? Are they in old or new buildings? How can you tell?

## Teacher resources

### Visit

#### Map of historic sites in the City of Glen Eira

This [map](#) shows primary schools in the City of Glen Eira along with monuments, museums, historical societies, plaques, memorials, public art, historic buildings, and sites that commemorate First Nations history. Visit our [Self-guided Walking Tours page](#) for more information.



### Watch

Glen Eira City Council (2019) [Welcome to Country with Parbin-ata Carolyn Briggs AM](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2019) [Parbin-ata Carolyn Briggs AM shares the story of the possum cloak](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2022) [Alicia Cerreto - in conversation with Glen Eira Historical Society](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2022) [Labassa: House of Dreams In Conversation](#)

### Learn

City of Moorabbin Historical Society (2024) [City of Moorabbin Historical Society \(Box Cottage\) Collection](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2024) [History of Our Council](#)

Glen Eira City Council (2024) [Glen Eira City Council History and Heritage Collection](#)

Glen Eira Historical Society (2024) [Glen Eira Historical Society Collection](#)

National Trust Rippon Lea Estate (2024) [History](#)