



Discovery Worksheets

Dawn service shines again

Australia, April 2001
 Record crowds again greeted Anzac Day services and marches around Australia. The dwindling number of WW I Returned Soldiers has done nothing to reduce national interest in this annual event, which was first named Anzac Day in 1916. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand troops during the WW I. ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps and the soldiers in those forces soon became known as Anzacs.



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News of the disastrous landing at Gallipoli had a profound impact on Australians at home. Quickly, 25 April became the day on which Australians honoured all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in battle. In 1916, ceremonies were held all over the country and for the remaining years of WW I, Anzac Day was used as an occasion for armed forces parades, patriotic rallies and recruiting campaigns.

Today, Anzac Day celebrations begin with a Dawn Service throughout the towns and cities of Australia. People rise early before sunlight and make their way to take part in services that remember the first Anzac Day — now a long time ago on 25 April 1915. On that morning, Australian troops fought their way up the beaches of a little cove in Turkey known as Gallipoli. It might have been the wrong place to go ashore and they might have had almost no chance of succeeding, but they stayed until ordered to leave by the British. The Anzacs faced dire difficulties but created a legend, and national idea, that has stood the test of time.

Use the information above and any reference listed below to answer the following questions.

1. In which country is Gallipoli located?
2. Was the Gallipoli campaign successful for Australia and the allies? Explain.

3. When was Anzac Day first celebrated?
4. How is Anzac Day celebrated today?

