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What Are Symbols?

A symbol is something that represents, or stands for, something else. There are symbols all around us. Turn on your computer and have a look. You will see symbols on the desktop, called "icons", that show you where to click.



Have you ever seen a cross for the Christian religion? How about a star for Judaism? Those are symbols too. You have certainly seen a dollar sign. That's a symbol for money.

There are many symbols that mean "Australia". Some are **official**, such as the flag, the **Coat of Arms**, or the **national anthem**. Others are **unofficial** symbols. These make you think about the country or about being Australian. Unofficial symbols include Uluru, the Sydney Opera House and certain foods.

