Days to Remember



Written by Andrew Einspruch

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For teachers' inspection ONLY

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Introduction

Some days of the year are special.
These are the days
we recall important events
from Australia's past.
We recall those special people
who did brave or noble deeds.
We honour them.
On these days,
people do not have to go to school or work.
Shops and businesses close.
It is a **public holiday**.



Many people enjoy a day
at the beach on public holidays.

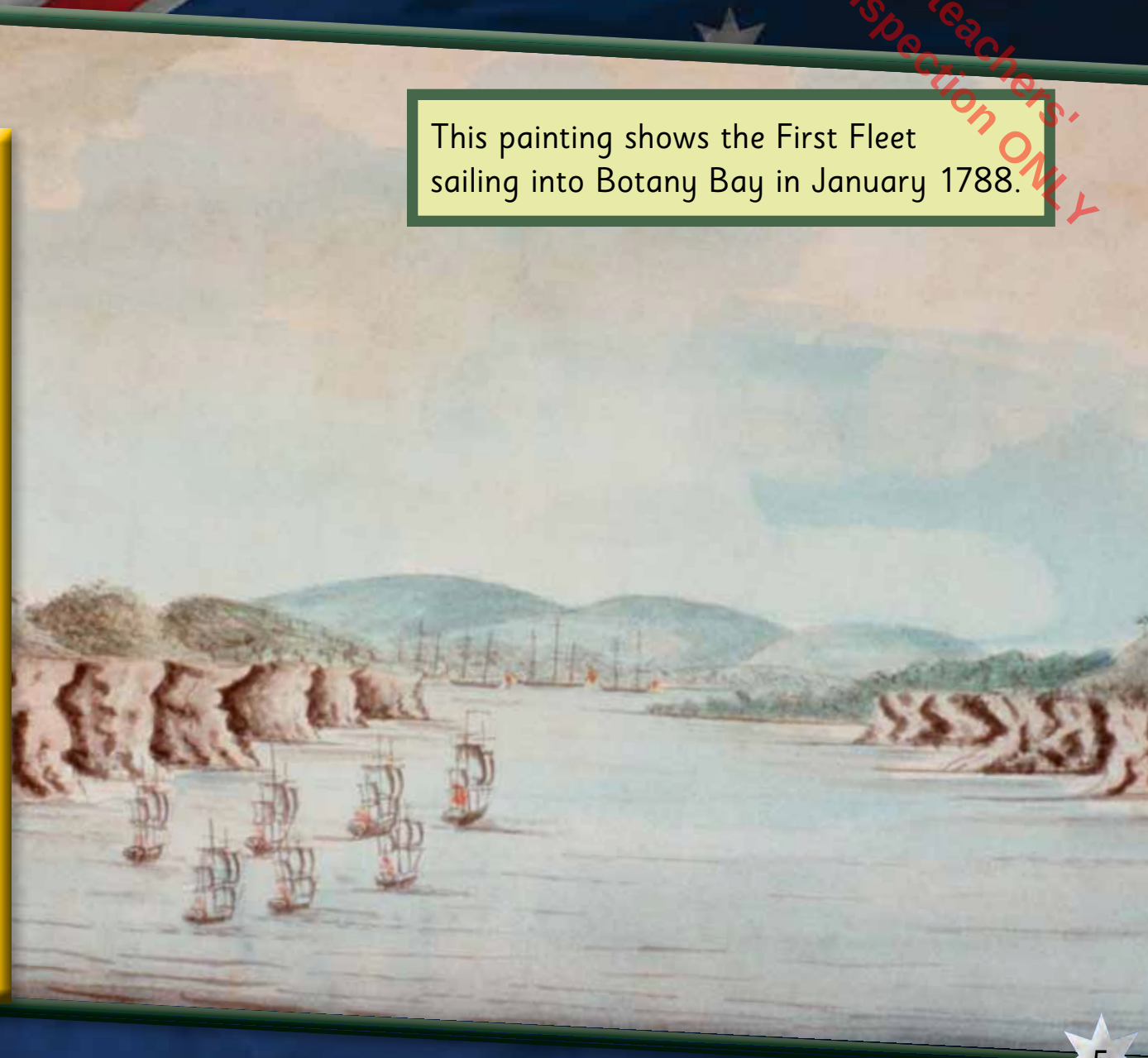
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Australia Day

January 26 is Australia Day.
It marks the day the first
11 British ships landed here.
They were sent to start
the first British town in Australia.

It was not long before
people began to mark this day.
They held special dinners and parties
to **celebrate** their new home.

Today, Australia Day is a public holiday.
We celebrate our country,
and all those who live in it.

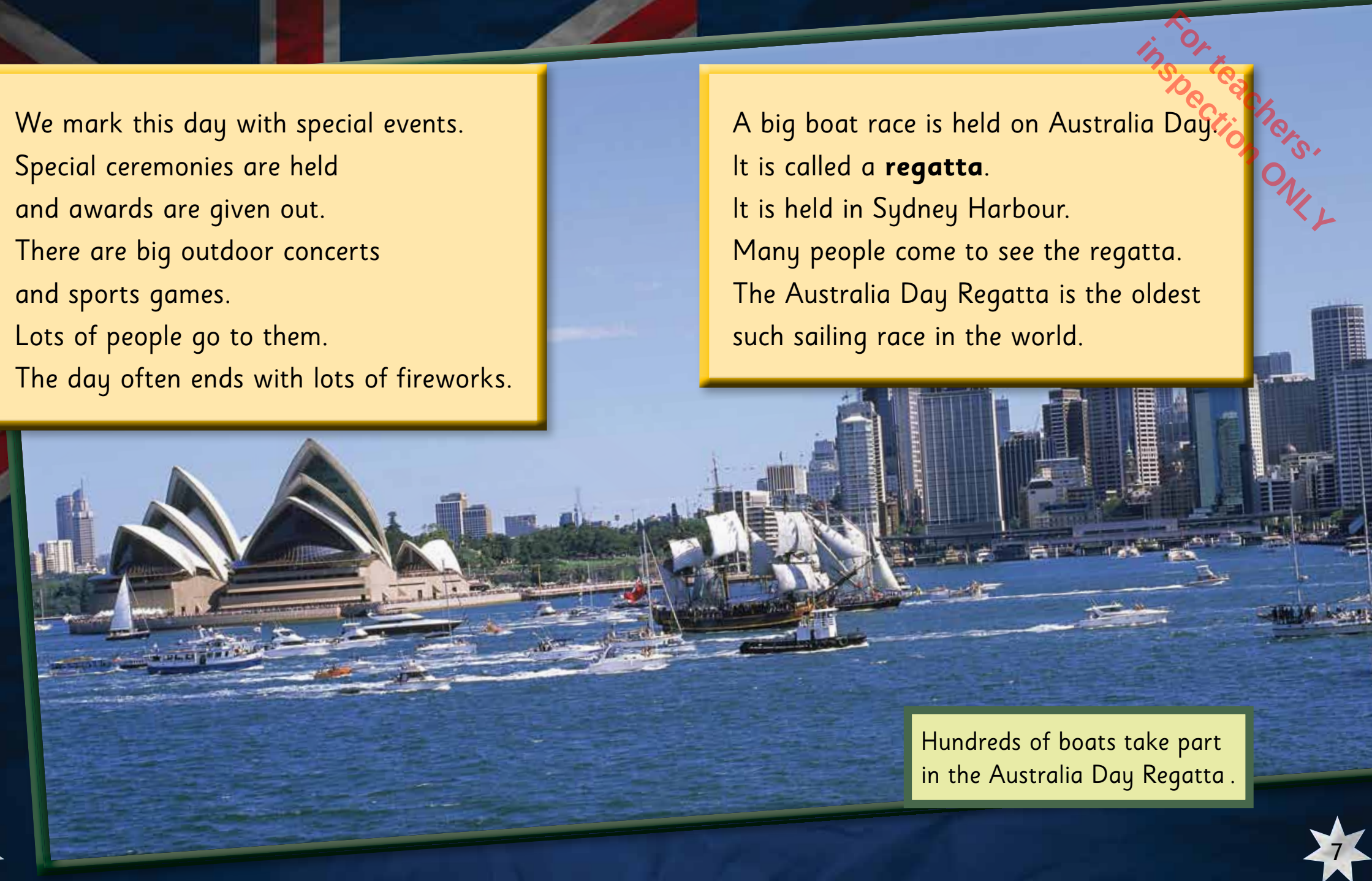


This painting shows the First Fleet sailing into Botany Bay in January 1788.

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We mark this day with special events.
Special ceremonies are held
and awards are given out.
There are big outdoor concerts
and sports games.
Lots of people go to them.
The day often ends with lots of fireworks.

A big boat race is held on Australia Day.
It is called a **regatta**.
It is held in Sydney Harbour.
Many people come to see the regatta.
The Australia Day Regatta is the oldest
such sailing race in the world.



Hundreds of boats take part
in the Australia Day Regatta .

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