

Regional and Remote Case Study

HMB Endeavour

Australian National Maritime Museum



Sailing into History

Students from a remote community recently had a chance not only to see the ocean but also the replica of the Endeavour. About 40 students from Gunbalanya Community School were given the opportunity for the visit in August as a reward for their high attendance rate in term two. Only students with an attendance rate of between 90 and 100% were allowed on the trip. The school's Assistant Principal noted that in term one there were only two students with 100% attendance but the promise of rewards such as the trip to see the Endeavour resulted in almost 40 students coming to school every day. The students were treated to a tour of the boat and were excited to see how people lived on board in the early voyages.

The Australian-built replica of James Cook's HMB Endeavour is one of the world's most accurate maritime reproductions. On this voyage, the Endeavour is visiting 18 ports around Australia and opening to the public in 15. The ship left Sydney in April 2011, and is about half way through the 13-mth voyage. So far, over 31,000 visitors and more than 4,000 school children have toured the ship.

The Australian National Maritime Museum has partnered with DEEWR to fund 39 berths during the voyage for Indigenous Australians. This is part of a wider employment program where DEEWR will work with the participants after their time on Endeavour to use the skills they have developed in team work and overcoming physical and other challenges to find employment. To date 19 Indigenous Australians have sailed on Endeavour through the program.

See: http://www.ntnews.com.au/article/2011/08/23/255231_schoolmatters.html

<http://www.anmm.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=1372>

Image above: Northern Territory News 23 August 2011