Exploring Australian approaches to producing cotton, timber and wool

*Geography, Science & Technologies*

Questions:
1. What has the Merino sheep been bred for in Australia?
2. What are the British-bred sheep mostly known for?
3. What is fine wool used for?
4. What are the characteristics of British bred wool?
5. What are some of the uses of the shorter stronger fibre?
6. Why are the sheep shorn around November? What does it help with?
7. What are the different microns used for clothing (fine) and carpet (coarse)?
8. How many quilts and pillows can be produced in peak production?
9. What has helped with production of these products over the years?

Answers:
1. Wool
2. Meat
3. Men's suits, fine jumpers (girls), predominantly clothing
4. Stronger, shorter fibre
5. Carpet making, filling for Doonas/duvets, it is also used as a blend with other longer fibre
6. To stop grass seeds
7. 30 Microns for carpet, 17/18 micron for clothing
8. 3000 quilts in a week, and 400 pillows a day
9. More efficient machinery, more computerised, machinery manufactured in Germany (precise, reliable, cutting edge technology)

Suggested research:
Conduct an investigation on the insulation value of different fibres.
Design an investigation that compares different fibres.