



Stage 5

Geography – Change and management of a wetland

Geography outcomes

GE5-2 explains processes and influences that form and transform places and environments

GE5-3 analyses the effect of interactions and connections between people, places and environments

GE5-4 accounts for perspectives of people and organisations on a range of geographical issues

GE5-5 assesses management strategies for places and environments for their sustainability

GE5-7 acquires and processes geographical information by selecting and using appropriate and relevant geographical tools for inquiry

Learning across the curriculum: 🖐️ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures

🌱 Sustainability 🏛️ Ethical understanding 📡 Information and communication technology capability

🧮 Numeracy

Key Inquiry Questions

- How do environments function?
- How do people's worldviews affect their attitudes to and use of environments?
- What are the causes and consequences of change in environments and how can this change be managed?
- Why is an understanding of environmental processes and interconnections essential for sustainable management of environments?

Content

Students develop an understanding of the functioning of environments and the scale of human-induced environmental change challenging sustainability. They explore worldviews influencing approaches to environmental use and management. Students undertake an investigative study of the causes and consequences of environmental change in an environment in Australia and another country. They compare and evaluate the management responses in both countries and propose ways individuals can contribute to environmental sustainability.

Program Description

Students will investigate a wetland environment, measure water quality and other biophysical factors, examine wetland animal species diversity and abundance along with their adaptations which assist their survival. Students will examine current issues at this wetland environment and analyse the management of these issues along with potential management.

Introduction including history and traditional land use.

Activities

- Water quality and biophysical factors - Water quality testing and measurement of biophysical factors at 2 sites including the use of data loggers.
- Animal diversity in and around the pond (dip netting species and bird observation) - Pond animal collection, identification and tally. Bird identification and tally.
- Issues and management walk – Examination of various issues at this location and management of these along with potential management.

This program is delivered over 4hrs, 10am to 2pm.

Location

Wetlands Environmental Education Centre (WEEC) located at Hunter Wetlands Centre, 412 Sandgate Rd, Shortland, Newcastle. Please use School entry.

Site Description

Wetlands Environmental Education Centre is located at the Hunter Wetlands Centre, which is a managed wetland reserve with natural and artificial water features accessed by decks and established walking tracks. WEEC has a purpose built education centre including theatre, wet room and classroom. WEEC is a NSW Department school and staff are trained DoE teachers specialising in Environmental Education.

Excursion information

What to bring: Printed student workbook, clipboard and pencil, recess and lunch, refillable water bottle, hat, sunscreen, covered walking shoes plus any special requirements of the group. (Wet weather gear when necessary). Non-aerosol insect repellent is advisable.

Wetlands EEC teachers rely on the participation of visiting teachers to meet recommended supervision levels. Visiting teachers are ultimately responsible for behaviour of students, students with existing medical conditions and special needs.