



Program Overview

During the full day program, the students will work geographically to study three distinctive vegetation types.

Working collaboratively in small groups the students will use geographical equipment to collect data and compare the biophysical environment of the identified vegetation communities. Students will also undertake mapping and field sketches.

Inquiry Questions

What factors influence the different plant communities across landscapes?

1. Making sense of the green – What types of plant communities live in Sydney?
2. The ecology of vegetation – what factors influence why communities survive in that location?

Learning Experiences

Mangrove Study and aquatic threats

Bobbin Head is home to two species of mangrove. Students will be required to classify these species by examining each to identify and describe similarities and differences. They will also be required to explain how their features are adaptations for survival and reproduction in their environment.

Using the information they have learnt about Mangrove function, students will be required to identify and discuss threats to this ecosystem.

Aboriginal Perspectives

Students will visit an Aboriginal midden and investigate what it can tell us about Aboriginal uses and management of mangroves.

Dry Sclerophyll Features

Using fieldwork equipment, the students will research the biophysical features of the dry forest. These tests include aspect, soil pH, air temperature and soil temperature. Using plant ID books, the students will then identify a sample of dry sclerophyll plants and relate their features as adaptations for survival.

Rainforest

In the final activity, students will research the abiotic and biotic features of the remnant rainforest and use these findings to compare to the dry sclerophyll study site.

Key Syllabus Outcomes and Content

Geography 7-10

Environmental Change and Management GE5-2, GE5-3, GE5-4, GE5-5, GE5-7, GE5-8

Environments

Students:

- investigate the role and importance of natural environments, for example:
- Identification of the function of natural environments in supporting life

Environmental change

Students:

- investigate human-induced environmental

changes across a range of scales, for example:
(ACHGK070)

- brief examination of types, and extent, of environmental change

Environmental management

Students:

- investigate environmental management, including different worldviews and the management approaches of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, for example:
(ACHGK071, ACHGK072)
- discussion of varying environmental management approaches and perspectives