

STAGE ONE – SCIENCE

Earth & Space: Wonderful Water

UNIT OVERVIEW

Students participate in fieldwork activities to observe and record the living things found in a riparian aquatic environment. They investigate how water is used in a variety of ways, share their observations and ideas about water use by people in their daily lives and identify some actions which could be taken to care for and use water sustainably.

OUTCOMES

ST1-1WS-S observes, questions and collects data to communicate and compare ideas

ST1-10ES-S recognises observable changes occurring in the sky and on the land and identifies Earth's resources

KEY INQUIRY QUESTIONS AND CONTENT

How can we investigate the observable changes that occur in the sky and on the land?

- Record the observable changes that occur in the sky and on the land
- Observe, ask questions about and describe changes in objects and events

What are Earth's resources and how do we use and care for them?

- Identify and explore the use of a variety of Earth's resources including water and soil
- Identify how the Aboriginal people care for Earth's resources on-Country
- Plan and implement strategies considering conservation of resources to address sustainability and to meet personal and/or community needs



Wonderful Water – Program Outline

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR US LIVING HERE IN WIRADJURI COUNTRY?

Students take part in an acknowledgement of Country activity showing respect to the traditional owners of this land- the Wiradjuri people.

INTRODUCTION – PLANET WATER

Students discuss the water cycle, where water is found on Earth, what lives in water and why water is precious. Students observe an activity that demonstrates how much of the Earth's water is freshwater and the small percentage that is available for our use.



DANNY THE DRIP

Students explore the local Cudgegong River catchment and determine its connection to the Murray Darling Basin. Students participate in the "Danny the Drip" story - an interactive narrative demonstrating how pollutants can get into the water cycle and the consequences of this process.

DIP NETTING – BUG WATCH - IS OUR WATER HEALTHY?

Students travel to Wyaldra Creek to participate in water quality studies. Students explore the concept of place in terms of Aboriginal land, how Aboriginal people interacted with water before European settlement and what has changed over time. Students participate in an authentic, hands-on investigation to determine water quality through a survey of 'sensitive' and 'tolerant' macroinvertebrates. Students consider river systems and make observations about river health based on the data collected.

REFLECTION - WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Students discuss simple ways to conserve water at home and school and consider strategies to reduce pollution in our precious water ways. Students create a personal Water Pledge.

For bookings or further enquiries about this program, please contact Red Hill Environmental Education Centre on 02 6374 2558 or redhill-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

