

Nature Needs You!

Nature is calling. We need to help.



This program asks students to reconnect with Nature while encouraging them to adopt the role of environmental caretakers, acting on Nature's behalf.

Nature Needs You!

is an in-school program which encourages students to develop a lifelong relationship with Nature.

'Mum, what happens when the hole in the ground is full? Where will all the rubbish go?' (7 year old)

The **Nature Needs You!** program has been developed in response to a growing realisation and concern that students may be losing touch with Nature.

The program strives to assist students in developing an environmental awareness while placing significant focus on what students can do, locally, nationally and globally to better support Nature.

Guided by the Sustainability Curriculum Framework this program offers students a series of syllabus linked learning opportunities which

will strengthen their overall understanding of waste and where possible, implement responses to minimise waste.

A focus will be placed on products of convenience which often bring with them excess packaging.

Family friendly, School friendly, Lunch box size marketing slogans promote the suitability of products yet are often a more expensive option while further filling the garbage bins in the school playgrounds.

Key questions include:
Where does waste come from? Where does it go?
How can we minimise it?

*Program supports:
Science & Technology K-10
ES1 and S1*

Sustainability

*'Enough for all, forever.'
United Nations*

'The patterns of activities that meet the needs of the present generation without prejudicing the ability of future generations to meet their needs.'

The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW



Education
Public Schools

Nature Needs You! Program Outline

Pre visit Learning Opportunities

> 'Nature Needs You!' (Required)

This engaging resource, provided by Longneck Lagoon EEC, captures the imagination of children as they embark on a journey to help spread Nature's message.

> Meet Nature

Students can view several different visual representations of Nature or research Nature by constructing simple surveys. What do you think Nature is? Where can you go to spend time with Nature?

> Look at Landfill

Students examine landfill. Where is their local landfill site? Has anyone ever been there? Locate images using ICT. How long does a landfill site last?

> School Inspection

Students will explore their own school environment. Do all classrooms recycle? What type/s of rubbish is being thrown out? Is it only food related items?

In-School Program Facilitation

> Quest for Less Landfill

Students help sort an improvised landfill. A discussion about the disposal of waste occurs, while students consider which type of bin would be the most suitable option for disposal. Students will be encouraged to reflect upon waste disposal at home and/or school and do their best to limit waste destined for landfill.

> The Waste Race / The Waste Breakdown Race

Armed with a series of photographs depicting landfill items and a display easel, students must work together to correctly display the images. Students in Early Stage 1 focus on the 3R's, while those in Stage 1 consider the decomposition order of different products.

> Lunchbox Discovery

Working in small teams, students will sort through a sample lunchbox, identifying the contents as either Nature friendly or Nature unfriendly. Once sorted, the teacher is invited to photograph their work.



Post Visit Learning Opportunities

> Lunchbox Audit (Assessment)

Students assess their own lunchboxes – identifying Nature friendly and unfriendly items

> Photograph Reflections

Students reflect on the Nature friendly/unfriendly photographs taken by their teacher during Longneck Lagoon's visit to the school

> Look for Less

Students create a collage using supermarket/retail catalogues to search for Nature friendly items.

> Care Takers Pledge

As a class, students make a promise to Nature which demonstrates their newly accepted role as caretakers.

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Identified Syllabus Outcomes

Early Stage 1

STe-9ME identifies that objects are made of materials that have observable properties.

STe-4WS explores their immediate surroundings by questioning, observing using their senses and communicating to share their observations and ideas.

STe-2VA demonstrates a willingness to engage responsibly with local, national and global issues relevant to their lives, and to shaping sustainable futures.



Stage 1

ST1-16P describes a range of manufactured products in the local environment and how their different purposes influence their design.

ST1-9ES identifies ways that people use science in their daily lives to care for the environment and the Earth's resources.

ST1-2VA demonstrates a willingness to engage responsibly with local, national and global issues relevant to their lives, and to shaping sustainable futures.