

STAGE 2 (YEARS 3 & 4): TOPIC 2: THE EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT

UNIT 1: PLANET EARTH – AN INTRODUCTION

>> [Unit 1 lessons](#)

<p>Content focus:</p> <p>Students are introduced to planet earth. This study forms the basis of a subsequent focus on the climate, natural vegetation and native animals of places in Australia and elsewhere. In completing this unit, students develop skills in acquiring, processing and communicating geographical information.</p>	<p>Geographical concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place: the significance of places and what they are like. For example: places students live in and belong to and why they are important. • Space: the significance of location and spatial distribution, and ways people organise and manage the spaces that we live in. For example: location of a place in relation to other familiar places. • Environment: the significance of the environment in human life, and the important interrelationships between humans and the environment. For example, how and why places should be looked after. • Interconnection: no object of geographical study can be viewed in isolation. For example: local and global links people have with places and the special connection Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples maintain with Country/Place. • Scale: the way that geographical phenomena and problems can be examined at different spatial levels. For example: various scales by which places can be defined such as local suburbs, towns and large cities. 	
<p>Syllabus content area:</p> <p>Different environments</p> <p><i>Students</i> investigate the natural characteristics of Australia and a country in Asia.</p>		
<p>Key inquiry questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key natural features of planet earth? • What are the processes producing the earth's distinct landforms and environments? 		
<p>Outcomes:</p> <p><i>A student:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifies and describes key natural features and characteristics of places and environments • explains, in simple terms, the processes responsible for the formation of natural features and environments • acquires and communicates geographical information using geographical tools for inquiry. 	<p>Inquiry skills:</p> <p>Acquiring geographical information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pose geographical questions • collect and record geographical information <p>Processing geographical information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • represent data using maps and diagrams • draw conclusions based on interpretation of geographical information <p>Communicating geographically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • present findings in a range of communication forms • reflect on their learning and suggest responses to their findings. 	<p>Geographical tools:</p> <p>Maps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • large-scale maps, world map, globe <p>Spatial technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • satellite images <p>Visual representations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • photographs, illustrations, story books, multimedia and web-based tools.

>> [Download An Introduction to Planet Earth cover sheet](#)

LESSONS AND WORKSHEETS :

Lesson 1: [Planet Earth: An Introduction](#) :: [PowerPoint 1: Planet Earth](#) :: [PowerPoint transcript](#) ::
 Lesson 2: [The restless Earth](#) :: [Resource Sheet 1](#) :: [PowerPoint 1: Our Restless Earth](#) :: [Student Work Sheet 1](#)
 Lesson 3: [Mountains](#) :: [Resource Sheet 1](#)
 Lesson 4: [Volcanoes](#) :: [Resource Sheet 1](#)
 Lesson 5: [Earthquakes](#) :: [Resource Sheet 1](#)
 Lesson 6: [Natural Disaster Research Task](#)