## **SUSTAINABILITY**



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# SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PROCESS

A scaffold for investigating sustainability

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In the NSW Geography curriculum sustainability is a Cross Curriculum Priority and one of seven key Geographical concepts.

"Learning for sustainability seeks to enable and empower students to make decisions and take actions that contribute to creating a sustainable society and ecosystem"

Source: https://www.sustainableschoolsnsw.org.au/teach/teaching-sustainability-cross-curriculum-priority

Students benefit from the structured approach provided by the Sustainability Action Process, a scaffold for investigating real world sustainability issues and developing skills in authentic problem solving.

There are five steps in the **Sustainability Action Process** (SAP) designed to build student knowledge and understanding and develop skills needed to confidently propose and take action.

Step 1: Make a case for change

Step 2: Explore

Step 3: Plan

Step 4: Act

Step 5: Reflect and evaluate

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

The Sustainability action process can be found on the following websites:

- the NSW Department of Education website under Learning across the curriculum – Sustainability https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-andlearning/curriculum/learning-across-the-curriculum/ sustainability/sustainability-action-process
- the Sustainable Schools NSW website https://www.sustainableschoolsnsw.org.au/teach/ teaching-sustainability-cross-curriculum-priority

There are resources for investigating sustainability issues for several geographical concepts and topics including Climate Change Preparedness, Biodiversity, Energy and Water.

### **SAP Example 1: Climate Change Preparedness** (Geography Stage 5)

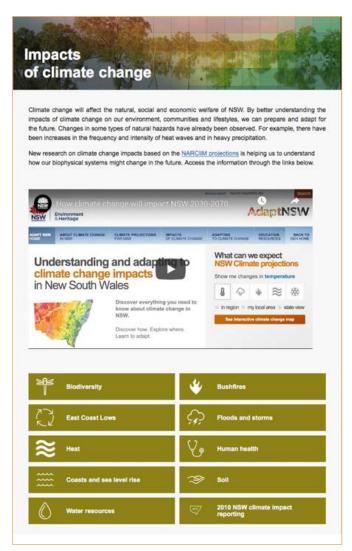


Source:https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/rap/resource/access/700e9ecf-86f1-4d25-90e0-6638684eb660/1

#### **SAP Example 2: Biodiversity**

Examples of SPaRK (Shared Practice and Resource Kit) resources using the Sustainability Action Process for Geography and Science.

- **SPaRK The Curious Garden** (Geography Stages 1, 'How can we care for and improve our spaces and places?' using the picture book The Curious Garden https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/ professional-learning/scan/past-issues/vol-37/sparkthe-curious-garden
- SPaRK NSW Ecosystems On Show (Geography and Science Stages 2 and Stage 5 geography and science using the NSW ecosystems on show resource. https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/ professional-learning/scan/past-issues/vol-37/sparknsw-ecosystems-on-show



"The climate in NSW is changing and as a result communities and environments are at risk to the many impacts of climate change.

'Students will work through the steps in the sustainability action process to investigate the science of climate change, the risks facing their local community and local environment and take action to adapt and become more resilient to a changing climate."

The resource is a complete package that contains links to resources needed by students to complete their learning.

Source https://sites.google.com/education.nsw.gov.au/climatechangepreparedness/home

The following article by Gaye Braiding is a SPaRK (Shared Practice and Resource Kit) is based on the resource NSW ecosystems on show referred to above. Gaye shares teaching ideas for Stage 2 and Stage 5 Geography and Science and demonstrates the application of the Sustainability Action Process to an issue linked to biodiversity.