

VCE Outdoor and Environmental Studies



GREAT OCEAN ROAD
COAST & PARKS AUTHORITY

VICTORIAN CURRICULUM LINKS

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Outdoor and Environmental Studies	Study design / key knowledge notes
Unit 1: Area of Study 1 – Outcome 1 <i>Motivations for outdoor experiences</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The use and meanings of terms including nature, outdoor environments, wilderness, managed parks, and urban environments and built environments• Types of outdoor environments: wilderness, managed parks, urban environments and built environments• The range of motivations for seeking outdoor experiences• The range of differing personal responses to outdoor environments, such as fear, appreciation, awe and contemplation• A variety of ways in which people know, experience and respond to outdoor environments:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• as a resource, for recreation and adventure, spiritual connection and as a study site• through experiential knowledge, environmental history and ecological, social and economic perspectives• The requirements for safe participation in outdoor experiences, such as basic first aid or the conditions necessary for the safe conduct of specific activities.

<p>Unit 2: Area of Study 1 – Outcome 1 <i>Investigating outdoor environments</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of outdoor environments, including alpine, marine, coastal, wetlands, grassland, forest and arid • Recreational users’ understandings of specific outdoor environments • Scientific understandings of specific outdoor environments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interrelationships between biotic and abiotic components • effects of natural changes to environments on people and places such as day to night, seasons, tides, flood, drought, migration, succession, and climate change • the effect fire (both wildfire and controlled burns) has on the environment • Land managers’ understandings of specific outdoor environments, including the features that can be used to delineate one particular area from another such as landform, vegetation type, public and private land, types of parks and reserves, management zones • Artistic, Indigenous, and historical understandings of specific outdoor environments.
<p>Unit 2: Area of Study 2 – Outcome 2 <i>Impacts on outdoor environments</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of conservation, commercial and recreational activities on outdoor environments • Community-based environmental action to promote positive impacts of humans on outdoor environments • Impacts of technologies on outdoor environments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct impacts, such as recreational vehicles and snow making • indirect or deferred impacts, such as equipment manufacture and transport • The impact on outdoor environments of urbanisation and changing human lifestyles

<p>Unit 4: Area of Study 1 – Outcome 1 <i>Healthy outdoor environments</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understandings and critiques of sustainability and sustainable development • Observable characteristics of healthy outdoor environments, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quality and adequacy of water, air and soil • amount of biodiversity • amount of pest and introduced species • The state of outdoor environments in Australia, with reference to common themes used in the current national State of the Environment report • The importance of healthy outdoor environments for individual physical and emotional wellbeing, and for the future of society • The potential impact on society and outdoor environments of land degradation, introduced species, climate change, urbanisation and other significant threats.
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