

## Auseco's Virtual Fieldwork

Auseco has virtual excursions ready for Stage 4, 5 & 6 Geography students. These include Landscapes & Landforms, Environmental Change & Management and Biophysical Interactions.

Our all-inclusive virtual platform allows students to easily navigate through the work following the order of the Auseco worksheets that are normally completed in the field. Teachers have full flexibility on how to deliver the work. Some teachers have organised an intensive day for the entire cohort in the school gymnasium whilst others have run the program over a week, allowing students to complete it at a slower pace.

The online platform that is used to present the work is Prezi. It contains everything required to complete the worksheets, including instructional videos of the site and equipment, photos of all results taken directly from field equipment (e.g. anemometers and clinometers) and copies of secondary sources (e.g. aerial photos and topographic maps). Answer sheets are also supplied to teachers for assistance with marking.

The cost is \$10 per student + GST. Short preview videos are available at [www.auseco.com.au](http://www.auseco.com.au) under Virtual Excursions Geography. Auseco is also offering interested teachers full access to the Prezi platform to explore the content and see what's on offer before purchase. Simply request this when you complete a booking form from the website.

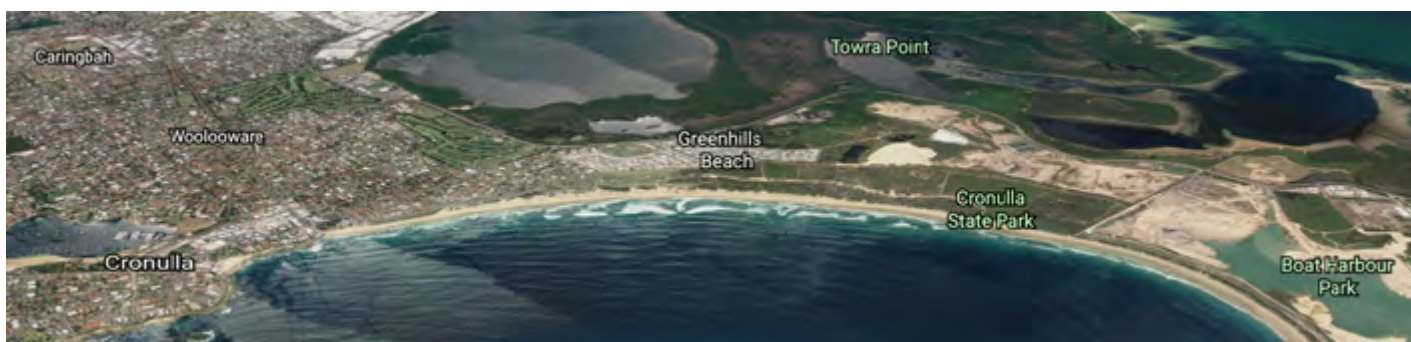
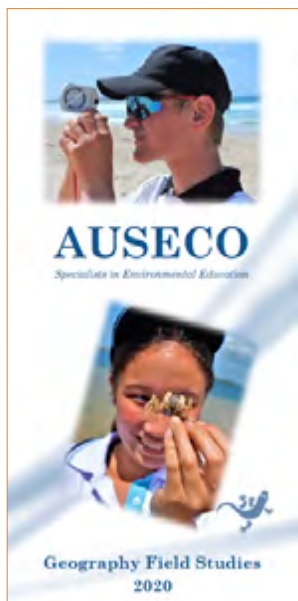
More are on the way! **Stage 4 Place & Liveability**, **Stage 5 Sustainable Biomes**, **Stage 5 Changing Places** and **Stage 6 Urban Study** are currently in production.

### Stage 4 Landscapes & Landforms Mt Keira, Wollongong

Students will investigate the **Illawarra Escarpment at Mt Keira** and examine the geological and human history of the area. Students will measure physical characteristics such as foliage cover (using a coverscope), tree height (using a laser rangefinder) and soil moisture (using a soil moisture meter) in two landscapes - open forest (at the top of the escarpment) and rainforest (at the bottom of the escarpment). Students will observe evidence of mass movements as an example of a local geomorphic hazard, and will use hand lenses to observe the geology of rockfalls up close.

### Stage 5 Environmental Change & Management, Cronulla

Students will investigate coastal processes by measuring and studying elements of a **natural/re-established sand dune**, such as size and shape, vegetation type and cover and wind speed. Identification of landforms and examination of land use in the surrounding areas will be undertaken using aerial photographs or cadastral maps. Historical photographs will be used to examine the effects of human development and storm erosion processes on the sand dunes. Detailed investigation of past and present management strategies will also be undertaken.



Top: Screen captures from the AUSECO website. Centre: Mt Keira Ring Track signage from Wikimedia Commons. Above: Cronulla and Cronulla Beach screen capture from Google Earth