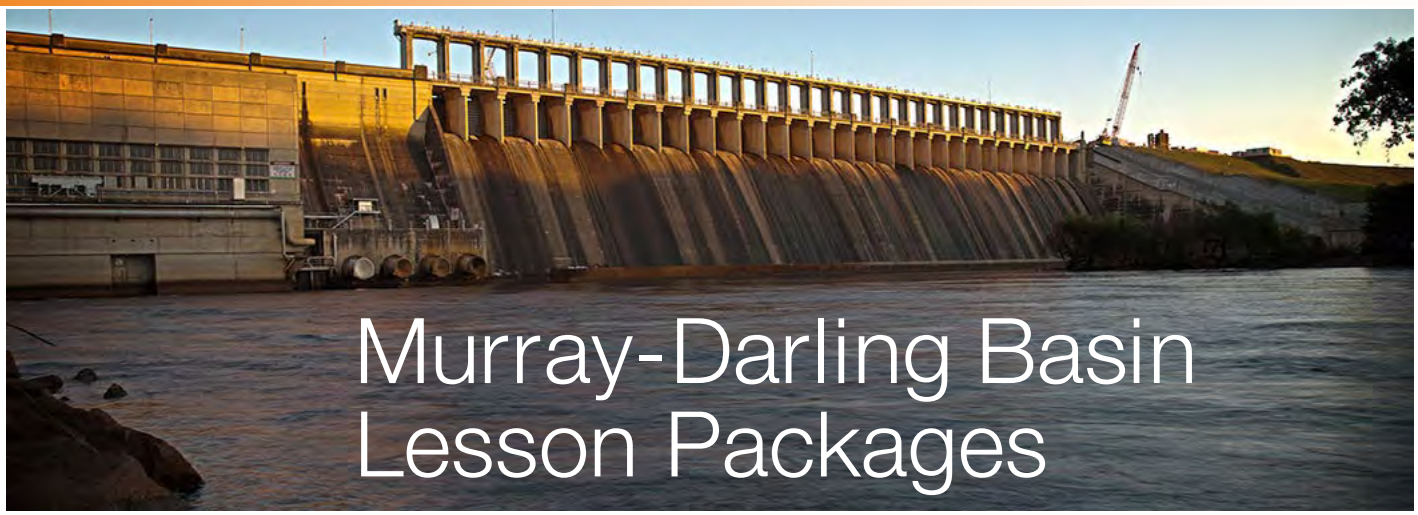
WEB RESOURCE



Murray-Darling Basin Lesson Packages

https://www.mdba.gov.au/education/lesson-packages

Sharon McLean, St Ignatius College, Riverview

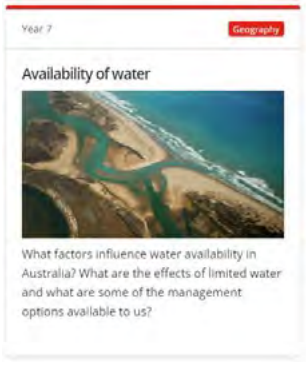
The Murray-Darling Basin Commission has produced a highly engaging and informative series of lesson packages suitable for Stages 4 and 5 Geography. The units provide opportunities for student centred learning, discovery and application of learning in the world using a variety of pedagogical practices.

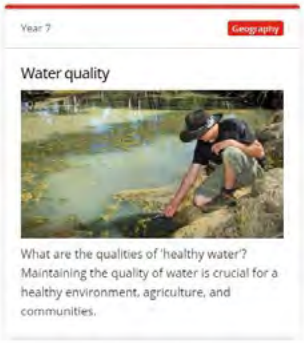
The units cover geographical concepts: Place, Space, Environment, Interconnection, Scale, Sustainability, Change and the cross-curriculum priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures and sustainability. Students will also engage in using technology, critical and creative thinking and complete literacy and numeracy activities.

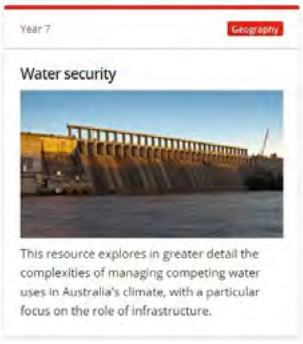
Topics available are: **Water as a Resource, Environmental Change and Management, Life and Environment**. Each package is clearly structured with outcomes, Australian Curriculum focus, preparation information, and activities to engage students in the topic, opportunities to explore, elaborate on their learning and draw conclusions. The packages include teachers notes on how to use the resource and downloadable activities and case studies.

Features of the Packages

Water as a Resource (suitable for Stage 4: Water in the World)







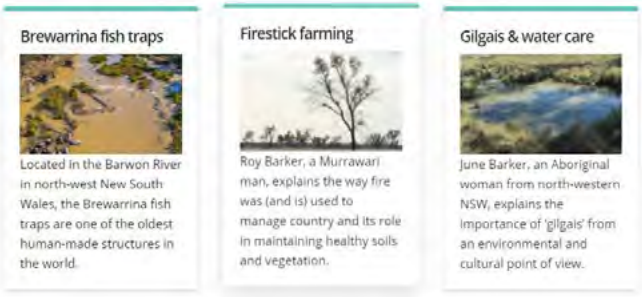
Caring for River Country (suitable for Stage 5: Environmental Change and Management)

"Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students should be warned that the videos and publications used in this resource contain images of deceased persons which may cause sadness or distress."

1. Our river country

2. A traditional management strategy

Traditional Management Case Studies examples



3 Merging tradition and science

Worksheet question 5: Think: how might it be challenging to create a water management plan that accounts for traditional cultural/ceremonial water uses?

4. Follow-up activity ideas

Discover local knowledge

Who are the Traditional Owners in your area? Invite an Elder to speak to the class about some of the ways they have traditionally used and managed the environment.

What season is it?

The Aboriginal groups throughout the Basin used different seasons to Europeans. Examine an Aboriginal seasonal calendar near your area and discuss: what season are you in now? What actions are associated with this time? Here's an example.

Hear a Dreaming story

Dreaming stories play a significant role in Aboriginal life and spirituality. Some of the most celebrated Dreaming stories are those describing how the River Murray came to be, including the Bangarang story and the story of Ponde, the River Creator.

WEB RESOURCE: MURRAY-DARLING BASIN

Life and the Environment – Wetlands (suitable for Stage 4: Landscapes and Landforms and Water in the World)

1. What is a wetland

2. What lives in a wetland?

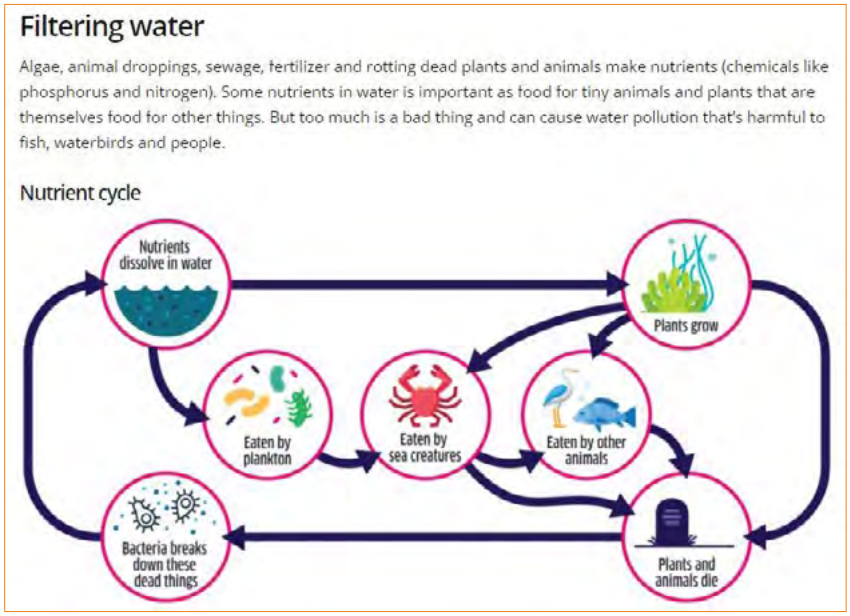
Activity 1: What is naturally found in a wetland? Worksheets 1 and 2; wetlands and food webs worksheet.

3. Food webs

4. Case Study – Macquarie Marshes

Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f9/Macquarie_Marshes_healthy_July_2008.jpg

5. Importance of wetlands



6. Experiments