

EDITORIAL

Welcome to Edition 1 of the Geography Bulletin for 2023. Many thanks to those who contributed to another journal full of ideas and strategies for the Geography classroom.

The core content of this edition is Spatial Technologies – an integral component of contemporary geography education as well as an essential tool for classroom use. The following articles represent a variety of tools useful for the classroom as well as applications for spatial technologies in the wider world.

- In *What is Geospatial*, Paul Mead from She Maps, outlines the essential tools, skills, and applications of GIS for those with limited understanding of the place of geospatial education in Geography.
- Jennah Williams from ESRI Education Australia, illustrates the use of ArcGIS tools in *GIS for Education*.
- Mick Law, from Contour Education, continues to generously share his toolbox of spatial technologies with NSW educators in *My Top Geospatial tools from 2022*.
- In *Using StoryMaps to invigorate the Geography classroom*, Katie Vidal, from She Maps, extols the virtues of this tool to communicate data and findings from geographical inquiry. Katie also shares links to existing StoryMaps for all topics in Geography 7–10.
- The value of spatial technologies extends to careers and real-world applications such as environmental management. Ann Crosby, from GEONADIR, provides examples of geospatial applications in *How drones are changing environmental monitoring*.
- Little has been written about assessing geospatial knowledge and skills. This makes *Developing and assessing students spatial thinking skills when using GIS* by James Hickman, Geographical Association UK, an interesting read. James suggests a framework for assessing student progress.
- In *Earth Observation Big Data and its application in the classroom* Chris Jenkins and Kevin Davies provide an insight into one teachers' experience building skills in the use of spatial technologies.

Other content in this edition has been shared by practicing classroom teachers:

- An innovative Cross Curriculum initiative from Santa Sabina College to integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander themes in History and Geography classrooms is explained by Kate Corcoran in *An Integrated Approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Themes*.

Ideas for enhancing literacy and numeracy including:

- *Teaching strategies to build visual literacy* from Jane Boland.
- *Using directive terms* from Drew Collins.
- *The story of bottled water: Guided reading* from Rebecca Sutcliffe.
- *Incorporating numeracy in fieldwork* from Kathy Jones.
- *Literacy and numeracy: Using scaffolds, frameworks and templates* from Katerina Stojanovski and Christina Kalinic.
- *Transects in geography* from Martin Pluss



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NOTE: there are four appendices that supplement this edition of the geography bulletin on the GTA web site. They accompany the article Using Scaffolds, Frameworks & Templates.

Appendix 1: Landforms and Landscapes: Queenscliff Beach

Appendix 2: See Think Wonder Photo interpretation

Appendix 3: See Think Wonder Template

Appendix 4: Thinking sheet Urbanisation



NOTE

Edition 2 of the Geography Bulletin for 2023 will be dedicated to Stage 6. The edition will contain an analysis of the key components and requirements of the NESA Stage 6 Geography Syllabus 2022, and include advice and ideas for programming, resourcing, and teaching to meet syllabus requirements.

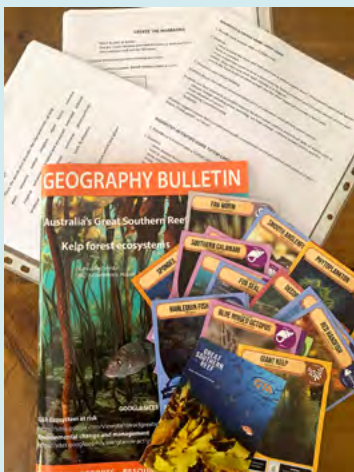
A printed copy of this edition will be available for those who attend the **2023 Stage 6 Conference: Plan early, Plan well, Plan together** on Friday 5 and Saturday 6 May at the Aerial Function Centre, UTS, Sydney. Members will have access to the PDF version on the GTA website as for other editions of the Geography Bulletin.

A summary of ideas and issues discussed at the conference will be sent to all members after the conference.

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Resources for sale (Available until sold out)

GTA NSW & ACT is selling a **Resource Pack for the Great Southern Reef / Kelp Forest Ecosystems**. They are surplus stock from the 2022 AGTA Conference in Hobart being sold at cost. Each pack contains:



- A quality printed Bulletin Edition 4 2021 (60 pages – Case study only)
- Printed TOTEM / FOOD WEB CARDS (Set of 31 cards) and suggested activities
- Google site links for Stage 6 (Ecosystems) and Stage 5 version. Access via QR Code.
- Recorded PPT of the presentation on Kelp Forests / Great Southern Reef from 2022 AGTA Conference in Hobart. Via downloadable Vimeo link.
- Packaging (Folder, card pocket, mail satchel)

[Register here](#) – GREAT SOUTHERN REEF RESOURCES

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