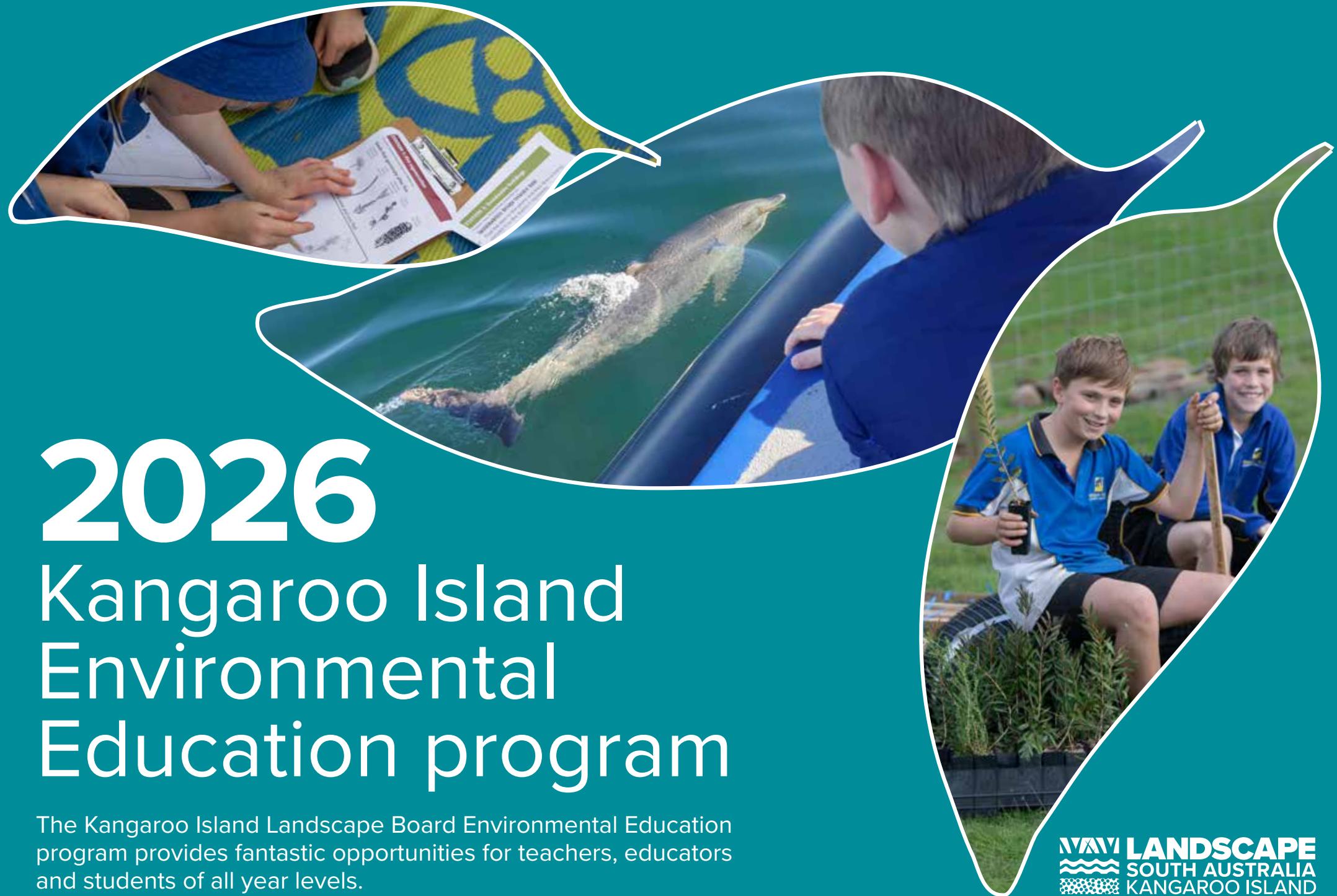


2026 Kangaroo Island Environmental Education program

The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board Environmental Education program provides fantastic opportunities for teachers, educators and students of all year levels.



2026 Education program **Contents**



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Are you looking at a printed copy of the information pack but would prefer a digital copy?

Download here:



This project is funded by the South Australian Government's Landscape Priorities Fund (LPF). The LPF redistributes landscape levies collected by Green Adelaide in the metropolitan area to regional landscape boards.

The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board gratefully acknowledges the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board for providing resources to adapt for Kangaroo Island.



Education program overview

Learn about our programs, sessions and what we can offer you and your school.



Education program overview

Meet our Environmental Education Coordinator



Deb Laver has been a Park Ranger with National Parks and Wildlife for 10 years on Kangaroo Island, and has also worked in a variety of project roles with the Department for Environment across South Australia, where she has developed a strong foundation in environmental stewardship. In addition to her work in the field, Deb has served as a relief and contract teacher across Kangaroo Island's Community Education's three campuses, further expanding her skills and expertise in the classroom and in curriculum development.

In recent years, Deb has worked with several environmental non-government organisations to deliver Kangaroo Island-based projects, with a particular focus on community engagement and volunteer management. With a passion for fostering community connections, Deb is dedicated to building meaningful relationships within local communities and connecting and helping young people with their community and local environments.

Deb Laver

Environmental Education Coordinator

P 08 8553 2476

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A 35 Dauncey Street, Kingscote SA 5223



Education program overview

Looking for ways
to incorporate the
environment into the
classroom?



Education program overview

What do we do?

Education program vision

To create a thriving community of learners who are deeply connected to Kangaroo Island's unique environment, through collaborative and innovative educational programs. By partnering with Kangaroo Island Community Education (KICE), we aim to provide free, curriculum-aligned environmental education resources and opportunities that empower educators, students, and the broader community to engage with their local landscapes. Through the development of interactive learning modules, educational kits, and specialised support, we strive to inspire a new generation of environmental stewards who will protect and preserve Kangaroo Island for future generations.

Environmental Education Coordinator role

The Environmental Education Coordinator (EEC) aims to strengthen its partnership with KICE by creating a holistic education program that aligns with both the Australian and South Australian curriculum. This program is designed to engage teachers across KICE's three campuses, providing resources and opportunities to integrate environmental education into teaching practices. The EEC plays a key role in this initiative, collaborating closely with the KI Landscape Board staff, the KICE Executive Leadership Team and teaching staff, together developing and implementing a cohesive program that fosters environmental stewardship and deepens students' connection to KI's unique natural landscape.



Education program focus

- Develop educational modules and unit plans on local environmental and sustainability topics, providing teachers comprehensive resources, expert support, and a variety of interactive educational kits available to borrow to enhance learning outcomes.
- Foster positive behaviour change and build leadership capacity through increased knowledge, skills and participation to manage local landscapes.
- Provide opportunities for young people to connect with and develop a love for nature and their local landscape.
- Educate students, educators and community members so they are well informed and empowered to take action now, and into the future.



What we offer

- Educational modules and unit plans focused on local and environmental sustainability topics.
- A central hub for environmental and educational tools and localised resources.
- Resource support including educational resources and equipment available for loan.
- Assistance with planning and facilitation of excursions and specialist guest speakers.
- Young Environmental Leaders Program targeted towards Year 5 students to develop leadership in environmental sustainability matters.
- Teacher support and collaboration in planning sustainability-themed units.

The EEC continually develops and updates resources for teachers. Explore our website to discover our most up-to-date available resources at:

www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ki/education

To find out more about the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board visit:

www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ki



Education program overview

Questions



I don't know how to teach my students about topics like birds, frogs, water resources, food production, sustainability, fish, threatened animals or waterbugs.

Do you have any ideas?

Yes, we have lots of ideas about incorporating environmental topics and themes into your students' learning and can connect you to local resources and experts.

The Education program loan kits are free and easy to use. We are always building on them as we acquire new resources and ideas. You may also like to subscribe to our term [environmental education update](#) to keep up to date with latest available resources and information.

Check out the most up to date [loan and resource catalogue](#) for ideas and feel free to contact the EEC if you have any questions or want to discuss some ideas.

I don't have time to add environmental education to my already busy schedule.

Learning about environmental education, sustainability, and how to care for local landscapes doesn't have to feel like "extra work" – it can easily fit into many aspects of the Australian and South Australian curriculum. Our resources and activities are easy to use

and adaptable across different year levels and subject areas, and are a great way to add value to your lessons.

Can you come to my campus?

Yes. With adequate notice and planning, the EEC can visit and support learning on campus, or help find an appropriate local expert to support students learning.

Can you be a guest speaker for my class?

The EEC has a broad knowledge of environmental topics, but time and availability can sometimes be a limiting factor. Luckily, Kangaroo Island has many local experts who are happy to volunteer their time to help students learn. A key part of the EEC's role is connecting schools with these valuable community resources to enhance educational experiences. So contact the EEC to discuss suitable community contacts.





I have an excursion planned, can you come along and help?

The Environmental Education program has limited time and staff available to assist with excursions. However, the EEC will do their best to connect you with field specialists whenever possible. The EEC is always happy to discuss and collaborate on ideas for planning excursions and field trips that enhance students' learning beyond the classroom.

I can't find any local information on a topic I want to teach in class. Can you help?

Most of the resources we create come from teachers asking for information to support what they're covering in class. If you've got an idea for a resource, need something specific, or just want more info on a topic, get in touch with the EEC — we'd love to chat and see what we can do to help!

Are you able to work with students who are educated at home?

Yes, we are able to support home-school networks within the Kangaroo Island region with [equipment](#), [loan kits](#), [resources](#) and [information](#) in the same way as schools are supported.

Visit [our website](#) to subscribe to the [environmental education update](#) to stay up to date or visit our page to browse resources and learn more about the Education program.

How much does it all cost?

There is no cost for use of resources, services and activities offered by the Education program. This project is supported by the KI Landscape Board through funding from the South Australian Government's Landscape Priorities Fund.

My school is not on Kangaroo Island, can we still be involved?

The Education program is able to support schools from outside the region with information and resources.

Visit [our website](#) to download free resources. You can also subscribe to our regular [environmental education update](#) to receive information and links to great resources.

For more information contact Deb Laver, the Environmental Education Coordinator.



Additional support for your school



The Environmental Education Coordinator can also provide the following support and assistance to schools. Contact the Environmental Education Coordinator for more information or to discuss your specific needs.

One-on-one support

- Assist with providing contacts and technical advice about local on-ground projects that schools/students can be involved with.
- Working with student environmental groups to facilitate youth voice or develop project ideas.
- Assist with information and ideas on how to connect students and staff with nature.
- Assist with seeking additional resources and information to support teachers in planning units on specific topics.

Work experience

- The KI Landscape Board can provide work experience placements to students who are interested in learning about and/or considering careers in the environmental or sustainable agriculture fields. Places are limited, so get in early to discuss.

Careers

- Provide information on career pathways and opportunities.
- Staff are able to attend careers information sessions or expos.

Facilitate class excursions

- Assist teachers with identifying suitable locations for class field trips or excursions
- Provide information and initiate contact with environmental professionals who may be able to assist with topic specific field trips.

Guest speakers

- Assist with identifying and contacting suitable guest speakers (for in-class or on-site presentations) on environmental topics (e.g. wetland monitoring/health, pest plant and animal control, sustainable farming).

Student representative council (SRC) and school environment groups

- Assist/provide support to SRC in developing environmental projects at their campus or school.
- Assist/provide information on how to develop a school environment group and encourage youth voice and recognition.



On-ground projects

- Connecting schools and students with community groups and on-ground projects they can get involved with.
- Assist with ideas and contacts for projects to deliver within school grounds.

Research projects

- Students undertaking SACE research projects can visit our website for ideas on environmental topics relevant to our region: www.landscapesa.gov.au/ki
- For those with an approved topic and research questions please contact the landscape board office to obtain information or to reach the relevant program or staff member.

P 08 8553 2476

E ki.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au

Resources to borrow



The Environmental Education Coordinator has a large range of resources and kits available for loan.

They contain equipment, resources and activities. Kits are designed to be user-friendly and add value to learning. You do not need to be an expert to use them or talk about what's in them.

Kits are available for pick up from the Landscape Board's Kingscote office. Speak to the Environmental Education Coordinator to learn more about the resources, book or to arrange pick up.

Some of the loan kits available:

- soils
- birdwatcher's kit (bino's & bird books)
- macroinvertebrates
- invertebrates
- fungi
- birds
- water monitoring

Download the full catalogue of loan kits and equipment here!



Visit our website to check out our free resources.



Loan kits are available for up to 2 weeks at a time. If the kits are required for a longer period please discuss with the Environmental Education Coordinator.



Young Environmental Leaders **YEL Program**



Learn about this free program
open to year 5 students.

 **WAVI LANDSCAPE**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
KANGAROO ISLAND

Young Environmental Leaders Overview



The Young Environmental Leaders (YEL) program is open to students in year 5 and provides them with environmental and leadership opportunities. Forums are held once per term in different locations across Kangaroo Island. Student representatives attend forums and then share their knowledge and skills back at school and in their local communities.

Students participate in hands-on activities and projects, while also learning and practicing skills in communication and public speaking. All of these experiences will assist them in developing as leaders in their school community.

YEL forums provide:

- knowledge about local landscapes and caring for natural resources
- hands-on activities and take-home resources relevant to the curriculum
- a chance for students to get outside, get their hands dirty and learn about their local environment
- leadership skills development, public speaking, peer teaching and educating their community
- opportunities to develop relationships with other campuses and students.

There will be one Kangaroo Island YEL forum held each term.

Students can apply to join the YEL program in early Term 1. YEL students will be accompanied on the day by a teacher and volunteer.

Students are not required to come to all forums, however students will receive the most benefit from attending more than one throughout the year.

How does the YEL program benefit teachers?

The YEL program allows teachers to:

- Receive information for lessons, resources, activities, and curriculum links to utilise and share at school.
- Network with and learn from other teachers and professionals.
- Develop knowledge and skills in caring for and conserving local landscapes.
- Gain professional development recognition for the forums they attend.

Activities and experiences presented at YEL forums link to various curriculum subject areas including science, HASS, geography, health and physical education, and maths.

Contact the Environmental Education Coordinator for more information.



Overview

What's the aim?

Empower young people by fostering a strong connection with nature and their local landscapes, ensuring they can appreciate it into the future.

Our goal is to provide students with opportunities to develop as young leaders.

We believe in the 'ripple effect,' where students learn through hands-on activities and then share their experiences back at school and with the wider school community.

Additionally, we encourage students to actively participate and take positive actions within their local environment, community, and at home.

1 forum per term
10am – 2pm

Need to know:

Forums are open to all Kangaroo Island Community Education and home school students in year 5.

Each forum is hosted in a different location across the region, requiring some travel.

Students are to be accompanied by a classroom teacher, or temporary relief teacher, with support from volunteers.

Campuses are required to register on-line for each forum to secure places.

The EEC will work closely with relevant classroom teachers in the planning of each terms YEL forum, including term dates and locations, risk assessment and consent forms.

All relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and tools will be provided on the day.

Weather checks and alternative locations will be provided in the lead up to YEL forums to ensure the best action is taken.

YEL forums will be canceled in advance if extreme or catastrophic weather is forecast.

Empowering
Take action

What's involved?

Forums run from 10 am to 2 pm and incorporate various environmental or agricultural and horticultural themes. These sessions include hands-on activities and personal skills development for all participants.

Please remember to bring morning tea, recess and lunch to each forum. The Environmental Education Coordinator will provide basic tea and coffee supplies for teachers/adults and water for refilling bottles.

Please ensure staff and students wear appropriate clothing and footwear and pack for kinds of weather.

Represent your campus
Great locations

Benefits

The YEL program provides many benefits to the students, teachers and mentors, allowing them to:

Students:

- Develop a connection to the natural environment, resulting in healthier, happier kids who are more mindful of their surroundings.
- Build confidence and skills in leadership, public speaking, peer teaching, and more.
- Establish friendships and exchanging ideas with students from other schools.
- Gain knowledge and skills in caring for and conserving local landscapes.
- Feel inspired and empowered to take action and make positive changes in their local community and at home.
- Be rewarded for their efforts in learning and sharing throughout the year.

Teachers/mentors:

- Receive information for lessons, resources, activities, and curriculum links to utilise and share at school.
- Network with and learn from other teachers and professionals.
- Develop knowledge, skills and confidence in caring for and conserving local landscapes.

Schools and community:

- Develop relationships with community members and other organisations and the Education program.
- YEL students pass on knowledge and skills to peers, teachers, friends and family and community members.
- Enhance student leadership and participation in community events and activities.
- Contribute to improved sustainability due to student-led projects e.g. improved biodiversity or waste reduction.
- Receive in-school support for learning and on-ground projects from the EEC where possible.



SA Curriculum

The information and activities presented at YEL forums link to various curriculum subject areas including science, HASS, geography, health and physical education, and maths.

YEL activities tie in well with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Environmental issues, often complex, require innovative solutions. The Education team encourages hands-on practical activities that enable learners to experiment, use new technologies, test ideas, and create innovative solutions to real problems.

In both STEM and sustainability, relationships with local industries and communities play a crucial role in teacher and student learning. YEL contributes to the development of these relationships through expert guest speakers and linking with existing projects.



Links with the Australian Curriculum for year 5

Students explain interconnections between people and places and people and environments, describing how these interconnections change places and environments. **(HASS)**

Students examine how connecting to the environment can enhance health and well-being. **(HPE)**

Students predict the effect of human and environmental changes on interactions between organisms. **(Science)**

Students describe and predict the effect of environmental changes on individual living things. **(Science)**

Links to general capabilities

Literacy skills are developed by students presenting ideas and opinions, through sharing their learning back at school and within their wider community.

Critical and creative thinking is developed when students consider environmental issues and propose and investigate solutions.

Personal and social capability is developed through interacting with students from different schools, working in teams, and developing leadership skills.

Ethical understanding is developed by students engaging and discussing the ethical values of environmental issues such as climate change and sustainable living.

Cross-curriculum priorities — sustainability

YEL helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, values and world views necessary to act in ways that contribute to more sustainable patterns of living.

Students focus on protecting environments and creating a more ecologically and socially just world through informed action.

Safety

The main goal of YEL forums is to engage students in hands-on projects and activities outdoors in the environment and in the community.

Excursion risk assessment and safety of students is the responsibility of the school and supervising adults in attendance.

Education program staff work to provide a safe environment for all YEL attendees. All staff have current senior first aid, mental health first aid, WWCC and RRAHN-EC.

A general risk assessment will be provided to schools prior to each forum with details specific to that event. Schools are invited to use this information to inform required risk assessment.

External providers

Where external providers are used to provide activities (including but not limited to boat rides, kayaking, live animals and walking tours), safety information and instruction will be as per the providers policies and adhered to by attendees.

Clothing/PPE

All YEL attendees are asked to wear sturdy enclosed shoes to all forums and to dress appropriately for the weather on the day.

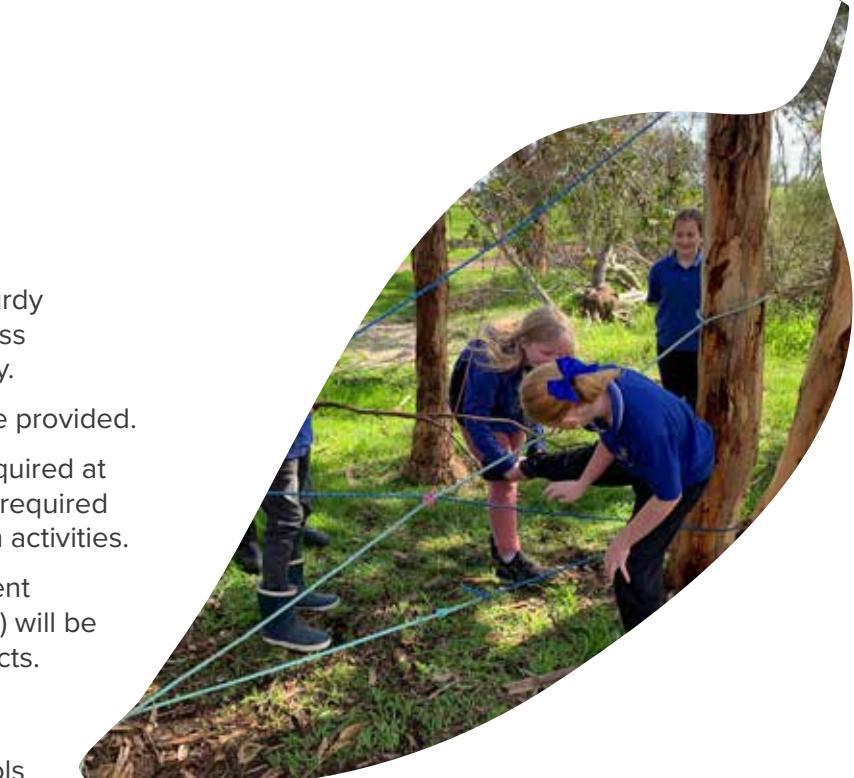
Hats are essential and sunscreen will be provided.

Long pants are preferred and will be required at some locations. Attendees not wearing required clothing will not be able to participate in activities.

Personal protective clothing or equipment (including safety glasses and gloves etc) will be provided as required for activities/projects.

Tools and equipment

Where an activity calls for the use of tools (including shovels, trowels, rakes etc), a safety briefing will be provided prior to use and supervising adults including Education program staff will assist in supervision during the activity.



Other opportunities

Learn about citizen science projects and curriculum links.



Other opportunities Citizen Science



Get your students actively involved with monitoring and recording what's going on at your site or in your local area. It's a great way to participate in outdoor learning and connects with maths, literacy and data collection outcomes for many year levels.

Here are some suggestions:

Birds:

Easy bird counts and activities for school or backyard.

birddata.birdlife.org.au

aussiebirdcount.org.au

fairywrenproject.org

ebird.org/about/ebird-mobile/

Bugs/insects:

Uncover the extraordinary invertebrates that live in our gardens, parks and schoolyards.

[Bugs in My Backyard Week](#)

Echidnas:

Contribute data, echidna sightings and even send in scats:

adelaide.edu.au/environment/research/citizen-science/echidna-csi

Frogs:

Learn about local frogs, participate in easy monitoring using

FrogSpotter app:
frogwatchsa.com.au

Fungi:

Contribute fungi sightings:
fungimap.org.au

iNaturalist app and website:

Connect with nature anytime, anywhere. Explore and share your observations from the natural world. Get suggested IDs for plants and animals. inaturalist.org

Insect Investigators:

Schools can utilise resources to bring some six-legged learning into the classroom:

insectinvestigators.com.au/all-teacher-resources/

Coast and marine:

Redmap invites you to spot, log and map marine species that are uncommon in Australia, or along particular parts of our coast

www.redmap.org.au/

Water quality monitoring:

If you have a waterway nearby you can regularly test salinity, pH and turbidity and upload your results. Kits can be borrowed from the Education team.

More information:

landscape.sa.gov.au/mr/get-involved/citizen-science/water-monitoring

Water monitoring results can be uploaded to the Waterwatch SA data portal:
biocollect.ala.org.au/waterwatchsa

Water bugs (macroinvertebrates):

Complete your own waterbug blitz and contribute data. Borrow kits from the Education team:
www.waterbugblitz.org.au/

Wildlife Spotter:

Identify and tag images of animals and collection objects to support information discovery and research:
volunteer.ala.org.au/wildlife-spotter



Special dates for 2026

February

- 2 [World Wetlands Day](#)
- 11 [International day of women and girls in science](#)
- 27 [Clean Up Australia Day \(schools\)](#)
- 28 [SeaWeek until 8 March](#)



October

- 4 [World Animal Day](#)
- 5 [World Habitat Day](#)
- 12 National Farmer's Day
- 21 Reptile Awareness Day
- 19-25 [National Bird Week: Aussie Bird Count](#)

November

- 20 [National Agriculture Day](#)
- [Great Koala Count SA](#)
- [Bugs in My Backyard Week](#)

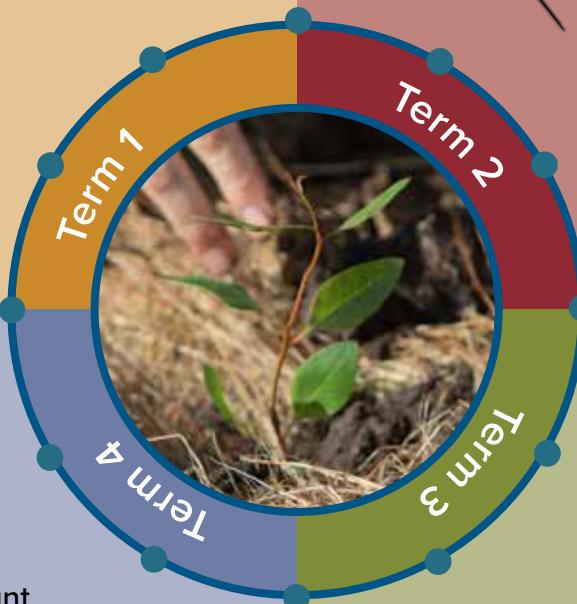
December

- 4 [Wildlife Conservation Day](#)
- 5 [International Volunteer Day](#)



April

- 22 [Earth Day](#)



May

- 9 [World Migratory Bird Day](#)
- 15 [Endangered Species Day](#)
- 18-24 [National Volunteer Week](#)
- 20 [World Bee Day](#)
- 22 [International Day for Biological Diversity](#)
- 31 [World Parrot Day](#)

June

- 5 [World Environment Day](#)
- 6 [World Pest Day](#)
- 8 [World Oceans Day](#)



July

- 16 [World Snake Day](#)
- 25 [Schools Tree Day](#)
- 26 [National Tree Day](#)
- 28 [World Nature Conservation Day](#)

August

- 14 [World Lizard Day](#)
- 15-23 [National Science Week](#)

September

- 1 [Wattle Day](#)
- 7 [Threatened Species Day](#)
- 27 [World Rivers Day](#)
- [KI Glossy Black-cockatoo Census](#)
- KICE inter-campus Twitchathon



How does it all link to the curriculum?

Learning about our local landscapes fits easily into many areas of the curriculum.

Education program Curriculum links



The Education program provides opportunities to address the Australian Curriculum cross-curriculum priorities. This page outlines the organising ideas for Sustainability.

Sustainability

The Education program supports the concept of Education for Sustainability (EfS). EfS develops the knowledge, skills, values and world views necessary for people to contribute to more sustainable patterns of living.

The Australian Curriculum identifies **sustainability** as a cross-curriculum priority, which means it is embedded in all learning areas.

Science, technology, engineering, maths (STEM) and HASS link well with the topic of sustainability. Environmental issues are often challenging, requiring complex solutions. STEM encourages the use of hands-on practical activities to help learners experiment, use new technologies, test ideas and make/create innovative solutions to real, complex problems.

The services and resources offered by the Education program provide teacher with the knowledge and resources to address sustainability within their programs.

All resources developed by the Education team are linked to the Australian Curriculum and the program links directly to the following **sustainability organising ideas**:

OI.1 The biosphere is a dynamic system providing conditions that sustain life on Earth

OI.2 All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival

OI.3 Sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems

OI.6 The sustainability of ecological, social and economic systems is achieved through informed individual and community action that values local and global equity and fairness across generations into the future

OI.7 Actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments

OI.9 Sustainable futures result from actions designed to preserve and/or restore the quality and uniqueness of environments.





Consent forms

Forms to enable the use of images for promotional purposes.

To support the promotion of the Environmental Education Program please have any participating students complete the KI Landscape Board Media Consent form available through *EdSmart*, or by using the attached hard copy.

For more information:

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