**The Earth’s Environment – S2 Geography**

**Program overview**

This program focuses on the Stage 2 Geography content ‘*The Earth’s Environment*’ Students will visit The Coal Loader Sustainability Centre at Waverton, and Balls Bead Reserve to explore the natural vegetation and native animals of a place in Australia, and examine the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people. They will learn about the ways people value environments, including Aboriginal people, and recognise differing views on how sustainability can be achieved.

**Location**

The Coal Loader Sustainability Centre Waverton and Balls Head Reserve

Download the Community and Remembrance Excursion Map with approximate walking route, meeting location and pick up location.

**Key inquiry question**

Why do people value Balls Head Reserve and how can it be protected?

**Key syllabus outcomes**

how does the environment support the lives of people and other living things?

how do different views about the environment influence approaches to sustainability?

examine features and characteristics of places and environments

describe the ways people, places and environments interact

examine differing perceptions about the management of places and environments

acquire and communicate geographical information using geographical tools for enquiry

Integrating the ‘*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures*, and the Sustainability’ Cross Curriculum Priority is a feature of the program.

**Skills outcomes**

* Collecting and recording geographical information by observing, recording and using maps
* explaining how and why people in the past may have valued environments differently than today
* encourage literacy skills in talking and listening.

**On the day activities**

During the full day fieldwork excursion, students will:

acquire, process and communicate geographic information to answer a fieldwork question

learn about past uses of the site including those of Aboriginal people, and as a working coal loader

learn basic geographic tools including map reading, line drawings, and observation

undertake a guided tour of the Coal Loader Sustainability Centre to learn about actions that improve sustainability

undertake a bushwalk in Balls Head Reserve to learn about features and characteristics of places and environments

**Excursion program**

Download The Earth’s Environment outline to help with your excursion planning

**Risk assessment**

Download The Earth’s Environment risk assessment plan to help with your excursion planning

**The Earth’s Environment flyer**

Download The Earth’s Environment flyer