

# Landscapes and landforms

A fieldwork program to support Stage 4 Geography

**OBSERVATORY HILL**  
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE



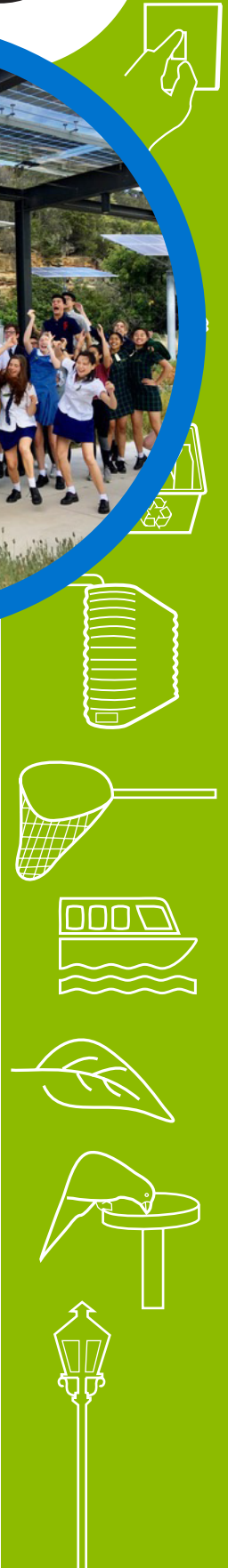
**Landscapes and landforms** is a S4 Geography fieldwork program that focuses on a harbour landscape and a headland landform at Balls Head Reserve, and the Coal Loader Sustainability Centre, Waverton.

Students will visit the **headland landform** at Balls Head Reserve, and observe the **Harbour landscape**, to investigate the processes that created it, the value people place on it, and ways to sustainably manage it. Students will participate in hands-on activities to enhance geographical inquiry including topographic map reading, contour modelling, and using geographic measurement tools including compass and GPS devices.



The program has three main components:

1. Introductory activities, including a comprehensive presentation on Balls Head and Sydney Harbour to familiarise students with the study site and fieldwork concepts covered.
2. A whole day fieldwork experience at Balls Head Reserve, including collecting fieldwork data on Centre iPads, in order to create a virtual fieldwork journal & map.
3. Follow-up activities to enhance geographical knowledge and skills, including a variety of resources about Balls Head Reserve and Sydney Harbour.



# Landscapes and Landforms

A fieldwork program to support Stage 4 Geography

This program supports the S4 Geography Syllabus content and outcomes of:

- Examining one landscape and its distinctive landforms.
- Describing processes and influences that form and transform places and environments
- Discussing management of places and environments for their sustainability
- Acquiring and processing geographical information by selecting and using geographic tools for inquiry.
- Examining perspectives of people and organisations on a range of geographic issues

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Welcome to the bushland oasis overlooking the harbour city

**Balls Head is unique** This prominent bush headland of almost nine hectares juts out into Sydney Harbour only 1.5 kilometres in a direct line from the heart of the city. It is the closest bushland reserve of this size to the city and has spectacular views of the city skyline, the Harbour Bridge, Goat Island and Darling Harbour from many vantage points along its steep southern edge. Balls Head is also a home for many birds and animals, an important refuge in the centre of the city.

**Balls Head is typical** Balls Head is one of many sandstone headlands along the harbour. Its vegetation of Banksia and Kurrooa heath on higher exposed areas, and open forest of Sydney gum (Angophora costata) and Red Bloodwood (Santalum spicatum) in more sheltered parts, is typical of the headlands. Look across to the Point in the foreground now. Imagine it as it once was. The bush was like Balls Head.

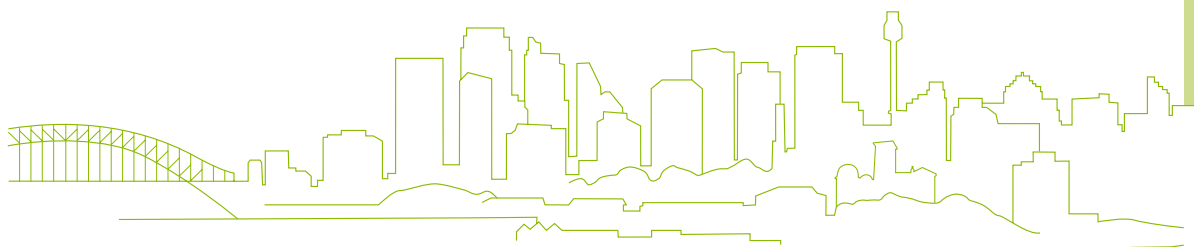
**Cost:** From \$10 per student

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**For more information about this program and other environmental education programs, visit the Observatory Hill EEC website at:**

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