

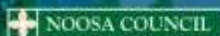
Curriculum links / Project ideas

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Project ideas	Learning Areas	Year Level
<p>Go with the Flow</p> <p>Our rivers and creeks move through the landscape at varying speeds, influenced by ancient geological features, natural cycles and human-made systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get your feet wet and explore our region’s ‘flow’ habitats. Learn about common flow patterns and the diverse roles they play in keeping our waterways healthy. Consider the geological features of these unique habitats. How do they influence the characteristics of these important ecosystems? • The speed at which water flows through our rivers, creeks and lakes influences the types of plants and animals that live there. Investigate the ways our local fauna and flora have adapted to cope with variable water flows in our region. What strategies do you use to address seasonal variations in water supply? • Research the ways that humans can disrupt and manipulate water flows. Are there examples of this happening on the Sunshine Coast? Consider the social, economic and environmental impacts of these actions. • The health of our waterways plays an important part in the cultural, spiritual and social wellbeing of First Nations Australians. Connect with local Traditional Owners to learn about ‘cultural flows’ and their significance in preserving and protecting cultural practices and sacred sites. How does establishing and supporting these important water rights help to maintain connections to Country? • Make a splash and celebrate National Water Week at your school in October. Entertain, engage and educate your school community about local ‘flow’ habitats and the importance of water conservation in our region. 	<p>English</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship</p> <p>The Arts</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>

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<p>Got the Blues</p> <p>While the colour <i>blue</i> is a rarity in nature, it is widely considered to be humanity's favourite colour. We appreciate it for its calming qualities and capacity to inspire wisdom and creativity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the <i>Blue Heart</i> project that has begun in the Maroochy River catchment. Visit the Sunshine Coast Council's <i>Blue Heart Sunshine Coast</i> webpage to better understand its objectives and to discover what this area means to our Traditional Owners. Areas such as <i>Blue Heart</i> are important because of their capacity to store blue carbon. Research this unique carbon cycle and why it is important for reducing the impacts of climate change. 'Blue spaces' such as rivers, lakes and oceans can have a positive impact on our mental wellbeing and motivate us to take better care of our natural environment. Learn more about the 'blue spaces' and 'blue infrastructure' that exist in our region and the benefits they bring. How are they also helping to support climate resilience in our catchments? Consider the role your school community can play in contributing to a healthy and liveable region. Are there opportunities for your school to include small-scale 'blue spaces'? Host a film night at your school. Watch <i>Blue</i> – the film or <i>River Blue</i> to better understand the issues facing Planet Earth's 'blue spaces' and what we can do to help protect them locally and globally. Explore the ancient tradition of blue-dyeing and the cultures behind it. Experiment with different techniques to create your own natural dyes. Why is it vital that this traditional ecological knowledge is shared between generations and cultures? What challenges and opportunities does global fibre production create? 	<p>English</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Economics and Business</p> <p>The Arts</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Health and Physical Education</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>
<p>Waterworld</p> <p>The Sunshine Coast region is home to five major river catchments: the Maroochy River; the Mooloolah River; the Upper Mary River; the Stanley River; and Pumicestone Passage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the network of catchments in our region and the diverse natural features that define 	<p>English</p> <p>Maths</p> <p>Science</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5</p> <p>5-8</p>



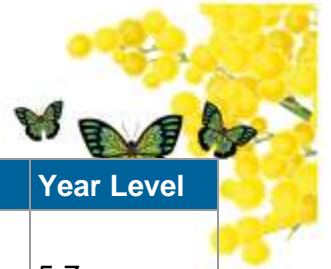
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<p>them. What do Dreaming stories tell us about this ancient landscape?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with your local Catchment Care group to better understand the projects that are happening in your catchment. Consider how your school can support these programs now and into the future. • Understanding the interactions and relationships that exist in our catchments is important too. Investigate the factors that can affect the health of our catchments. What can we do at home and at school to minimise our impact on these important systems? • Knowledge of the natural water cycle and how water moves through the landscape is a critical part of catchment care. Research the way water has moved through the land, ocean and air for billions of years. Consider how human management of water can impact this cycle. Visit education.unitywater.com to explore the urban water cycle story and the processes that bring this essential resource to our homes and schools. • Explore the inventive methods First Nations Australians have utilised to locate, harvest and store water. With the permission of Traditional Custodians, learn about the practices and protocols associated with 'water knowledge' as well as the rights and responsibilities that come with using water sources. Do similar Indigenous knowledge systems exist in other parts of the world? 	<p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>
<p>Telling Tales</p> <p>Stories play an important role in teaching us about the world we live in. They can contain valuable information about cultures, beliefs and the environment, and are often a mix of scientific knowledge and historical events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Known by different names in different regions, the <i>Rainbow Serpent</i> is an important Aboriginal creation story about the formation of landscapes and waterways across Australia. Learn more about our region and its unique characteristics through local Dreaming and Creation stories. • Invite Traditional Owners into your school to share these significant cultural stories. Consider the place of oral narrative traditions in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. What role have these stories played in educating First Nations 	<p>English</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>The Arts</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p>



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<p>Australians about living in, and navigating across, our region?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water features in many of the world's myths and legends. Immerse yourself in tales of water beings and gods, and of islands and continents lost in the seas. Consider their capacity to entertain and educate. What messages or values are conveyed in these stories? What function do they serve in representing cultures? Visit a local water body or other significant site in your catchment. Consider the social, cultural and ecological importance of this site for you and your community. How could <i>you</i> tell the story of this space? What medium would <i>you</i> use to share your observations and understandings about this area? 	Technologies	5-8
	Health and Physical Education	5-8
	Languages	5-8
<p>People Power</p> <p>The modern human (<i>Homo sapien</i>) now inhabits every continent on Earth, transitioning from hunting and gathering to producing food and changing landscapes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the rich history of our region, from the First Nations people of ancient Australia to the contemporary communities of the Sunshine Coast. Use topics such as technology, industries, diet, housing, entertainment, settlements patterns, land use and management, clothing and transport to guide your research about the changes that have occurred over time. Interview members of the community and research local history records to help you construct a historical and ecological timeline of our region. Consider why and how the changing face of settlement has impacted the local environment and First Nations Australians. Bring your community together to share your project findings. Expand your research to learn about significant people who have shaped our region over time. Be inspired by the stories of young change-makers too. Explore the opportunities that exist on the Sunshine Coast for young people who want to make a difference in the world. The changes we have made to our region over time have also created unintended consequences for the plants and animals we share it with. Citizen science projects, involving everyday people collecting scientific data, are an important way to monitor fauna and flora species in our region. 	English	5-8
	Mathematics	5-8
	Science	5-8
	Humanities and Social Sciences	5-7
	History	7
	Geography	7 and 8
	Civics and Citizenship	7-8
	Economics and Business	7 and 8
	The Arts	5-8
	Technologies	5-8
	Languages	5-8



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<p>Watch the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist's short online video – 'You can be a citizen scientist' – to learn about the types of projects you can get involved in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit the Australian Citizen Science Association website to find a project that interests you or set up a citizen science project for your school community with the help of the Atlas of Living Australia's <i>BioCollect</i> data collection tool. 		
<p>Creating Connections</p> <p>We all live in a catchment, interconnected to the plants, animals and water. So healthy connections make for healthy catchments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riparian zones play a key role in connecting terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Research the valuable functions of a healthy riparian zone. Learn, too, about significant cultural heritage sites (such as middens and scar trees) that can exist on riparian land. Is there evidence of these sites in your local region? Wildlife corridors provide vital connections across our catchments, linking habitats and allowing animals to move safely in search of food, water and shelter. Investigate the land use practices and landscape features that contribute to effective wildlife corridors. How can traditional knowledge systems help to make them robust and resilient? Wildlife corridors come in different sizes – from large areas like the <i>Great Green Wall</i> project in Africa to small ones like trees planted along a creek. Learn more about the animals that visit your school grounds. Consider what you can do to support wildlife moving safely through your school grounds. The Kabi Kabi/Gubbi Gubbi and Jinibara peoples of the Sunshine Coast region have nurtured a connection to Country for more than 40, 000 years. Seek out local Traditional Custodians and expand your knowledge about our region's landscape connections. Learn more about their intimate understanding of plant, animal and water cycles and the role this knowledge plays in maintaining important ecological connections in our catchments. The Sunshine Coast Council's <i>Community Strategy 2019-2040</i> is a long-term plan for our region. It recognises that our communities are 	<p>English</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Health and Physical Education</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>



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growing and changing, and that it is more important than ever that we feel connected to others. Research the concept of <i>social capital</i> . Consider what a connected community looks like and what benefits it brings? Are there ways you can strengthen your community connections? Help shape the future of our region by getting involved in the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme Project.		
<p>Just add Water</p> <p>Water is the lifeblood of our catchments. While it is vital to our environmental landscape, it also has a long history of nourishing us spiritually and physically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the different ways that cultural and religious groups across the world use water to express their beliefs, identities and experiences. What customs and practices do they use? Draw inspiration from these traditions and create your own water rituals. • Water is a big part of the Australian way of life and Sunshine Coast waterways provide many opportunities for outdoor recreation. Consider how participating in water-based activities can support our personal health and wellbeing as well as create emotional connections to our local environment. Plan a trip to one of your favourite waterways or beaches and enjoy the benefits of being outside. • Visit the Sport Australia website to find the <i>Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games</i> education resource. Try your hand at some of the water games and have fun developing your teamwork and coordination skills. Experience more traditional Indigenous games on the Biwathin Games Trail located in Bli Bli's Muller Park. • Permanent and ephemeral water bodies are often significant sites for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Take time to learn about our First Nations Australians' ancestral connections to local water bodies. How have these relationships with the natural environment helped them to respond to the impacts of colonisation? Can this knowledge help us to ensure the liveability of our region into the future? • Experience calming water soundscapes anytime of the day or night with the Radio National <i>Nature Track</i> podcast. Take up the challenge of creating 	<p>English</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship</p> <p>The Arts</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Health and Physical Education</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>



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your own nature soundscape to capture your favourite local sounds.		
<p>Migration Magic</p> <p>The catchments of our region support the seasonal movement of people, birds, fish, insects, amphibians, crustaceans, mammals and reptiles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the topic of migration. How does it differ from other types of animal movement? Learn about how and why animals (including people) migrate. Why is our region a hotspot for migration? • Visit the National Geographic's online resource <i>Collision! Human Impacts on Animal Migration</i> to view the Human Impacts Photo Gallery. Consider how what we do and how we live can impact migrating animals across our landscape. What can we do to help them on their journey and protect them when they arrive at their destination? • Investigate the amazing array of animals that traverse the bioregions of the Sunshine Coast. Learn about the remarkable migration stories of our visiting shore birds, loggerhead turtles and humpback whales. Be impressed by the shape-shifting talents of freshwater eels and the seasonal 'plagues' of migrating butterflies. • Turn your thoughts to ancient coastlines and forgotten land bridges and explore our history of human migration too. Find out about the ancient Australian mega-continent of Sahul and the remarkable travels of the ancestors of our First Nations Australians. What do these movements reveal about the traditional knowledge systems of these early migrants? • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a long history of navigating their way across the landscape in search of water and seasonal food, and to trade and socialise. Learn about their use of traditions like songlines and visual mapping. Consider the significance of these largely 'invisible' pathways. What do they reveal about the concept of 'custodianship'? 	<p>English</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Economics and Business</p> <p>Technologies</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>
<p>Below the Surface</p> <p>The Sunshine Coast region is home to both freshwater and marine habitats. The result is a diverse collection of aquatic wildlife and vegetation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about the abundance of life that thrives below the surface of our water bodies. Think big 	<p>English</p> <p>Mathematics</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p>



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<p>and investigate the mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish that inhabit our region. Go small too and be amazed by the world of aquatic macroinvertebrates. What role do aquatic plants and algae play in keeping our waterways healthy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the remarkable underwater forests that inhabit our estuaries, wetlands and coastline. Investigate the important role seagrasses play in nurturing, feeding and protecting marine life. Learn about the interesting work of the University of the Sunshine Coast's <i>Seaweed Research Group</i>. • Explore the world of underwater heritage sites and learn about the cultural and environmental histories of Australia's hidden coastline. Watch the short online video – Deep History of Sea Country: Investigating the seabed in Western Australia – to learn about the discovery of Australia's first underwater Aboriginal heritage site. What do these submerged histories reveal about the importance of the coastal landscape to First Nations Australians? Where else in the world do these stories of deep human history exist? • See below the surface without getting wet with Healthy Land and Water's interactive <i>Fish Habitat map</i>. Watch local fish habitat videos and learn how you can get involved in habitat protection and restoration in our region. 	Science	5-8
	Humanities and Social Sciences	5-7
	History	7 and 8
	Geography	7 and 8
	Technologies	5-8
<p><i>In the Spotlight</i></p> <p>The catchments of the Sunshine Coast region are home to some remarkable plants and animals. Some of our local species, however, are declining in numbers and are at risk of extinction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate what a <i>threatened species</i> is and how they are classified by the Queensland Government. Research how species become threatened and why it is vital that we save them. Visit the Government's online <i>Threatened Species Listing Report</i> to learn whether any of your favourite local plants and animals are classed as threatened. Are they important totem species for local Traditional Owners? • Become acquainted with the Mary River's 'Famous Five.' Learn about these threatened aquatic species and what is being done to protect their habitats. Investigate sustainable aquatic harvesting traditions practised by First Nations Australians. 	English	5-8
Science	5-8	
Humanities and Social Sciences	5, 6	
History	7	
Geography	7 and 8	
The Arts	5-8	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Natura Pacific's</i> 'Back from the Brink' YouTube docuseries includes episodes on some of our local threatened species such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo, the Australian Lungfish, the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly and the Swamp Orchid. Research a local threatened plant, animal or habitat. Consider making your own video series to shine the spotlight on local issues. • Take your actions on the move to make a difference. Support existing efforts to protect threatened species on the Sunshine Coast by traversing our local <i>ClimateWatch</i> trails and recording your observations using the <i>ClimateWatch</i> app. • Celebrate National Threatened Species Day at your school. Share your digital stories about local threatened species and educate your school community about how they can help to protect the rich biodiversity of the Sunshine Coast. 	Technologies	5-8
<p>Restoration Rivers</p> <p>Healthy rivers, and their tributaries, move across the landscape sustaining ecosystems both in and out of the water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go on a river journey and explore the life of one of our region's rivers. What stories does it tell about the history of our landscape and its people? Consider the lifecycle of your river. How has it changed over time? What stage is your river at now? • Connect with a local Waterwatch or Catchment Care group and assess the health of your river. What can activities like water sampling and habitat surveys tell us about the important relationship between land and water? Can granting legal rights to water bodies like rivers help us to reshape our relationship with rivers? • Learn more about why rivers are meaningful land features to First Nations Australians. Consider their role in providing food and water, guiding generations to ceremonial places and defining language boundaries. What can important discoveries like freshwater middens reveal about changes to our climate too? • Rating systems can be a valuable tool in helping us keep our rivers healthy. Use the Healthy Land and Water online Report Card portal to find out about the health of your local river as well as some 	<p>English</p> <p>Mathematics</p> <p>Science</p> <p>Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p>History</p> <p>Geography</p> <p>Civics and Citizenship</p> <p>Economics and Business</p> <p>The Arts</p>	<p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-7</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>7 and 8</p> <p>5-8</p> <p>5-8</p>



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<p>of the restoration projects happening in your local area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Immerse yourself in the literary and artistic world of rivers. Explore songs, poems and paintings inspired by the rivers of the world. Try your hand at creating your own texts and artworks and share them with your school community at your very own river festival.	<p>Technologies</p> <p>Languages</p>	<p>5-8</p>



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