# West Torrens Partnership

## AC Geography Unit Overview (Draft) (Updated: February 2014)

Foundation – Year 7

**Inquiry Questions** 

Each year level from Foundation to Year 10 includes key inquiry questions that provide a framework for developing students' geographical knowledge and understanding, and inquiry and skills.

Key Concepts

In **Foundation to Year 2** there is a particular emphasis on the use of the concepts of **place**, **space and environment** in studies at a personal and local **scale**. The concept of **interconnection** is introduced in Year 2 to develop students' understanding of how people are connected to places in Australia and across the world. In **Years 3-6** the F to 2 concepts continue to be a focus of study but the scale of the places studied moves from the local to national, world regional and global scales. The concepts of **sustainability** and **change** are also introduced in these years. In **Years 7–10**, students further develop their understanding of **place**, **space**, **environment**, **interconnection**, **sustainability** and **change** and apply this understanding to a wide range of places and environments at the full range of **scales**, from local to global, and in a range of locations.

Aims

The Foundation - Year 10 Australian Curriculum: Geography aims to ensure that students develop:

- a sense of wonder, curiosity and respect about places, people, cultures and environments throughout the world
- a deep geographical knowledge of their own locality, Australia, the Asia region and the world
- the ability to think geographically, using geographical concepts
- the capacity to be competent, critical and creative users of geographical inquiry methods and skills as informed, responsible and active citizens who can contribute to the development of an environmentally and economically sustainable, and socially just world.

Geography is a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the cha

Geography is a structured way of exploring, analysing and understanding the characteristics of the places that make up our world, using the concepts of place, space, environment, interconnection, sustainability, scale and change. It addresses scales from the personal to the global and time periods from a few years to thousands of years.

Rationale

Geography integrates knowledge from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities to build a holistic understanding of the world. Students learn to question why the world is the way it is, reflect on their relationships with and responsibilities for that world, and propose actions designed to shape a socially just and sustainable future.

Geography uses an inquiry approach to assist students to make meaning of their world. It teaches them to respond to questions in a geographically distinctive way, plan an inquiry; collect, evaluate, analyse and interpret information; and suggest responses to what they have learned. They conduct fieldwork, map and interpret data and spatial distributions, and use spatial technologies. Students develop a wide range of general skills and capabilities, including information and communication technology skills, an appreciation of different perspectives, an understanding of ethical research principles, a capacity for teamwork and an ability to think critically and creatively. These skills can be applied in everyday life and at work.

Geogra	phical	Conce	ots
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Place	Space	Environment	Interconnection	Sustainability	Scale	Change
The concept of place is about significant places and what they are like.	The concept of space is about the significance of location and spatial distribution, and ways people organise and manage spaces that we live in.	The concept of environment is about the significance of the environment in human life, and the important interrelationships between humans and the environment.	The concept of interconnection emphasises that no object of geographical study can be viewed in isolation.	The concept of sustainability is about the capacity of the environment to continue to support our lives and the lives of other living creatures into the future.	The concept of scale is about the way that geographical phenomena and problems can be examined at different spatial levels.	The concept of change is about explaining geographical phenomena by investigating how they have developed over time.

Geographical Inquiry and Skills

Observing, questioning and planning

Collecting, recording, evaluating and representing

Interpreting, analysing and concluding

Communicating

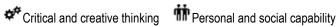
Reflecting and responding

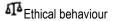
#### General Capabilities and Cross Curricular Priorities

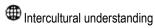






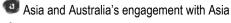














#### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives

Geography provides opportunities for children to strengthen their appreciation and understanding of Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their living cultures. Specific content and skills within relevant sections of the curriculum can be drawn upon to encourage engagement with:

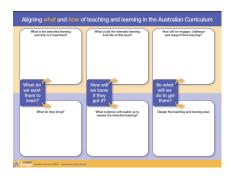
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander frameworks of knowing and ways of learning
- Indigenous contexts in which Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples live
- Aboriginal peoples' and Torres Strait Islander peoples' contributions to Australian society and cultures.

The Australian Curriculum: Geography emphasises the relationships people have with place and their interconnections with the environments in which they live. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures cross-curriculum priority provides the opportunity for children to develop a deeper understanding of these concepts by investigating the thousands of years of Aboriginal peoples' and Torres Strait Islander peoples' connection to land, water and sky and the knowledge and practices that developed as a result of these experiences. Children will examine the effects of European colonisation on people and environments. The study of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures cross-curriculum priority also contributes to an understanding of spatial inequalities in human welfare, sustainable development and human rights.

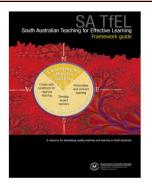
### Recommended Resources (including online resources)



ACARA: Geography Curriculum v6.0 http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Geography



DECD: Learning Design
<a href="http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teachingandlearning">http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/teachingandlearning</a>
<a href="http://www.learningtolearn.sa.edu.au">http://www.learningtolearn.sa.edu.au</a>



DECD: SA TfEL http://www.learningtolearn.sa.edu.au/tfel/



DECD: Leader's Resource, BitL tool www.acleadersresource.sa.edu.au



Scootle: Curriculum Resources http://www.scootle.edu.au



Australian Geography Teacher's Association: Australian Curriculum History Units <a href="http://www.agta.asn.au/">http://www.agta.asn.au/</a>



Geogspace: Geography resources & materials http://www.geogspace.edu.au/



Asia Education Foundation: Curriculum resources to support Australia's engagement with Asia http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/



Global Education: Global perspectives across the curriculum

http://www.globaleducation.edu.au/



Oxfam Education/ World Vision
<a href="http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources">http://www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources</a>
<a href="http://www.worldvision.com.au/resources/SchoolResources/indonesianlistings.aspx">http://www.worldvision.com.au/resources/SchoolResources/indonesianlistings.aspx</a>



National Geographic <a href="http://www.nla.gov.au/australiana/australiana/australiana/history-selected-websites">http://www.nla.gov.au/australiana/au



Websites for students

http://www.publicprofiler.org

http://planefinder.net

http://www.marinetraffic.com/ais/

http://www.worldmapper.org/textindex/text\_index.html

http://www.gapminder.org

http://geoguessr.com