

All of us on the Koala Smart Team are delighted you are here with us.

Koalas are an iconic and important part of our Australian identity. Yet they are facing possible extinction and now, more than ever, need our protection. So what do we do?

Koala Smart has been created as a **conservation program** to **share knowledge, inspire creativity, and motivate change in communities throughout Australia**. It is offered free of charge but what we DO ask is that you connect with us to share ideas and together, wherever possible, we would work to develop concepts to benefit both your students *and* our koalas. You will find a prompt at the end of Step 2. Koala conservation is complex but Koala Smart is about looking to the future with hope. Students CAN take an active role in caring for their environment while meeting targets set by the curriculum.

The Koala Smart model is centered on making it easy for you, the teacher.

At a glance, this TEACHER GUIDE shows you how Koala Smart works.

Page 1. The JOURNEY – simplifies the way forward.

Pages 2 & 3. An explanation of all SIX CORE LESSONS and their links to the curriculum plus Stage 4 field study extension.

Page 4. Access to the EXPERTS. See who we have interviewed to inspire and engage your students.

Page 5 onwards. A handy table of Learning outcomes for the NSW Syllabus.

The goal is to take the lessons learned beyond the classroom. The size of the class or school or the age of the student is immaterial.

Koala Smart schools have the potential to make an impact in their community. Koala Smart teachers are able to enrich their class time while simplifying the task of programming for the year.

Koala Smart provides you the option to connect with our "Critical Friends": experts who can help your classroom through direct mentorship and expert knowledge to take your concepts into the real world.

We have gathered everything you need in one place. The only thing missing right now is you and your students.

Sincerely,



Janice McGilchrist

Chair

KOALA SMART (a business of Wildlife Smart Ltd)



P.S. Got a question? Or want to share your ideas? Talk to us on email or via the website.



info@koalasmart.org.au



www.koalasmart.org.au

INSPIRE & LEARN

1

Tune In
&
Build Empathy

Reading
Writing

Engage with experts

Gather knowledge
by

2

6 CORE LESSONS
CONNECT WITH KOALA SMART



3

key expert profiles
& interviews



4

DECIDE ON FOCUS
+
PATH

Student takes
charge of learning

5

Design thinking

OR

Research & Inquiry

6

TEST & SHARE



Share
your
solutions

MAKE
CHANGE
REAL!

7

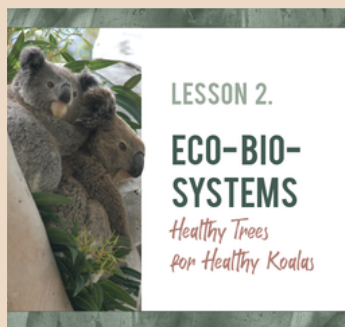
REFLECT & DREAM BIG!



Koala Home Ranges

How habitat loss and disruption of one koala affects a whole group of koalas, and why this may not be visible to us (unless we learn to look!)

Science – living things and environment / genetic diversity
HSIE – geography / mapping
STAGE 4 Extension – Field Trip



Healthy Trees for Healthy Koalas

Why healthy trees mean healthy koalas. **Hint:** it's what they eat, and it has a lot to do with soil and climate.

Science – living things and environment / genetic diversity
HSIE – geography / mapping



The Heart of the Bush

History and spirituality and their links to koalas. Ancient links to koala and totem. Ways in which people respond to the fascination koalas hold for them.

English – persuasive texts and oral debate
The Arts – Fine Arts, Media Arts, Drama – interpret and create art



The Koala Connection

Choosing and exploring one of the complex connections between koalas and the wider environment.

Science – biology, ecology, environmental science, plant science
English – plan, draft and publish informative texts



Protection for Now: Protection for Tomorrow

Sometimes things aren't so simple... students investigate the courses of action realistically available to a series of specific people in a fictional regional town. How will they use policy and planning to protect koala habitat?

HSIE-Geography: Social and spatial geography
HSIE-Civics and Citizenship: local and state civic processes
English – plan, draft and publish informative texts including oral presentations



Shout It to the Treetops

The final project! Students choose one thread, theme or message about koalas and conservation, then take the sources provided and create either a podcast or an article about koalas that informs or persuades.

English – plan, draft and publish persuasive and informative texts
The Arts / Media Arts – creating media productions
Science – communicating science concepts and information
Careers – explore careers in planning and conservation



Stage 4 Extension KOALA CHAMPIONS

Developed with the support of the NPWS and Kosciuszko Education Centre.

This program involves field studies to develop a better understanding of koala conservation and management issues.












Science – living things and environment / genetic diversity

HSIE – geography / mapping

Maths – classifying, data, graphical representation

English – planning for and creating texts

To introduce learners to a range of experts, perspectives and interested people related to the issue who set up their wish for how the issue might be solved. These interviews and profiles show the diverse people and careers involved in saving the koala.

Name	Title	Themes/Topics	Curriculum Learning Areas	Cross-Curriculum Priorities
	Rebecca Montague-Drake Koala Ecologist	Science, radio-tracking, soil science, trees, climate change, ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Technologies Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
	Linda Sparrow President, Bangalow koalas	Campaigning, rescue, regeneration & tree planting, koala corridors, traffic safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civics and Citizenship Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Margot Law Project Officer	Regeneration & tree planting, policy & planning, mapping, citizen science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civics and Citizenship Geography Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Martin Smith Parks Ranger	Regeneration & tree planting, koala ranges, genetic diversity, bushfire, climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Billie Roberts Senior Project Officer, Saving our Species	Climate change, flying foxes, ecology, planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	John Turbill Threatened Species Officer	Sniffer dogs, mapping, scat, koala diet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Technologies Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Kailas Wild Arborist and Koala Rescuer	Aussie icons, rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Cheyne Flanagan Clinical Director, Port Macquarie Koala Hospital	Koala health, wildlife biology, threats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civics and Citizenship Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Chels Marshall Cultural Systems Ecologist	Aboriginal connection to land / culture, biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
	Jim Kinkad President, Tregeagle Landcare group	Volunteering, tree planting, school programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civics and Citizenship Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability
	Mark Wilson Trees Officer, Friends of the Koala programs	Volunteering, tree planting, koala carers, community action, landholder liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civics and Citizenship Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability

Koala Smart Curriculum Links – NSW Syllabus

The Key Learning Areas and Outcomes below relate to the Koala Smart lessons 1-6, and the extent to which these outcomes are covered is related to the context, extent and focus of study and to the scale of the Koala Smart unit and associated learning, such as individual and group projects and productions.

Koala Smart relates to NSW Stage 2, Stage 3 & Stage 4
(with some links at higher levels)

Science and Technologies K-9

ST2-1WS-S

Questions, plans and conducts scientific investigations, collects and summarises data and communicates using scientific representations

ST2-2DP-T

Selects and uses materials, tools and equipment to develop solutions for a need or opportunity

ST2-4LW-S

Compares features and characteristics of living and non-living things

ST3-1WS-S

Plans and conducts scientific investigations to answer testable questions, and collects and summarises data to communicate conclusions

ST3-2DP-T

Plans and uses materials, tools and equipment to develop solutions for a need or opportunity

ST3-4LW-S

Examines how the environment affects the growth, survival and adaptation of living things

SC4-4WS

Identifies questions and problems that can be tested or researched and makes predictions based on scientific knowledge

SC4-5WS

Collaboratively and individually produces a plan to investigate questions and problems

SC4-8WS

Selects and uses appropriate strategies, understanding and skills to produce creative and plausible solutions to identified problems

SC4-9WS

Presents science ideas, findings and information to a given audience using appropriate scientific language, text types and representations

SC4-13ES

Explains how advances in scientific understanding of processes that occur within and on the Earth, influence the choices people make about resource use and management

SC4-14LW

Relates the structure and function of living things to their classification, survival and reproduction

SC4-15LW

Explains how new biological evidence changes people's understanding of the world



Geography K-10

GE2-1	Examines features and characteristics of places and environments
GE2-2	Describes the ways people, places and environments interact
GE2-3	Examines differing perceptions about the management of places and environments
GE2-4	Acquires and communicates geographical information using geographical tools for inquiry
GE3-1	Describes the diverse features and characteristics of places and environments
GE3-2	Explains interactions and connections between people, places, and environments
GE3-3	Compares and contrasts influences on the management of places and environments
GE3-4	Acquires, processes and communicates geographical information using geographical tools for inquiry
GE4-1	Locates and describes the diverse features and characteristics of a range of places and environments
GE4-2	Describes processes and influences that form and transform places and environments
GE4-5	Discusses management of places and environments for their sustainability
GE4-7	Acquires and processes geographical information by selecting and using geographical tools for inquiry
GE4-8	Communicates geographical information using a variety of strategies



Maths 7-10

MA4-DAT-C-01	Classifies and displays data using a variety of graphical representations
MA4-DAT-C-02	analyses simple datasets

History K-10

HT3-1	Describes and explains the significance of people, groups, places and events to the development of Australia
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Work Education 7-10

WE5-3

Examines the roles of diverse organisations in the Australian community

WE5-4

Evaluates the roles and responsibilities of individuals within the Australian community

English K-10

EN3-2A

Composes, edits and presents well-structured and coherent texts

EN3-3A

Uses an integrated range of skills, strategies and knowledge to read, view and comprehend a wide range of texts in different media and technologies

EN3-7C

Compares and contrasts influences on the management of places and environments

EN4-ECA-01

Creates personal, creative and critical texts for a range of audiences by using linguistic and stylistic conventions of language to express ideas

EN4-ECB-01

Uses processes of planning, monitoring, revising and reflecting to support and develop composition of texts



Creative Arts

VAS3.2

Makes artworks for different audiences assembling materials in a variety of ways.

VAS3.3

Acknowledges that audiences respond in different ways to artworks and that there are different opinions about the value of artworks.



**Koala Smart lessons and associated learning activities also relate to these
Cross-curriculum priorities:**

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures
- Sustainability

Science and Technology K-6

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Science 7-10

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Work Education 7-10

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