

Geography Alive: Stage 3 Geography (Topic 1; Unit 2)

Lesson 2: Climate and Vegetation in Australia		
<p>Content focus:</p> <p>In this lesson students focus on the relationship between vegetation types and climate.</p>		<p>Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Sheet 1: Map of Australia's vegetation zones • Resource Sheet 2: Map of Australia's climate zones • Resource Sheet 3: Climate data for selected Australian places • Worksheet 1: Australia's climate zones • Worksheet 2: Climate graph template
<p>Key inquiry questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the different climates found in Australia? • What is the relationship between climate and vegetation? 	<p>Outcomes:</p> <p><i>A student:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifies climate zones around Australia • recognises the relationship between Australia's climate and vegetation zones • identifies and compares climate zones and animals of Australia with China • processes geographical information using climate statistics. 	<p>Lesson sequence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Step 1: Revise, with students, the difference between weather and climate. • Step 2: Ask students to study the vegetation map of Australia (Resource Sheet 1) introduced in the previous lesson. Ask students to speculate on what the climate might be like at each vegetation zone. • Step 3: Using the map of Australia's climate zones (Resource Sheet 1) ask students whether there is a relationship between climate and vegetation type. Discuss the nature of this relationship with the class. • Step 4: Using the Bureau of Meteorology website or a Google search to access the climate statistics for the following Australian places: Perth, Alice Springs, Darwin, Cairns, Brisbane, Bourke and Hobart. • Step 5: Direct students to complete the table on Worksheet 1 using the data supplied on Resource Sheet 3. The table summarises the climate data for the seven nominated places. Follow up questions: Which place has the most rainfall? Which place has the most rainy days? Which place has the highest average monthly temperature? Which place has the lowest average monthly temperature? • Extension Task: Locate the climate data for the place in which you live. Using Worksheet 2, graph the data collected. Compare your place's climate with that of the places studied in Step 4. <p>Note: More detailed Australian climate information (including maps) can be found on the Bureau of Meteorology website at: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/maps.shtml</p> <p>Note: Climate data for specific locations can be found on the Bureau of Meteorology website at: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/</p>