



## LESSON 2

### LEARNING PURPOSE:

Explore what it means to be a good geographer.

• Consider immediate outdoor environment to think about own questions and search for answers.

• Apply observation skills and reflect on what is discovered.

• Identify what could be improved in immediate outdoor environment.

### NSW CURRICULUM LINKS

#### Geography

GE2-1 examines features and characteristics of places and environments.

GE2-2 describes the ways people, places and environments interact.

#### Science

ST2-4WS investigates their questions and predictions by analysing collected data, suggesting explanations for their findings, and communicating and reflecting on the processes undertaken.

### EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Magnifying glasses (optional)
- Paper and pens to record information
- Binoculars for bird watching (optional)
- Maps of the school (optional)

### KEY LEARNING INTENTION

We are exploring what it means to be a good geographer.

**Consider** - What you like to explore about our outdoor environment?

- Where are we now? (*what is our environment like?*)
- Where do we want to be? (*What do we want it to be like?*)

**Act** - Use observation skills and think about what is discovered.

- What is happening in outdoor environment?
- What needs to happen?

**Reflect** - Identify what can be improved in the immediate outdoor environment.

- What do I need to change

### FURTHER RESOURCES AND USEFUL WEBSITES

#### Observing Habitats:

- <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/observing-recording-habitats/>

#### About Fieldwork:

- <http://www.geogspace.edu.au/support-units/fieldwork/fi-overview.html>

#### How Wolves changed the rivers:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysa5OBhXz-Q>
- [www.natureplay.org.au](http://www.natureplay.org.au)



## INTRODUCTION

**Geography is about curiosity, exploration and discovery. It gives the power to see places in new ways, even imaginary ones.**

Geography helps us to understand, make sense of the world and solve problems. It allows people to consider and design improvements to the environment based on what is already happening - it is responsive. When we are outside we are thinking, looking and using all our senses - this helps to make us feel good.

### PREPARATION:

#### ACTIVITY 1: WHOLE CLASS WORK

##### Geography is all about 'ings':

- Discuss the many 'ings' of geographers: smelling, swimming, mapping, drawing, comparing, imagining, sharing, asking, feeling, searching, finding, observing....
- Ask students to think about a time when they have used one of the 'ings'
- Get students to work in pairs or small groups to add to the list and create a class chart.
- Create a whole class 'min-mission' to go outside and practise using some of the geographer's 'ings'.

#### ACTIVITY 2: INDIVIDUAL WORK

##### Follow an Insect:

- Follow an insect and keep a record on what you think it is thinking, for example "I'm looking for food because I am hungry":
  - Thought 1:
  - Thought 2:
  - Thought 3:
  - Thought 4:
  - Thought 5:
- Consider how the insect is interacting with the environment. What is helping or hindering them as they move along? Share your thoughts with someone else.



#### ACTIVITY 3: SMALL GROUP WORK

##### Watcher Bird:

- Get from A to B without being seen by a single bird.
  - Place A:
  - Place B:
  - Rough Distance:
  - Win  Fail
- What did you notice about the birds? What would/did help you get from A to B without being seen?



#### ACTIVITY 4: PARTNER WORK

##### Developing the geographer's curiosity:

- Students work in small groups to design a question around what they would like to find out about in their outdoor environment.
- Plan for discovery considering the 'ings' of a geographer.
- Put plan into action and share reflections.

### GOING BEYOND:

- Document your learning as a geographer to share with others - use surveys, graphs and diagrams to build understanding.
- Consider changes that could be made to improve people's interaction with outdoor space- prepare a proposal that could be used to share with a school leader to make a change.

