

River Detectives at a Distance

Changes to Support Teaching and Learning Remotely

The River Detectives team of facilitators have come up with a plan to help support teachers to continue connecting their students to our natural environment.

Due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we understand the challenges teachers are facing and hope to provide a range of simple activities to assist in engaging your students with the natural world around them, while learning remotely.

Each month, we will have a different theme and will provide a selection of activities in a matrix based on Bloom's Taxonomy and Multiple Intelligences (please search online if you are unfamiliar with these). We hope this format will help cater for the various abilities, skills and interests of your students. The activities won't suit everyone (particularly upper secondary) but use it as an inspiration for adaption to your unique situation.

We encourage you to use this matrix in any way that is helpful to you and your students; you may suggest to students which or how many activities are completed or allow students to select for themselves; you may like to hold onto the matrix yourself and pick activities from it to include in your own planning for various areas of the curriculum; activities can be used as part of core work and/or suggestions for downtime. Feel free to use the activities as much or as little as you like.

Please know that there is no need to continue with your monthly water quality monitoring activities at this time. This is deemed a non-essential activity and we reiterate, in-line with government directive, if you can stay home, you must stay home.

Please keep in touch with your local River Detectives facilitator via email. We are here to support you and help make this journey a little easier. Let us know if you are finding this helpful or suggest any topics you would like us to cover. We would also love for you to share snippets of some of the activities your students are participating in – photos are especially appreciated! You can either post these on Billabong Banter or email them to your regional facilitator to upload.

- ◆ We will provide a new theme and a variety of activities to River Detectives schools each month. This will be emailed to you, posted on Billabong Banter and the matrix will be loaded onto Resource River Bank
- ◆ We aim to make activities simple, fun, engaging, using basic materials from home, achievable for students independently and ones that can be done in the backyard or during the family's exercise outings.
- ◆ We hope to provide a variety of activities to suit different remote learning models (online, shareable by email and printable for teachers to share with their students).
- ◆ We are currently adding new resources to the River Detectives website too, so have a look at the [Resource River Bank](#) for additional activities and resources.

Stay safe and all the best during this challenging time.

~ The River Detectives Team ~