

Core Skills Analysis

Science - Ecology and Environmental Studies

- Observed diverse coastal rainforest ecosystems unique to Sea Acres National Park, enhancing understanding of habitat characteristics.
- Learned about native flora and fauna, fostering awareness of biodiversity and the importance of conservation.
- Explored ecological relationships between species and their environment, including the role of the rainforest in coastal protection.
- Gained insights into human impact on natural environments and the significance of sustainable practices within national parks.

Geography

- Identified geographical features of coastal landscapes including rainforest, beachfront, and tide pools within Sea Acres National Park.
- Understood the spatial location of the park within the broader regional environment and the importance of such protected areas.
- Recognized how topography and climate contribute to ecosystem diversity in coastal settings.
- Developed skills in map reading and spatial awareness by navigating walking tracks and identifying landmarks.

Tips

To deepen understanding following the visit to Sea Acres National Park, encourage the student to keep a nature journal documenting the plants, animals, and environmental features encountered. Engage in comparative studies by researching other coastal rainforests worldwide to appreciate global biodiversity. Integrate creative projects such as creating a diorama or digital presentation of the rainforest ecosystem to reinforce ecological concepts. Additionally, connect the experience to broader environmental themes by discussing conservation efforts and human impacts, inspiring stewardship and critical thinking about sustainability.

Book Recommendations

- [Looking After Our Bush](#) by Karina Gedeon: A beautifully illustrated introduction to Australian bushlands focusing on plants, animals, and conservation efforts, perfect for young learners.
- [Coastal Rainforest](#) by Robyn Wells: This book explores the unique ecosystems of coastal rainforests with detailed photos and engaging facts suitable for middle school readers.
- [National Parks of Australia](#) by Pamela Binns: Offers an overview of Australia's national parks including Sea Acres, highlighting their natural features and conservation importance.

Learning Standards

- Science Understanding (ACSSU111) - Investigate how biological systems function and adapt in different environments.
- Science as a Human Endeavour (ACSHE120) - Explore how we use science to understand and care for the natural world.
- Geography Knowledge and Understanding (ACHGK054) - Examine natural environments and the influence of climate and geography on ecosystems.
- Geography Inquiry and Skills (ACHGS052) - Use spatial technologies and mapping skills to interpret landscapes.

Try This Next

- Create a detailed illustrated map or booklet of Sea Acres National Park including key species

and landmarks observed during the visit.

- Design a quiz focused on the native species, ecological relationships, and geographical features encountered to reinforce knowledge.
- Write a short story or poem inspired by the rainforest environment to blend creative writing with ecological awareness.