Studies of Society and Environment (2000)

Years 1 to 10
Sourcebook Guidelines
(Part 1 of 9)

Note: The PDF version of this document has been split into sections for easier download. This file is Part 1 of 9.
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Introduction

The Studies of Society and Environment Years 1 to 10 Sourcebook Guidelines have been developed to assist teachers to implement the Queensland Years 1 to 10 Studies of Society and Environment Syllabus.

The sourcebook consists of guidelines and a set of modules to support learning and teaching across all levels from Years 1 to 10. All materials are available in electronic and print form.

The sourcebook guidelines provide information about:
• the nature of the Studies of Society and Environment key learning area
• learners and learning in Studies of Society and Environment
• the scope and sequence of learning outcomes
• planning for learning and assessment
• curriculum evaluation.

The sourcebook guidelines are intended to be used in conjunction with the syllabus, sourcebook modules and initial in-service materials.

Queensland School Curriculum Council’s Years 1 to 10 Studies of Society and Environment curriculum materials (www.qscc.qld.edu.au)

The syllabus describes the rationale of the key learning area and its contribution to the Years 1 to 10 curriculum. It provides a framework for planning learning and assessment by identifying core and discretionary learning outcomes that describe what students are expected to know and do with what they know in relation to the Studies of Society and Environment key learning area.

The sourcebook modules provide teachers with a range of learning and teaching ideas to assist students to demonstrate core learning outcomes. The modules focus on core learning outcomes from the four strands of Studies of
Society and Environment and, in some modules, learning outcomes from other key learning areas.

While the full set of Studies of Society and Environment modules addresses all the core learning outcomes of the key learning area, the modules do not cover all the situations and contexts that students could encounter. Each module demonstrates one way of planning and assessing learning outcomes in a given context. Teachers are encouraged to modify modules to meet the specific needs and interests of particular students, their own needs and the learning environment.

The initial in-service materials will assist teachers to develop an understanding of the P to 10 curriculum and the particular key learning area. They will also help them to develop curriculum programs consistent with the syllabus and effective teaching practice. The initial in-service materials will assist teachers to develop an understanding of the Studies of Society and Environment key learning area by:

- allowing them to investigate areas of interest in relation to the syllabus and associated curriculum materials
- providing templates, resources and strategies for planning and assessment at individual, class and school levels
- exemplifying planning for learning and assessment
- providing learning experiences that will help them to understand the syllabus and associated curriculum materials and suggesting ways they can be adapted to local needs and resources
- providing them with opportunities to consider their ideas and understandings about Studies of Society and Environment.

The Studies of Society and Environment key learning area takes into account:

- A Statement on Studies of Society and Environment for Australian Schools, Curriculum Corporation 1994
- Common and Agreed National Goals for Schooling in Australia (revised version 1999)
- Discovering Democracy, Commonwealth of Australia 1998
- National Principles and Guidelines for Aboriginal Studies and Torres Strait Islander Studies: K–12, Curriculum Corporation 1995
- Pre-school Curriculum Guidelines, Queensland School Curriculum Council 1998
- Shaping the Future, Queensland Department of Education 1994
- Studies of Society and Environment — a Curriculum Profile for Australian Schools, Curriculum Corporation 1994
- The Teaching of Aboriginal Studies and Torres Strait Islander Studies in Queensland Schools: Draft Pre-school to Year 12 Guidelines and Framework, Queensland Department of Education 1995
- The Treasure Within: Education in the Twenty-first Century (Delors’ Report), United Nations 1996