



# Studies of Society & Environment (SOSE)

Essential Learnings by the end of **Year 3**

## Learning and assessment focus

Students use their fascination with people and places to make sense of their world. They investigate societies and environments and develop an understanding of their relationships with other people and places. They identify values in everyday situations and local contexts. They see the place of social and environmental inquiry in people's work and community lives.

Students gain awareness of the history and diversity of lifestyles of Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people throughout Australia.

Students use the essential processes of **Ways of working** to develop and demonstrate their **Knowledge and understanding**. They develop the ability to use inquiry processes to build understandings and make connections to their world. They communicate and share ideas using texts and terminology associated with social and environmental studies, and they individually and collaboratively use strategies to respond to community issues. They reflect on their learning and on their values in everyday situations.

Students use tools and technologies, including information and communication technologies (ICTs). They explore the use of ICTs to inquire, create and communicate within social and environmental contexts.

Students demonstrate evidence of their learning over time in relation to the following assessable elements:

- knowledge and understanding
- investigating
- communicating
- participating
- reflecting.

# Ways of working

Students are able to:

- pose questions for investigations
- plan simple investigations based on questions
- identify and collect information and evidence from narratives and familiar sources
- make judgments about the usefulness of the information and evidence
- draw conclusions and give explanations, using information and evidence
- communicate social and environmental ideas, using texts and terminology to match audience and purpose
- share ideas, and plan and enact responses to group or community issues
- participate in group decision making to achieve goals
- reflect on and identify values associated with fairness, protecting the environment and behaving peacefully
- reflect on learning to identify new understandings.

# Knowledge and understanding

## *Time, continuity and change*

**Changes and continuities are identified through events, people's contributions and the stories of local communities.**

- Aboriginal people's and Torres Strait Islander people's continuous association with the land and the sea can be seen in stories and events that pre-date European colonisation  
*e.g. an Aboriginal creation story about how spiritual ancestors became certain features of the landscape.*
- Contributions of individuals and groups to communities can be identified by symbols and stories  
*e.g. flags, portraits on currency, names of landmarks; local community histories and traditional Australian stories.*

## *Place and space*

**Local natural, social and built environments are defined by specific features and can be sustained by certain activities.**

- Local environments are distinguished by natural features, places of importance to particular groups, and public spaces  
*e.g. a suburb may have bushland and waterways, communal meeting places, and parks.*
- Resources and environments can be used, conserved and protected by valuing and applying sustainable practices  
*e.g. reducing water use; turning off appliances to conserve electricity; picking up litter to protect wildlife.*
- Maps have symbols to represent places and identify the relative position of features including landmarks and locations  
*e.g. a 2D map using pictograms such as a large red circle to represent a city and blue lines to represent waterways.*

## Culture and identity

**Local communities have different groups with shared values and common interests.**

- Groups and communities are identified by practices, symbols and celebrations that reflect their values, beliefs and sense of belonging  
*e.g. Christians have religious ceremonies to mark Easter and Christmas; maroon is Queensland's official state colour; regional communities have "show holidays".*
- Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples are Australia's Indigenous peoples and their influences are evident and valued in Australian communities  
*e.g. the naming of places; acknowledging traditional ownership of land; contributions of Indigenous individuals as part of a local community.*
- Stories about significant events and individuals reflect cultural diversity in local and other Australian communities  
*e.g. traditional tales from around the world with a focus on particular characters and events can be shared in communities and demonstrate the diversity of people within communities.*
- Citizenship involves belonging to groups and communities and valuing different contributions and behaviours such as caring for other members  
*e.g. families and schools are groups that are based on cooperation and care for their members.*

## Political and economic systems

**Communities have systems to make rules and laws, govern, and manage the production and consumption of goods and services.**

- Rights and responsibilities, rules and codes of behaviour are part of local communities  
*e.g. classroom responsibilities; sporting team codes of behaviour; rules of games and road rules.*
- Democratic decision-making systems help people to live and work together in communities  
*e.g. student councils make decisions about the school on behalf of the students; local governments make decisions about roads and waste management for local communities.*
- Voting is used to make decisions and select leaders in democratic systems  
*e.g. voting to determine class rules, student responsibilities and class representatives.*
- Australians are connected to other people and places by shared interests, including travel, exchanging goods and services, and environmental issues  
*e.g. Australians travel abroad and Australia is a major tourist destination.*
- People and resources are involved in the production and consumption of familiar goods and services  
*e.g. production of food — farmers, processors, distributors, retailers, consumers;  
 health services — pharmacists, doctors, dentists, nurses, patients.*