

Parks R 4 L.I.F.E.

Kosciuszko National Park

Location

Kosciuszko National Park straddles the highest part of the Great Dividing Range and protects tableland and montane, sub alpine and alpine ecosystems, glacial landforms, limestone caves, the headwaters of major rivers, most of the NSW snow country and Australia's highest peak, Mt Kosciuszko. The park is home to rare, endangered and endemic plants and animals including the Mountain pygmy possum and Corroboree frog.

About this program

The students receive an invitation to visit the national park, a crossword and four of the sixteen clues before their visit. During their visit the students search for signs of life in the forest, learn how Aboriginal people use plants, find out about park management and participate in a sensory awareness activity. The students are rewarded with the missing clues for the crossword and discover that parks are for Living things, Indigenous people, Forever and Enjoyment.

Objectives

Students will:

- discuss the rules and regulations relating to national parks
- locate, describe and record living things in a montane forest biological survey
- sketch and describe Aboriginal use of local plants
- observe the forest environment using the senses
- discuss and record the reasons for protecting Kosciuszko National Park

Program outline

Meet at Kosciuszko Education Centre Sawpit Creek

Introduction, safety briefing	10 mins
Parks are for Living Things (forest survey)	55 mins
Morning tea	20 mins
Parks are for Indigenous people activity	55 mins
Lunch	30 mins
Parks are Forever – park management activity	55 mins
Parks are for Enjoyment (sensory awareness forest walk)	55 mins
Conclusion, pack up and departure	20 mins

Resources

The teacher will be provided with a resource pack containing ideas for follow through activities.

Additional references

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/education/NationalParkTeachersGuide.pdf
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/bioregions/AustralianAlpsBioregion.htm
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/animals/NativeAnimalFactSheetsByTitle.htm
www.backyardbuddies.net.au//Meet_Backyard_buddies.html
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspecies/
www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NationalParks/parkHome.aspx?id=N0018
www.abc.net.au/acedayjobs/cooljobs/profiles/s2442990.htm

Program

Levels:

Stage 2

Key learning areas:

HSIE

- State and National Parks
- Australia - You're standing in it

Key outcomes:

ENS2.6

- identifies organisations concerned with the care of features, places and environments in the community
- examines some regulations, laws, and practices associated with the management and care of national and built features and sites
- gives reasons why a specified feature, place or site should be cared for
- evaluates the necessity of caring for and conserving a feature, site or place
- recognises that Aboriginal people have a special relationship with the land and the sea

ENS2.5

- names and locates natural, built and heritage features in their community and evaluates their significance
- gives reasons why particular activities may be associated with particular natural, built and heritage features and places
- describes ways in which Aboriginal peoples have used and interacted with the environment to meet their needs
- demonstrates an aesthetic awareness of environments, both natural and built

Location:

Kosciuszko Education Centre, Kosciuszko Road, Sawpit Creek

Duration:

5 hours including lunch break

Availability:

Week days / October to May

Cost:

\$7.00 per student (Minimum fee \$140.00)

Equipment provided:

Teacher's program notes, student booklets, pencils and all sensory awareness and environmental games equipment are provided.

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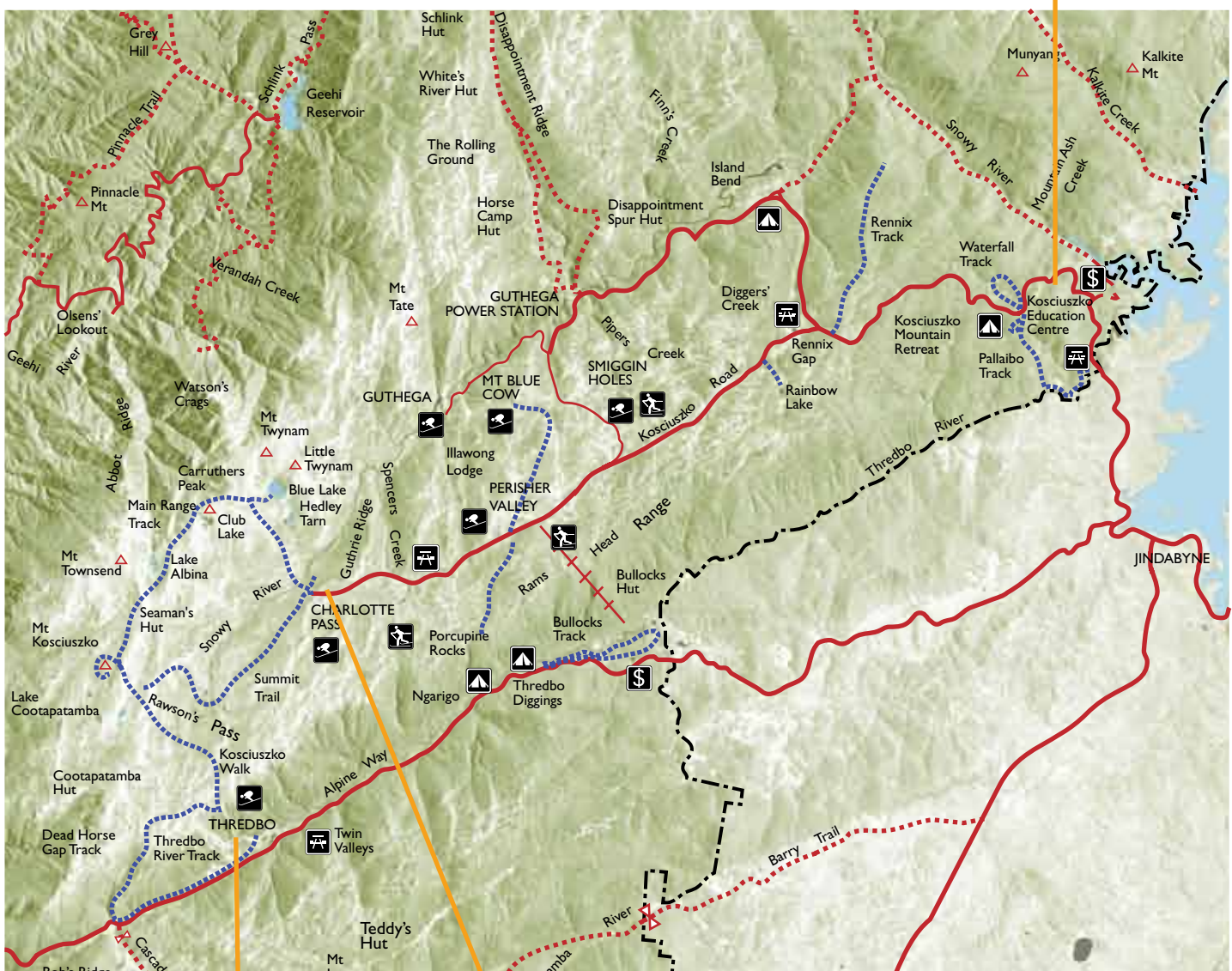
Kosciuszko National Park

Location map

Kosciuszko Education Centre...

Located on Kosciuszko Road at Sawpit Creek 14 km from Jindabyne towards Perisher. The centre is immersed in a mature montane forest, delivers quality educational experiences that help meet school syllabus learning outcomes. Kosciuszko Education Centre has interactive displays, coach and car parking, toilets, lecture room and picnic tables.

Kosciuszko Education Centre



Thredbo Village

Charlotte Pass

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Kosciuszko National Park

Level of difficulty

Easy - Short walk on and off tracks.

Access

Wheelchair accessible car park, picnic area, displays and toilets but please let us know in advance if you are bringing someone with special needs so that we can plan accordingly.

Cost

The fee is \$7.00 per student including park entry fee while you are with a Discovery Ranger. The minimum fee is \$140. A tax invoice will be forwarded to your school or excursion organiser after your visit. Teachers and parents free of charge.

Park facilities

Kosciuszko Education Centre has interactive displays, coach and car parking, toilets, lecture room, picnic tables and tea / coffee making facilities for teachers, parents and coach drivers.

What to bring and wear

Everyone should wear long pants, closed comfortable shoes and bring a sun hat, sun cream, jumper, raincoat with hood, adequate food and water and any necessary medications.

Supervision

Discovery Rangers will guide and encourage students as they participate in activities. The control and supervision of students remains the responsibility of the teacher. It is the responsibility of the school to ensure an adequate number of adult supervisors are present.

Excursion planner



Summer classrooms at the Kosciuszko Education Centre



Kosciuszko National Park protects the habitat of the rare and endangered Corroboree frog

National Park code of behaviour

- All features in the park are protected and nothing may be damaged or removed
- Stay on the walking tracks
- Light fires only in the fireplaces provided
- No pets are allowed
- Respect the rights of others and keep noise to a minimum
- Please take all litter home

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Safety information

This document provides background information to assist teachers in their risk management planning. Please make your own risk assessment based on the information provided.

Activity description - Discovery Ranger guided walk and activities on bush tracks and in a picnic area. Return distance is approx 4 km from Kosciuszko Education Centre.

Pre activity briefing - Teachers will be advised of appropriate clothes, shoes and personal equipment that everyone should wear or carry before the visit. Participants will be briefed on expected conditions, potential hazards, appropriate behaviour, recommended clothing / shoes and emergency procedures at the start of the activity / day.

Safety equipment - Discovery Rangers carry radios and first aid kits, hold current first aid certificates and are aware of emergency procedures.

Potential risks	Suggested control strategies
Pre-existing medical conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers will notify Discovery Coordinator of pre-existing medical / mobility conditions at least 24 hours before the visit ie return the "Pre-existing medical Information" form. Students susceptible to asthma, allergies or other conditions to carry personal medication and the teacher will be aware of their individual health plan. High risk students to be identified and monitored by teachers and carers.
Exposure to heat or cold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information re appropriate clothes (closed, sturdy shoes, long pants, sun hat, warm hat, waterproof coat forwarded to schools prior to visit. Ensure participants have adequate drinking water, food and shelter.
Severe weather conditions including strong winds, snow, hail, lightning strikes, very high bushfire risk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check weather forecasts prior to the activity, monitor throughout the visit and adjust activity according to weather conditions eg stay indoors
Bites and stings (insects, spiders, snakes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students briefed on appropriate behaviour at start of activity/day
Allergic reactions eg ants, nuts, plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High risk students to be identified and monitored by teachers/carers. Students at risk of anaphylactic shock to have access to own EpiPen or other medication according to individual health plan.
Students lost or separated from group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief teachers and carers on route and procedure for waiting at all track intersections. Bushwalking group management practices eg buddy system, regular head counts and 'Tail end Charley' with regular stops are adopted
Variations in track surfaces (trip hazards)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discovery Ranger is familiar with activity site. Continue to assess for hazards eg ice on tracks
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discovery Rangers will meet and greet children as they arrive and instruct them to wait in a safe location. Avoid crossing roads but if this is necessary then ensure everyone crosses the road under direction of teachers or NPWS staff.
Sticks, rocks & stones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief children to leave sticks & stones on ground at all times and to avoid climbing on rock boulders or large logs.

Safety information

Location:

Kosciuszko Education Centre
Kosciuszko Rd
Sawpit Creek

Staff Accreditation:

Discovery Rangers have current Senior First Aid accreditation, are competent in the activity they are leading, experienced working with groups of students in the natural environment, have excellent knowledge of the specific areas they are working in and are aware of the potential hazards of the location. Discovery Rangers have been screened for child-related employment and have completed a Prohibited Employment Declaration.

Emergencies:

Discovery Rangers are trained to deal with emergencies and emergency procedures are in place. The emergency evacuation area is located at the Kosciuszko Education Centre. Discovery Rangers have been instructed to call an ambulance whenever there is any doubt as to the continued well-being of a student or other visitor. Ongoing supervision of a student following first aid treatment will be the responsibility of the visiting school.

Contact details:

Kosciuszko Education Centre
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