

# The Great Australian Platypus Search

Activities, Curriculum and ResourceSmart School Links



ENVIRONMENT  
EDUCATION  
VICTORIA

[Activities created by Planet Warrior Education.](#)

Activities	Victorian Curriculum Link	ResourceSmart Actions
<p><a href="#">Join The Great Australian Platypus Search</a></p> <p>Choose sampling sites from the map</p>		
<p>F-Pre- learning Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploring protecting our waterways – learning and discussions about what are waterways and stormwater drains. How to keep our waterways healthy. Tour the school to look at drains and what should and shouldn't go down the drains.</li> </ul>	<p>Critical and creative thinking F-2 (<a href="#">VCCCTQ001</a>)</p> <p>Geography F-2 (<a href="#">VCGGK069</a>)</p>	<p>Water Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.2, B1.3</b></p>
<p>F-2 <u>Uniqueness of the Platypus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The platypus has the features of many different animals. How many of these features can you list? How are they useful for a Platypus in its environment?</li> <li>What are your strengths and how are they useful in school?</li> </ul> <p>Extension: Draw a platypus and label its features. Draw yourself and label your strengths.</p>	<p>Science F-2 (<a href="#">VCSSU042</a>) (<a href="#">VCSSU043</a>)</p> <p>Personal and Social Capabilities F- 2 (<a href="#">VCPSCSE009</a>)</p> <p>Visual Art F-2 (<a href="#">VCAVAE021</a>)</p>	<p>Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b></p>
<p>3- 6 <u>Uniqueness of the Platypus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The platypus has the features of many different animals. How many of these features can you list? How are they useful for a Platypus in its environment? What challenges does the platypus face?</li> </ul>	<p>Science 3 -4 (<a href="#">VCSSU058</a>) 5-6 (<a href="#">VCSSU074</a>)</p> <p>Personal and Social Capabilities 3-4 (<a href="#">VCPSCSE018</a>)</p>	<p>Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b></p>

<p>- What's a challenge you have faced? How did you persist or adapt?</p> <p>Extension: Draw a platypus and label its features. Draw yourself and label your strengths.</p>		
<p>F- 2 <u>The Cultural Significance of the Platypus</u></p> <p>- Dream time story of the platypus. <a href="#">Biladurang the Platypus</a>.</p> <p>(we recommend watching and assessing suitability for your students).</p>	<p>Geography F-2 (<a href="#">VCGGC057</a>)</p> <p>English (Speaking and Listening). F-2 (<a href="#">VCELA234</a>)</p>	<p>Water Module – actions <b>B1.5</b> Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.5</b></p>
<p>Suitable 5-Upper Secondary <u>Conservation Status of the Platypus</u> Research and status of the platypus and threats.</p>	<p>Geography 5-6 (<a href="#">VCGGC087</a>) (<a href="#">VCGGK096</a>)</p> <p>Science 5-6 (<a href="#">VCSSU075</a>) 7-8 (<a href="#">VCSSU093</a>)</p> <p>Geography 7 -8 (<a href="#">VCGGK108</a>) (<a href="#">VCGGK119</a>)</p>	<p>Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b></p>
<p>Grade 3 - Secondary <u>Classification of the platypus</u> Discussion and teaching around animal classification. Depending on year level e.g. animal/plant classification Grade 3 Kingdom&gt;Phylum&gt;Class&gt;Order&gt;Family&gt;Genus&gt;Species Secondary Students.</p>	<p>Science 3 -4 (<a href="#">VCSSU058</a>) 5-6 (<a href="#">VCSSU074</a>) 7-8 (<a href="#">VCSSU091</a>)</p>	<p>Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b></p>
<p>Grade 5 - Secondary <u>Water Sampling</u> Why water sampling is done? How does water sampling help keep an aquatic ecosystem healthy?</p> <p>If you have a waterway or wetlands nearby you may go for a walk and do some ponding and water sampling. *Macroinvertebrate Identification Sheets are handy for monitoring water quality.</p>	<p>Science 7-8 (<a href="#">VCSSU093</a>) (<a href="#">VCSIS108</a>) (<a href="#">VCSIS111</a>) (<a href="#">VCSIS112</a>)</p>	<p>Water Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.2, B1.3</b></p>

Grade 5 - Secondary <u>EDNA Testing</u> What is DNA, and what is EDNA testing.	Science 7-8 ( <a href="#">VCSIS108</a> )	
Grade 5 - Secondary <u>The Great Australian Platypus Search</u> Watch <a href="#">The Project</a> :  Watch <a href="#">"What's Involved?"</a> Video		Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b>
Grade 5 – Secondary <u>Field Work</u>  You will receive an eDNA kit filter kit provided by Enviro DNA. You will head down to prearranged local waterway sampling sites, collect the eDNA samples and send them back to EnviroDNA's laboratory for processing.	Science 7- 8 ( <a href="#">VCSIS108</a> ) ( <a href="#">VCSIS109</a> )	Biodiversity Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.3, B1.4, C3.3</b>  Water Module – actions <b>B1.2, B1.2, B1.3</b>

- *RSS tips*
  1. *Take lots of photos of learning in action! Photos make great evidence to go along with actions.*
  2. *Communicate learning in the school's newsletter, on the school's sustainability webpage and at assembly.*