

**Outdoor Education**  
**Term 4**  
**Weeks 2 - 3**  
**Wilderness Studies**



**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Welcome to our fourth and final topic for Outdoor Education - Wilderness Studies!

What can I expect to learn in Wilderness Studies?

- *Wilderness*
  - *What is it?*
  - *Where is it?*
  - *What lives there?*
- *Ecosystems*
- *Man's impact on the environment*
- *Endangered species*
- *Interrelationships between species*



## ***E.Q. – What is Wilderness?***

The term 'wilderness' is used to describe large, natural areas of land that, together with their native plant and animal communities, remain essentially unchanged by modern human activity.

Australia has some of the last great wilderness, with 1.8 million square kilometers largely unchanged by industrial civilization

**QUICKWRITE:** Using this brief definition of wilderness, write down as many areas that you already know of that may classify as “wilderness”.

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For an area to be considered wilderness in Australia, it must meet a minimum size requirement of 8000 hectares (1 hectare is just below 1 and a half football fields)



Wilderness areas represent the largest, most pristine areas in the state's reserve system. The Wilderness Act 1987 declared that wilderness areas required to be managed in a way that will maintain its wilderness values and pristine condition by limiting activities likely to damage flora, fauna and cultural heritage. Wilderness areas have cultural significance as they often contain Aboriginal sites and possible remnants of the Australian landscape as it existed before colonization.

Wilderness areas also... (fill in the blanks in this cloze passage)

- Provide clean \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Allow species to \_\_\_\_\_ and live without interference
- Mitigate the effects of \_\_\_\_\_ change on biodiversity
- Allow scientists to compare less-modified \_\_\_\_\_ landscapes with areas that have been changed by modern human \_\_\_\_\_
- Provide places of inspiration that offer solitude, \_\_\_\_\_ significance as well as opportunities for \_\_\_\_\_ activities.

natural    reproduce    air    climate    recreational    water    activity    spiritual



Under the Wilderness Act 1987, all wilderness areas in Australia are protected for the purpose of conservation. Strict rules are set in place with harsh fines and potential jail time as a consequence if those rules are broken.

<b><i>What can I do in wilderness?</i></b>	<b><i>What can I not do in wilderness?</i></b>

***\* Organise the following activities into can and cannot***

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b><i>Camping</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Recreational activities that require a motorized vehicle</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Littering</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>The taking of flora &amp; fauna</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Hunting (species dependant)</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Construction (buildings, roads, fences etc)</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Mountain biking (some areas)</i></b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<b><i>Bird watching</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Introduction of new species</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Photography</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Exploration at the cost of environment</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Landing aircrafts (except emergencies)</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Fishing</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Horseback riding</i></b></li> <li>•<b><i>Hiking</i></b></li> </ul>
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