LESSON 2

TERM TWO

INTRODUCTION TO CITIZEN SCIENCE

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Photo credit: Dr Donald McKnight

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Learning Objectives

At the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

(1) Define citizen science;

(2) Create a conservation action plan for freshwater turtles, with a focus around citizen science.

Define

Create
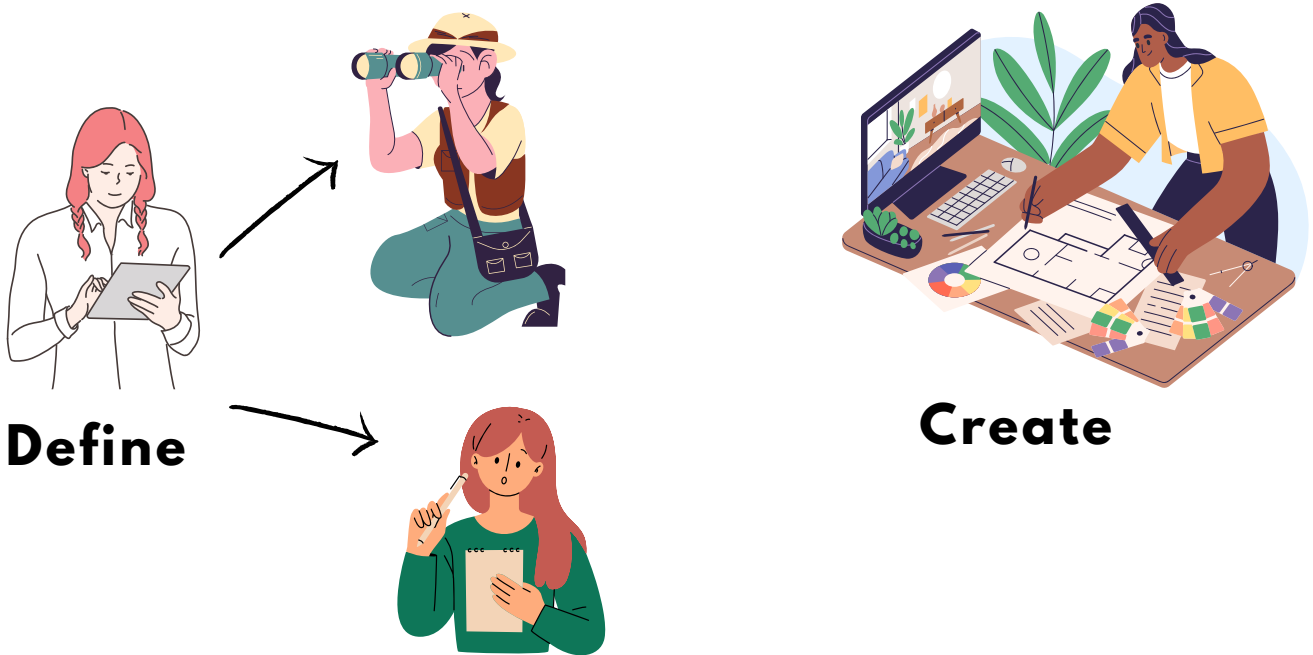
Background Information: Citizen Science

Citizen science refers to the involvement of the public in scientific research, usually by collecting data. For scientists, citizen science can provide access to large amounts of data that would be otherwise difficult or expensive to collect on their own. Citizen science can also help scientists engage with the public and communicate their research in a more accessible way.

Citizen science can provide opportunities to learn about science and contribute to scientific research. Citizen science can also promote a sense of community and empowerment, as participants can see the results of their contributions and feel like they are making a meaningful impact.

Classroom Activity

ACTIVITY

(1) Divide the class into groups and assign each a specific threat (in relation to freshwater turtles).

(2) Instruct students to develop a simple conservation action plan to address their assigned threat. Students should consider awareness campaigns and community involvement.

Group work

Protect our freshwater turtles

Australian Curriculum addressed in this Lesson

Science

Strand: Science Understanding (Year 5)
Sub-strand: Biological Sciences
AC9S5U01: examine how particular structural features and behaviours of living things enable their survival in specific habitats.

Strand: Science as a human endeavour (Year 5)
Sub-strand: Nature and development of science
AC9S5H01: examine why advances in science are often the result of collaboration or build on the work of others.

Sub-strand: Use and influence of science
AC9S5H02: investigate how scientific knowledge is used by individuals and communities to identify problems, consider responses and make decisions.

Strand: Science inquiry (Year 5)
Sub-strand: Communicating
AC9S5I06: write and create texts to communicate ideas and findings for specific purposes and audiences, including selection of language features, using digital tools as appropriate.

Australian Curriculum addressed in this Lesson

Science (continued)

Strand: Science Understanding (Year 6)
Sub-strand: Biological Sciences
AC9S6U01: investigate the physical conditions of a habitat and analyse how the growth and survival of living things is affected by changing physical conditions.

Strand: Science as a human endeavour (Year 6)
Sub-strand: Nature and development of science
AC9S6H01: examine why advances in science are often the result of collaboration or build on the work of others.

Sub-strand: Use and influence of science
AC9S6H02: investigate how scientific knowledge is used by individuals and communities to identify problems, consider responses and make decisions.

Strand: Science inquiry (Year 6)
Sub-strand: Communicating
AAC9S6I06: write and create texts to communicate ideas and findings for specific purposes and audiences, including selection of language features, using digital tools as appropriate.

Australian Curriculum addressed in this Lesson

English
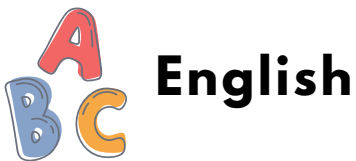
Strand: Literacy (Year 5)

Sub-strand: Creating texts

AC9E5LY06: plan, create, edit and publish written and multimodal texts whose purposes may be imaginative, informative and persuasive, developing ideas using visual features, text structure appropriate to the topic and purpose, text connectives, expanded noun groups, specialist and technical vocabulary, and punctuation including dialogue punctuation.

Strand: Literacy (Year 6)

Sub-strand: Creating texts

AC9ELY06: plan, create, edit and publish written and multimodal texts whose purposes may be imaginative, informative and persuasive, using paragraphs, a variety of complex sentences, expanded verb groups, tense, topic-specific and vivid vocabulary, punctuation, spelling and visual features.