

GEOGRAPHY Years 7- 8

Careel Bay Wetlands

Stage 4 Sample CEC Fieldtrip

Starting at Careel Bay, Avalon



Student Outcomes: Students will be working towards:

- 4.2 Identify, organise and interpret geographical information in the field.
- 4.6 Describe the geographical processes that form & transform wetlands.
- 4.4 Use a range of geographic tools to * measure and interpret data to compare three vegetation communities.
- * Examine and interpret historical and aerial photographs on site.
- * Investigate the resilience and management of this estuarine wetland.

Sample Program and suggested times

- 09:30 Arrive at Hitchcock Park, at the tennis courts carpark, Careel Bay, which is just past Avalon Beach on Sydney's Northern Beaches. Welcome and introduction to today's field study by CEC Educators. Divide into 1-5 groups each led by a CEC Educator and supervised by a school teacher.
- 09:45 All groups rotate through the following three field sites:

Boardwalk Estuarine Wetland Vegetation Communities, students use a range of field resources to measure, record and interpret the atmospheric and biological differences that result in the different plant communities of saltmarsh, mangroves and a casuarina woodland. Investigate a mangrove tree.

Playing Fields & Careel Creek Examine and interpret historical and aerial photos of Careel Bay to develop a sense of place and understand how attitudes have changed to this now valued estuarine wetland. Use a range of water tests to assess how the catchment influences the quality of Careel Creek.

- 12:00 Lunch break, toilets and shade nearby at Hitchcock Park but there aren't any shops nearby.
- 12:30 Walk to an Estuarine Ecosystem near **Etival Street**. Where the Pittwater bay is visible, hunt for and identify a range of estuarine animals that live on or in the mud and in the mangrove forest. Draw arrows to show some of the complex interaction in the wetland food web. Interpret graphs and discuss how the local community uses Careel Bay, describe and assess one controversial issue.
- 14:15 Conclude a great fieldtrip, CEC Educators leave. Board bus and return to school or College.

Please note: This is a fantastic full day program.. Please book early for Careel Bay fieldtrips as it is best to have a falling tide with a low after midday or the crabs all hide. Risk Management Plans are available on the CEC website and bus direction are provided when booking. A student fieldtrip booklet pdf is emailed to the organising teacher after fieldtrip confirmation.



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