
Environmental Studies

Lower Primary Syllabus



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Teachers, inspectors, tertiary educators, community members, representatives from non-government organisations and the Environmental Studies Subject Advisory Committee have developed this syllabus through meetings, workshops and consultations.

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Secretary's Message

Education Reform has been in progress since 1992. The Education Reform has emphasised community-based schooling, the use of bilingual education and bridging to English from vernacular languages, the introduction of Elementary schools, the expansion of Primary schooling to Grade 8 and increased access to Secondary schools at Grades 9 and 10.

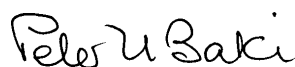
This syllabus is to be used by teachers to teach Grades 3, 4 and 5 students throughout Papua New Guinea. The syllabus builds upon concepts, skills and attitudes from Elementary and links to concepts, skills and attitudes in Upper Primary. Environmental Studies focuses on understanding, appreciating and responsibly developing the physical environment of our students.

Students' language abilities, already gained in their home environments and during the previous years of schooling, must be respected, built upon and extended. Vernacular languages have a large part to play in our students' formative years and their first language should be used to promote a deeper understanding of difficult concepts when this is appropriate.

Students should develop inquiring minds and caring attitudes, showing concern for all living things in their environment. They should have a sense of empowerment about their ability to act to protect their environment. As teachers you are encouraged to assist in changing the behaviour and attitudes of our students towards their environment. You are required to use this syllabus as a guide to develop units of work for teaching Environmental Studies that best suit your school and its surrounding environment.

You are encouraged to use your teaching skills and the environment itself as the basis and context to bring your students' learning closer to nature. This will help them to respect and protect the environment of Papua New Guinea, of which they are a part, now and in the future.

I commend and approve this syllabus as the official curriculum for Environmental Studies to be used in all schools with Grades 3, 4 and 5 students throughout Papua New Guinea.



PETER M. BAKI, CBE
Secretary for Education