

Activity Title:

Beach traffic survey

Focusing questions

Who goes to the beach?

Where do they go on the beach?

What do they do there?

Resources required

- Field worksheet – Beach traffic survey – page 204
- Pens

Prior learning

5e Current issue case study – vehicle damage in sand dunes

5d Photo montage – human impact on dunes

Method

- 1 The objective of this activity is to discover what sort of traffic occurs at our local beach: Who goes to the beach? Where do they go on the beach? And what do they do there?
- 2 Visit the local beach. In pairs spend time observing beach traffic. Complete the beach traffic survey using the field worksheet. (This could be done as a weekend homework or after school activity to survey the beach at time of maximum use).
- 3 Once back in class review the findings of the survey. Discuss:
 - What were the most common activities occurring on the beach?
 - What type of people were using the beach (were they young or old for example)?
 - Were there more positive or negative impacting activities observed?
 - What would you recommend to the regional council regarding beach use and the impact of beach use based on what you observed?

Possible next steps

- Enter findings into an Excel spreadsheet and generate computerised graphs and tables to illustrate both individual and combined class results of the beach traffic survey.
- 6b Dune use management and different parts of the beach – an activity that explores the different activities that occur on different parts of the beach and how these can be managed using a beach activity plan.

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Beach traffic survey

Environmental Education Aspect:

About and In the environment

Environmental Education Concept:

- Sustainability
- Personal and social responsibility for action

Curriculum Links:

- Social Science
- Maths

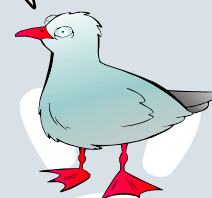
Suggested

Curriculum Level:

Any

SUSTAINABILITY TIP!

Use the Coast Care Code and take care of dune plants. Stick to beach access ways while conducting this activity.



Field worksheet

Beach traffic survey

Name: _____ Class: _____

Beach: _____ Date: _____

Who goes to the beach? Where do they go on the beach? What do they do there?

- Watch the beach over a period of time.
- Record the number of people you see and record what you see them doing in a time frame, for instance 20 minutes.
- Consider the impact of their activities on the coastal environment.

Activities	Sea	Beach	Dunes	Impact Negative/ Positive
Sand Boarder				Negative
Totals				Positive _____ Negative _____

- Analyse what people are doing on the beach and make recommendations for the Regional Council based on what impact you think these activities have on the local environment.

