

# STAGE 2 GEOGRAPHY

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES TO LEARN ABOUT THE EARTH'S ENVIRONMENT

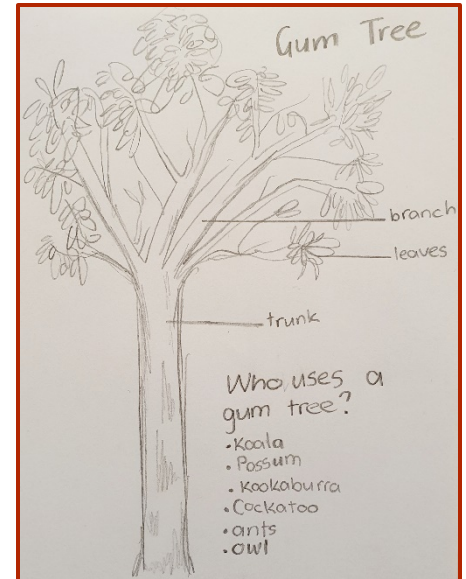
**Learning intention:** Activities are designed to engage students with the outdoors, exploring the features and characteristics of environments and the ways in which people, places and the environment interact.

### Activity 1: Types of vegetation

Can you find three different types of vegetation in your backyard or along your street? Try and find a **tree** (taller than you), a **shrub** (about your size) and a **small plant** (smaller than you). For each type of vegetation:

- sketch and add labels for the parts of the vegetation that you know names of (trunk, branch, flower, leaf, stem).
- make a list of all the different animals, birds and insects that you think would use this type of vegetation for their home or their food.

**Extension activity:** Think of all the different ways humans might use these types of vegetation. These may include using the tree for shade, the shrub for privacy, picking flowers for their homes and so on. Describe a time you have used a tree, shrub or small plant for a special purpose.



### Activity 2: Neighbourhood photo album

Go for a walk or ride your bike around your neighbourhood with your family. Your task is to find the following things and take a photograph of them:

- The **steepest** part of your journey - this will be the part of your walk or ride when you may feel your heart beating quickly and your legs starting to tire!
- The **most colourful** part of your journey - you might find colourful plants, houses, shops or cars. Can you take a photo of a scene that has a variety of different coloured objects in it?
- Your **favourite** part of the journey - explain what you like the most about this part of your neighbourhood.

**Extension activity:** Draw a map of your neighbourhood walk/ride. Label the places on the map where each photo was taken, along with any other special or interesting places that you can identify.

### Activity 3: Create a weather journal

What is the weather doing at your place this week? Draw a table on a sheet of paper by dividing your page into 7 sections. Spend time each day recording your daily weather observations. Things you could pay attention to include the movement of the wind; whether there has been rain, fog or mist; the shape and movement of the clouds; the temperature - what types of clothes are you wearing each day to feel comfortable?

**Extension activity:** Do you ever speak with family or friends who live in different parts of the country or the world? If so, next time you speak to them ask them to describe what the weather has been like at their place this week. Has it been different or similar to the weather at your place? Write a short explanation comparing the two places.

