

Reef walk

Level

Can be tailored to suit students at upper primary, years 7-10 or 11-12
Assessment tasks can be provided if required

Location

Hydeaway Bay
Tide dependant

Excursion Synopsis

This activity is an introduction to reef structure and marine life. Students will observe changes along an environmental gradient as they walk from the beach across the reef flat to the low tide mark.

Living things on the reef will be observed, examined and identified. Adaptations that organisms have to environmental conditions are identified and discussed.

Students are encouraged to discover the diversity and abundance of reef life in this activity.

A group discussion raises student's awareness of the value of reefs and human impacts on them.

For Senior Biology Teachers

This activity can be tailored to meet the criteria set out in the QSA curriculum learning experiences:

Evolution and Diversity

'Visiting a natural environment to observe species diversity'

Organisms and ecosystems

'Select a variety of plants/ animals from a particular environment and determine structural, physiological and behavioural adaptations that allow these organisms to survive in their environment'

Theory into practice

'Techniques for identifying organisms e.g. keys and field guides'

It provides 3 hours of field study in a natural ecosystem.