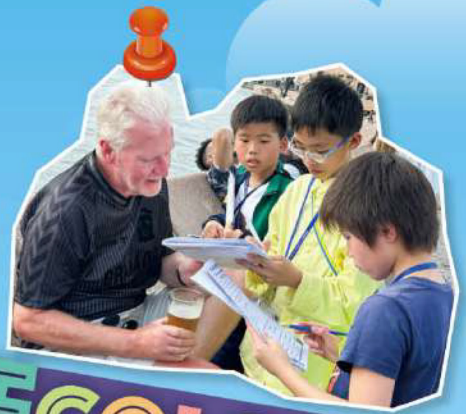




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2024-2025 AUSTRALIAN ECOLOGY ENGLISH STUDY TOUR

Join us on our exciting Australian Ecology English study tour. Australia is famous for its unique wildlife and cultural landmarks. This year, we had the opportunity to visit Sydney, the largest city in Australia!

Before the trip, we attended workshops to prepare and research for our tour. We formed three groups to complete our learning tasks. Our groups focused on Australian land and aquatic animals, a local school visit, and STEAM activities respectively.

Read more about our unforgettable journey that combined English learning and environmental conservation in this vibrant city!



Meeting Australian Land Animals

Mini Zookeeper Programme

We had a precious chance to be part of the zoo keepers crew and learnt how to take care of the animals at Sydney Zoo. We went into the giraffe and zebra enclosures to remove their waste with shovels and rakes. We also made food puzzles (wrapping grains or meat inside straw and grass) to feed and provide enrichment to the animals. On top of that, we fed and had close interactions with the kangaroos, blue-tongued lizards and Tasmanian devils.



As a reward, each of us had the chance to stand close to one of the koalas and take photos with it. The zookeepers also allowed us to enter the restricted area of the zoo to have a closer look at the other wild creatures.



Exploring a City Farm

Calmsley City Farm is a uniquely located farm which provides fresh meat, milk and wool to people living in Sydney. We spent an afternoon on the farm, getting to know how a farm is run. We watched how working dogs help the shepherd herd a pack of sheep and how people shear wool from sheep. We even milked cows with our bare hands!



STEAM Activity : Spin into Acceleration!

DIY Carousel Challenge

We explored physics by building mini carousels powered by hand. We used environmentally friendly materials like paper cups, pencils, and string to create them. Although we faced some challenges during the task, we tackled and overcame them together as a team.



Our carousel spun so fast, it almost flew off the table! Acceleration isn't just for race cars!

Aquatic Animals in Australia

Port Stephens

Our learning task at Port Stephens was to capture and upload the best photo of bottlenose dolphins there. When we boarded the ship, the weather was cloudy. It was disappointing because we could not see anything at first. Luckily, after half an hour, we saw lots of them leaping out of the water! That was really an unforgettable experience!

We had to look around carefully. If we spotted bottlenose dolphins, we need to take photos of them and share them with our friends!



Thank you so much for teaching us about aquaponics. Now we understand that growing plants and nurturing fish is not easy. It requires great effort from farmers. We promise to cherish and appreciate our food from now on.

Barramundi Farm

The farmer shared a lot of information about aquaponics with us. We learnt that aquaponics is a sustainable and efficient way to grow and nurture both plants and fish. It uses less water so can help save the Earth! The farmers there are knowledgeable. They need to be very careful in controlling the temperature and pH levels of the water. They also add special nutrients to help the fish grow healthier.



Sydney Aquarium

The tour guide was kind and friendly, and he told us about the amazing ocean animals in the aquarium. Our teachers prepared a treasure hunt for us, in which we needed to use the names of the sea creatures to form a creative word. It made learning so much fun!

In the aquarium, many of us were interested in the Little blue penguins, the smallest penguins in the world! They can be found in southern Australia. We were lucky to see such cute little creatures!

It was fun because we could touch the starfish in the water!



School Visit : Crown Street Public School

What better way to understand Aussie culture than by meeting local friends? We teamed up with Crown Street Public School students for a collaborative cooking class! Together, we made pizzas using herbs grown in their garden! We also participated in their English, library, and history classes, which were fun and quite different from our lessons in Hong Kong. We gifted handmade souvenirs to the Crown Street students. They loved them!

With the help of Year 1 and 2 students, it is amazing that their kindergarten students can use knives and cheese graters!



Students' Sharing

We had several opportunities to have insightful discussions about our learning experiences throughout the trip. We shared our experiences individually, in pairs and even in groups! We learnt to respect and communicate effectively with one another. We also uploaded our photos and expressed our feelings on Padlet. We loved sharing the memorable moments together!

6D, Miny Pang:

Interesting fact! Zookeepers do not feed the animals directly but they make food puzzles. The aim is to keep the animals busy and intelligently smart! I made a few for the Tasmanian devils and it was fun!



6C, Molly Huang

I didn't know dogs could be this smart before meeting Peggy, the working dog! I was really impressed by how she worked conjointly with the shepherd to lead the sheep into the fences. It was amazing!

4D, Cherry Wong

At first, I couldn't stand the smell of the giraffes' enclosure. And using the rake was very hard! I sweated a lot cleaning the sleeping place of the animals. Being a zookeeper isn't an easy job!



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