# AUSTRALIA’S WATER RESOURCES

## Year 7 – The factors that influence the quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources compared with those in other countries

### Australian Curriculum[[1]](#footnote-1) learning objectives

[ACHGK039](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Curriculum/ContentDescription/ACHGK039) - The quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources compared with those in other continents

[ACHGS052](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Curriculum/ContentDescription/ACHGS052) - Apply geographical concepts to draw conclusions based on the analysis of the [data](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Glossary?a=G&t=Data) and information collected

**Cross curriculum priority area** [**sustainability**](http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/CrossCurriculumPriorities/Sustainability) **organising ideas:**

O11 - The biosphere is a dynamic system providing conditions that sustain life

O12 - All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems

## Resources required

* Captioned DVD – *Natural Hazards - Drought in Australia* from VEA.
* DVD Worksheet
* Y Chart - Droughts feel like, sounds like…
* Map of rainfall patterns showing Australia’s drought regions

Lesson outcome: Students explain the factors that cause drought in Australia that can impact upon the quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources

## Lesson outline

1. Pre-test prior knowledge by asking students to fill out a Y-Chart on what a drought looks like, sounds like and feels like:
2. As a class, evaluate geographical data using [national map](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/drought/archive/20140305.1.col.gif)[[2]](#footnote-2) of rainfall patterns showing Australia’s drought regions

**Discussion point**: Is this a physical, topographical, thematic or weather map? (Thematic as it is based on the theme of rainfall)

1. Students watch the DVD *Nature’s Hazard’s Drought in Australia* and fill in accompanying worksheet
2. Students use evidence from the video and other drought maps to write a geographical report on the factors that influence the quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources. To be successful in this report students will:
* refer to statistics from thematic maps of rainfall patterns
* integrate geographical terms and concepts such as lithosphere, arid, drought, Southern Oscillation, El Niño and La Niña
* draw a clear conclusion on the analysis of the factors that influence the quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources

## Opportunity for further activity

Students investigate the [History of Drought in Australia](http://home.iprimus.com.au/foo7/droughthistory.html)[[3]](#footnote-3)

Students compare the factors that influence the quantity and variability of Australia’s water resources compared with a tropical country that receives a lot of rain. (For example Brazil, Papua New Guinea, Costa Rica.)

1. <http://bit.ly/1hmBsIt> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/drought/archive/20140305.1.col.gif> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://home.iprimus.com.au/foo7/droughthistory.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)