



# How does the Urrbrae Wetland work?

The Urrbrae Wetland is a man made, urban wetland that does several different jobs but what are they and how does the wetland do them?

The Urrbrae Wetland was built by the Mitcham Council and Urrbrae Agricultural High School 15 years ago but they both had different reasons for building it.



Talk about why you think they wanted to build a wetland in this area and then record the jobs you think the wetland does in these boxes.

1 [ ]

2 [ ]

3 [ ]

4 [ ]

Here are some facts about the Urrbrae Wetland. Record the number of the job you think each fact relates to.



Fact	Job
The Urrbrae Wetland has over 6000 visitors per year, most of which are school children.	
The Urrbrae Wetland catches and filters between 300 to 400 million litres of storm water every year.	
The Urrbrae Wetland holds almost 18 million litres of water when everything is full, that's about 7 Olympic pools.	
The Urrbrae Wetland is home to over 100 different species of native plants that live in around the water.	

But how can a wetland actually do some of this stuff and what parts are involved?



Cleaning up stormwater might be something that you think is tricky. Visit one of the inlets and look for things that could filter the water to make it cleaner. Draw a picture to show how it works.



[ ]



The wetland also provides habitat for animals. Discuss with your group what an animals needs from its habitat.

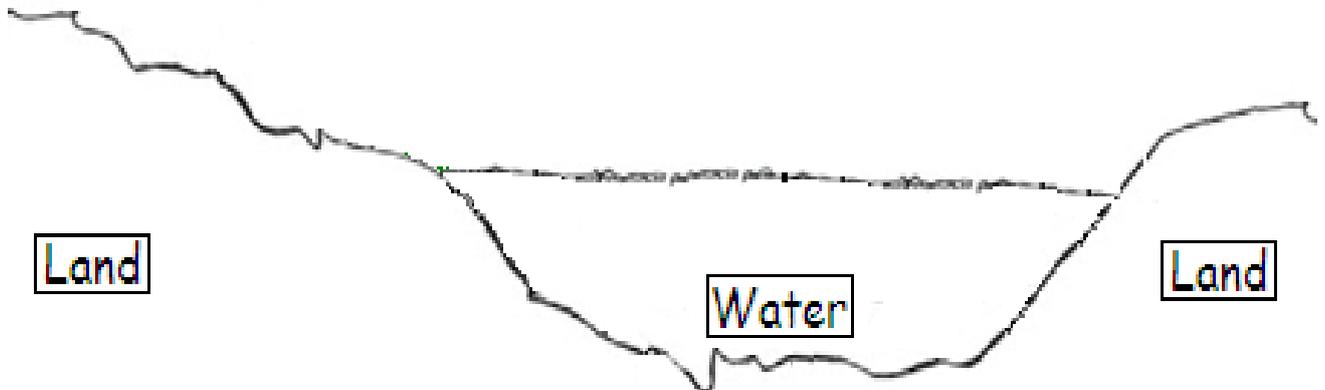
Can an area like the wetland provide different types of habitat? How?



Below is a sketch of the Urrbrae Wetland. Finish the drawing by adding the habitat you see at the Wetland (what plants do you see and where are they).

Then try and identify some of the insects, birds and organism that live in the Wetland Habitat. Use the identification sheet to help you.

Draw each one in your habitat below, in the zone you saw it. Remember to label it.



Don't forget to look up, down and all around and remember the stuff you can't see!



Unfortunately there are some things that threaten the wetland. Discuss what these things are with your group and then work out how you can help the problem. Record some of things you could do at home or at school below.



## THREATS TO THE WETLAND



## HOW CAN YOU HELP