

Our food cycle and where our natural produce comes from, starts with our plants.

Understanding when plants naturally should be harvested to eat, needs to be the guiding factor for teaching kids & adults about native plants, healthy eating, food security & sustainability.

To understand this from a cultural perspective, we need to connect all 3 elements of land, sea & sky, particularly the changes that take place across all 3 throughout the year. Aboriginal cultures across Australia have been using this system to navigate, educate and sustain their everyday lives from mother earth for generations.

By incorporating this same way of learning with your students, they too can begin to understand the true relationships between land, sea & sky, and that each element has a particular purpose and consequence on our native plants and therefore the available food sources throughout the year.

How to do this modifiable activity:

By researching and studying locations they know of or where they live, students will identify the changes across:

- Land – changes in native flora/plants & fauna/animals
- Sea – changes in ocean (movements, temperatures), waterways (flooding, drying, stream movements) & native fauna/animals
- Sky – changes in climate, weather, sunlight & moon

We have provided an example to start students thinking.

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Need help finding out when the native plants in your area grow or flower?

Our mates at [Bush to Bowl](#) will sort you out!

Extension/progression

As this should fit into any current Science or Geography program, we recommend the following progression on from this task:

- Ask your students to now research the different [Aboriginal seasonal calendars](#) to compare their own calendar to other local communities, noting the differences in the terms & length of “seasons”

Australian Curriculum links:

This lesson resource is linked to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curriculum priority Country/Place and Culture. The teaching and learning activities are suitable for Science, Geography, Maths and Technologies Key Learning Areas.

- [A TSICP1](#) First Nations communities of Australia maintain a deep connection to, and responsibility for, Country/Place and have holistic values and belief systems that are connected to the land, sea, sky and waterways.
- [A TSIC2](#) First Nations Australians’ ways of life reflect unique ways of being, knowing, thinking and doing.

Understanding Land, Sea & Sky: My Seasonal Calendar

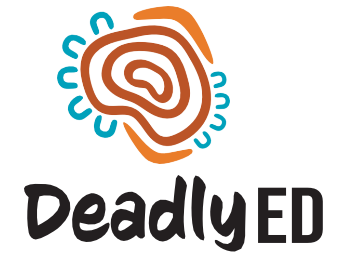


Location:

Country:

Month	Land	Sea	Sky
January			
February			
March			
April	Grass trees begin to flower	Water is warmer, coming to the end of oyster eating season to allow for growth	Temperature starting to drop, super full moon appears
May			
June			
July			
August			
September	Wattles, banksias & grevilleas are flowering and producing nectar to eat	Whales heading north, mullet is running & start of oyster eating season	Cool becoming warmer, some rain
October			
November			
December			

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