This program developed by Amaroo Environmental Education Centre implements elements of two of the interrelated strands of the Australian Curriculum for Science as well as the Cross Curriculum Priority: Sustainability.

The program focuses on natural cycling/recycling and human waste management concepts. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for conserving, reusing and recycling a wide range of products and resources.

The lesson sequence in this overview shows activities to be conducted by the Amaroo teacher/s and suggested activities which may be conducted by the teacher in the school.

Program activities include:

- Investigating the ‘recycling gang’ during a forest walk
- Making a recycled, biodegradable pot
- Sorting waste material based on the concept of the ‘four Rs’
- Paper making
- Examining a worm farm and composting systems
- Predicting the length of time for various human artefacts to decompose

Litterless Lunch—Please discuss with your students before your visit!

Students are encouraged to bring a ‘litterless lunch’ for their Amaroo visit. The aim is to generate no waste that would need to go to land fill.

Suggested rules:
- All waste at the end of the day can be composted. This means…
  - No plastic or foil wrappers and no disposable containers
  - Reusable containers are allowed (eg crackers and cheese brought in a plastic type container that can taken home and reused).
Pedagogical Key: Based on Amaroo EECs Pedagogical Framework

- Pedagogy and Place (Learning Beyond the Classroom)
- Being in the Natural Environment [NE]; Life Learning in Real Places [LLRP]; Learning by Doing [LbD]
- Intellectual Quality
- Deep understanding [DU]; Higher-order thinking [HoT]; Substantive Conversation [SC]
- Connectedness
- Knowledge Integration [KI]; Problem based Curriculum [PbC]; Connectedness to the world [CTW]
- Supportive Classroom Environment
- Academic Engagement [AE]

Lessons for this Science unit have been developed by Amaroo Environmental Education Centre to provide support to teachers in covering elements of the YR 3, 4 & 5 Science curriculum and the cross-curriculum priorities of sustainability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.

The lessons in the teaching sequence have been colour coded as follows:

- Lessons in these boxes should be taught/facilitated by the class teacher in the school setting
- Lessons in these boxes will be taught by the Amaroo teacher as part of your program.
- It is suggested that pre/post work may be conducted on these objectives

### Teaching Sequence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lesson Objectives</th>
<th>Watch Your Waste Lessons - outline</th>
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| Waste in human society—problems and solutions  
[PbC; CTW; DU; KI; LbD; AE] | Students will:  
• understand the 4 Rs: reduce, reuse, recycle, rethink (including refuse) | Students will:  
• examine in detail the meaning of each of the 4 Rs  
• discuss the Toowoomba Regional Council kerbside rubbish collection/recycling bins  
• work in groups to sort various waste materials |
| Paper Recycling  
PbC; CTW | Students will:  
• discuss the process of commercial paper making and recycling  
• understand that recycling of paper can be done as a home/hobby activity | Students will:  
• view images of the commercial paper making process  
• make their own sheet of recycled paper |
| Decomposing human-made waste: timelines  
[LLRP; CTW] | Students will:  
• consider the length of time it takes for various human artefacts to break down | Students will:  
• place various man-made objects on a timeline |
| Human use of natural recycling methods  
[LLRP; CTW] | Students will:  
• investigate a worm farm and compost bins | Students will:  
• observe and discuss a working worm farm and various styles of compost bins |
| Culmination  
[AE; HoT] | Students will:  
• reflect on the day's learnings and activities | Students will:  
• answer questions in quiz-show style in groups ('huddles') of 3 |

### Suggested Assessment Tasks:

- Mix 'n' Match Activity (master sheet provided by Amaroo)
- List some steps that could be taken to reduce waste at your school. Students could design a poster featuring one or more of these strategies.