

# 2022 TEACHER HANDBOOK



## ABOUT ECOMARINES

Tangalooma EcoMarines began in 2014 with a goal to educate the wider community about the importance of protecting Moreton Bay. Now, we're a non-profit organisation providing programs to assist students in primary and secondary schools across Southeast Queensland to learn about and take action to help protect our environment.

We enable students and teachers to work with other schools, connect with local businesses, and learn from traditional owners and industry experts. Student ambassadors and support crew encourage their school network to identify and tackle challenges impacting their local community in a fun and creative way.

Penny, Dini and Fran work together to run our early learning, primary and secondary school programs. We have varied backgrounds spanning across events management, environmental science, sustainable development, and marine sciences, but we all share a common passion for positively impacting the environment and community! You're welcome to contact us any time:

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## ONLINE KIT

Teachers and students can run environmental events, campaigns, and activities on what your EcoMarines team feel is important! We have an annual timeline which you can follow (below) to ensure your EcoMarines are getting the best out of our program. However, our Online Kit will be your best guide and friend. The Online Kit has resources to help you get started, important information and our environmental themes and challenges. The themes and challenges are flexible and optional. Your EcoMarines will be able to discuss which challenges are relevant to the school and sign up for them at Ambassador Training Day. And don't worry, we will send email updates throughout the year for events, upcoming competitions, and any updates.

We've updated to kit to include more streamlined information, challenges, and spotlights from schools on different topics. These include

- **Waste Reduction**
  - Challenge: Waste Warriors Art Challenge
  - Challenge: Wrapper Free Wednesdays
- **Recycling**
  - Challenge: Recycling Rangers Skit
  - Challenge: Containers for Change
  - Challenge: Waste Stream Poster Competition
- **Litter**
  - Challenge: Clean Up Club (Brisbane City Council schools only)
  - Challenge: Landfill Legends (max. 10 schools outside of Brisbane City Council)
- **Gardening and Composting**
  - Challenge: Food Waste Restaurant
  - Challenge: Happy Habitats
- **Water**
  - Challenge: Urban Utilities Water Saver Slogan (Brisbane, Ipswich, and Scenic Rim schools)
  - Challenge: We Saver Slogan (other regions)
- **Energy**
  - Excursion: Power of the Port
  - Challenge: Energy Heroes Competition
- **Spread the Word**
  - Challenge: Spread the Word Video
  - School Event: Go Green for EcoMarines
  - Extra Resource: Borrow Box Event/Fundraiser

Our Online Kit can be found on our website under the LOGIN tab to access the kit, or enter: [www.ecomarines.org/psp](http://www.ecomarines.org/psp)

The Online Kit also includes:

### → Important Information

- Instructions and suggestions for appointing ambassadors, support crew and/or mini marines
- Support Crew and Mini Marine t-shirt order form (\$15 each incl. GST and delivery)
- Event details which are updated regularly if you ever need information
- Resources including certificates, template emails and presentations, school sign, our song, etc.
- Information on school excursions and incursions with our sponsors including:
  - 15% discount for your whole school to Tangalooma Island Resort

- School excursions to Tangalooma
- EcoMarines Online Training for any students in the school to learn about our local environment
- EcoMarines TV and can be shown to all students who want to care for our environments and are budding film stars!
- Our newsletter is sent out every few months with updates from our schools, programs, and events

### → Other Resources

- Inspiration from other schools
- Incursions/excursions
- Tips on setting up Containers for Change. Our code is C10041492 if you would like to donate.

### EcoMarines Schools - Council Regions

- Brisbane City Council
- City of Gold Coast
- Ipswich City Council
- Logan City Council
- Moreton Bay Regional Council
- Redlands City Council
- Scenic Rim Council



Source: <https://www.sdrqld.gov.au/council/council-information>

## ANNUAL TIMELINE

The EcoMarines program has a loose timeline that is followed throughout the year. The first school term is all about getting organised, appointing new ambassadors, and planning projects and challenges for the year. The second and third terms will have a few events including our Ambassador Training Day at Tangalooma and will be the time for EcoMarines to complete challenges and campaigns. Finally, the last term will be about celebrating the work of the EcoMarines and promoting next year's new ambassadors!

You can print this timeline out to help you keep your EcoMarines on track:

TIMEFRAME AND THEMES	ACTIVITY, THEMES OR EVENTS	DETAILS
Term 1	Appoint ambassadors and support crew	Use an application form, video application, an interview, or a voting process to select your new ambassadors.
	Online ambassador and support crew training	All EcoMarines and interested kids can complete this training full of environmental themes, projects, and activities.
	Organise shirts and assembly presentations	Parent permission is needed and then shirts can be delivered to your school. New schools can have an EcoMarines team member presents ambassadors on assembly. Other schools will receive a special video to play.
	Book in an EcoMarines Mentor Meeting	A member of our team will come and meet your new ambassadors and assist in developing an action plan.
	<b>EVENT:</b> Clean up Australia day, Date TBC	This event is run end of Term 1 to get all EcoMarines involved in cleaning a local area.
Term 2-3	Complete challenges	Ambassadors and Support Crew can complete challenges discussed in mentor meetings.
	<b>EVENT:</b> Ambassador Training Day, date notified through email	Ambassadors and EcoMarines teachers will go to Tangalooma Island Resort on Moreton Island. We will run workshops, presentations and team building activities. You will sign up for challenges at this event as well!
	<b>EVENT:</b> Care 4 Country, Date TBC	EcoMarines ambassadors, teachers, support crew students, and families are invited to attend. We will enjoy meeting Aboriginal Elders, storytelling, song, and dance!
Term 4	Spread the Word and Go Green for EcoMarines Week, Date TBC	Complete the Spread the Word Video or the Go Green for EcoMarines Fundraiser. Then join other schools as we get together to dress up in green and share the message of conservation and community!
	<b>EVENT:</b> The Wave, Date TBC	The Wave is a chance to celebrate all EcoMarines school efforts with sponsors, community, and government officials.

## TIPS AND TRICKS

### Ways to engage your community:

- Include parents and families in your initiatives. For example – ask parents to donate containers for your containers for change collection or invite them to a clean-up.
- Send out eco-tips to parents and families especially if tackling wasteful lunchboxes. Check our website for some resources!
- Have a section in your schools' newsletter for the EcoMarines and their initiatives.
- Collect and communicate data to share with your community.
- Volunteer for local revegetation projects, rubbish clean-ups and creek initiatives.



### Kids teaching Kids:

- Host lunchtime workshops and invite students to attend. Try linking with environmental days below!
- Host documentary viewing during lunchtime. We love the documentary 'A Plastic Ocean' - contact us for a copy!
- Organise to share workshops or presentations for younger grades or early learning centres.



### Fun ideas:

- Set up low-waste market stalls to sell school grown produce, baked goods, and homemade items.
- If you have some budding EcoMarines artists, why not auction off their art? Invite parents and families to an Art Auction event and sell environmentally themed art.
- Some councils will donate plants for free. Host a tree planting event to celebrate days such as National tree day.
- Picking up rubbish as a punishment can create negative connotations towards litter. Have Rubbish Clean-Ups as a fun activity! Make it a competition, have prizes and fun tools.

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

You can link EcoMarines projects, activities, and challenges to these United Nations Sustainable Development goals:



## 2022 ENVIRONMENTAL DAYS

These environmental days are great to celebrate with your EcoMarines and your school community! EcoMarines could host workshops, hold fundraisers, and share information on assembly. If you do celebrate an environmental day, let us know and send us some pictures!

### FEBRUARY

2<sup>nd</sup> – World Wetlands Day

11<sup>th</sup> – International Day of Women & Girls in Science

### MARCH

3<sup>rd</sup> – World Wildlife Day

5<sup>th</sup> - Youth and Schools Clean Up Day



6<sup>th</sup> – Clean Up Australia Day

21<sup>st</sup> – International Day of Forests and Harmony Day

22<sup>nd</sup> – World Water Day

25<sup>th</sup> – National Ride2School Day

26<sup>th</sup> – Earth Hour

### APRIL

22<sup>nd</sup> – Earth Day



### MAY

1<sup>st</sup> – International Composting Awareness Week (1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> May)

14<sup>th</sup> – World Migratory Bird Day

16<sup>th</sup> – National Volunteer week (16<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> May)

22<sup>nd</sup> – International Day for Biological Diversity

23<sup>rd</sup> – World Turtle Day



INTERNATIONAL DAY  
for  
**BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY**

*Our Biodiversity,  
Our Food, Our Health*



### JUNE

5<sup>th</sup> – World Environment Day

8<sup>th</sup> – World Oceans Day

### JULY

3<sup>rd</sup> – NAIDOC week (3<sup>rd</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July)

29<sup>th</sup> – Schools Tree Day

31<sup>st</sup> – National Tree Day

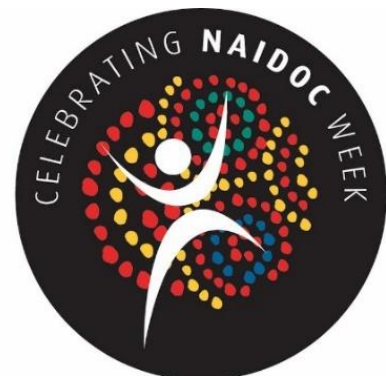
### AUGUST

1<sup>st</sup> – Landcare Week (1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August)

9<sup>th</sup> – International Day for World Indigenous Peoples

13<sup>th</sup> – National Science week (13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> August)

15<sup>th</sup> – Keep Australia Beautiful week (15<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> August)





## SEPTEMBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> – National Biodiversity Month (1<sup>st</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> September)
- 7<sup>th</sup> – National Threatened Species Day
- TBC – International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste Reduction

## OCTOBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> – World Habitat Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Aussie Backyard Bird Count and National Bird Week (17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> )
- 17<sup>th</sup>– National Water Week (17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> )
- TBC - Enviroweek
- 24<sup>th</sup> – United Nations Day



## NOVEMBER

- 7<sup>th</sup> – UN Climate Change Conference COP 27 (7<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>)
- 9<sup>th</sup> – National Recycling Week (9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>)
- 21<sup>st</sup> – World Fisheries Day

## DECEMBER

- 5<sup>th</sup> – International Volunteer Day and World Soil Day

World  
Soil Day



To stay in the loop and receive updates, please sign up to our e-newsletter online and follow us on:



@Tangalooma EcoMarines



@ecomarines\_