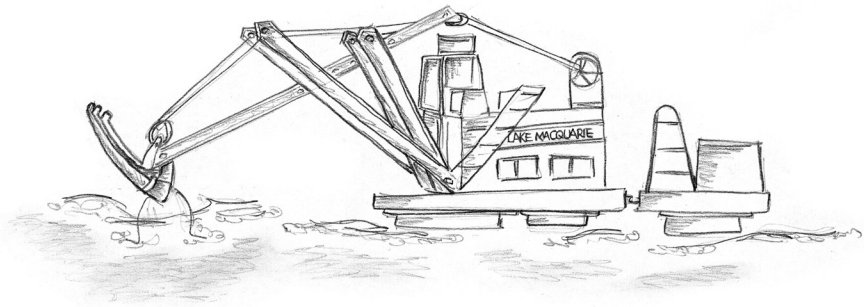


Activity Sheet: 2 - Dynamic Change in Lake Macquarie

1 Research Task

- Research a shallow bay in the local area. Ask students to sketch the appearance of the surrounding environment, paying particular attention to water depths, banks and native vegetation. Students then research the history of the bay to trace changes in the environment over a prolonged period.
- Compare sketch results with historical photos and set students the task of researching major events in the evolution of the area. (Option to include research of Awabakal history of the area.)
- Students to write a brief paper highlighting the changes in the local environment over time and explaining the causes of this change. Encourage students to differentiate between man-made changes, natural evolution of environmental conditions and reactionary changes to engineering solutions.



2 Mapping Changes to the Local Environment

- Teachers to provide students with an old copy of a map of Lake Macquarie, specific to the local area. These should be available from most public Council libraries.
- Students to visit the specific area and sketch the Lake waterfront profile as it is today.
- Students compare their sketch with the old map.
- Note changes to the profile. Brainstorm the reasons for any changes.

Notes:

- **The activities should highlight the ever changing nature of natural environments like estuaries. Further discussion about the effects of man-made changes to the balance of the environment are encouraged.**
- **Activities should encourage students to discuss the long term future in environmental terms, with population growth, natural processes and pollution in mind.**