



Teacher Resource

KI Cat Ban

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. When and why were cats introduced to Australia?
2. Why are cats being banned on Kangaroo Island?
3. What are some native animals that are found on Kangaroo Island?
4. Cats are the top predator on Kangaroo Island. True or false.
5. Why have local councils across Australia introduced cat rules, like curfews?

Activity: Class Discussion

Students will discuss the BTN KI Cat Ban story in pairs and then share their thoughts with the class.

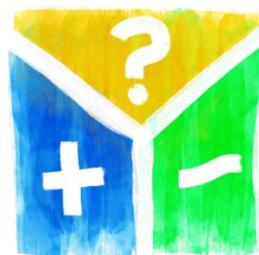
- What do you **THINK** about what you saw in this video?
- What does this video make you **WONDER**?
- What did you **LEARN** watching the story?
- Think of three questions you would like to ask about the topic.



Activity: Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN KI Cat Ban story. After watching the story, ask students to reflect on and organise the information into three categories. What information in the story was...?

- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting



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KEY LEARNING

Students will learn about the impact of introduced animals on the environment.

CURRICULUM

Science – Year 4

Living things have life cycles. Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive.

Science – Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

Science – Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

Science – Year 7

Interactions between organisms, including the effects of human activities can be represented by food chains and food webs.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN KI Cat Ban story. Here are some words to get them started.

NATIVE	SPECIES	INTRODUCED
THREATENED	ENVIRONMENT	FERAL

Activity: Jigsaw Learning Activity

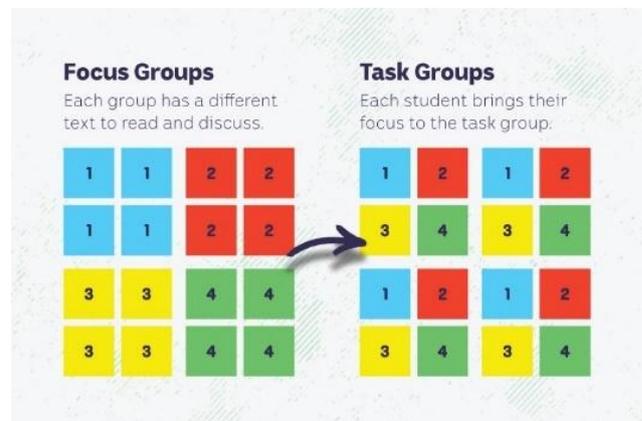
In this jigsaw learning activity students will work cooperatively to learn more about introduced species in Australia and the impact they have on the environment. Each group will become experts and then share what they have learnt with other students.

Form groups

Divide the class into Focus Groups. Each Focus Group will choose a different animal that has been introduced in Australia to research.

Species to research:

1. Cats
2. Rabbits
3. Cane toads
4. Camels
5. Deer
6. Carp



Each group will need to decide how they will collect and communicate the information they find during their research.

Research

Each Focus Group will work as a team to learn as much as they can, using the following as a guide for their research.

- When was the species introduced in Australia?
- Why did they bring it to Australia?
- Find an interesting fact or story about how they were first used in Australia.
- How quickly did the species spread across Australia?
- Where do they live?
- What damage did the species do to the environment? Does this surprise you? Explain your answer.
- How many native species does the introduced species threaten? Make a list.
- How have people tried to reduce their numbers?
- Describe one method that people have used to control their numbers. How successful was it?

Share

Mix the Focus Groups to form Task Groups (Task Groups include one student from each of the Focus Groups) to share the information they have collected. Students will share the information they have collected and learn from one another.

Reflect

After this activity, ask students to reflect on what they have learnt. What do they know about introduced species? How has their thinking changed?

Useful Websites

- [Kangaroo Island considers introducing 'last cat policy' in bid to eradicate feral cats](#) – ABC News
- [Protecting Native Wildlife](#) – BTN
- [Eat the Invaders: Feral cats](#) – ABC Education
- [Eat the Invaders: The Kiwirrkurra Rangers](#) – ABC Education
- [Cat Ban](#) – BTN
- [Feral Cats](#) – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
- [Cats and Wildlife - how you can protect both](#) – Department of Environment and Water
- [Responsible cat ownership in Australia](#) – Threatened Species Recovery Hub
- [Feral animals in Australia](#) – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water