Dirk Hartog Island National Park

**Return to 1616**

Ecological Restoration Project

**Education Package**

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Introduction

Dirk Hartog Island is Western Australia’s largest island. When visited by Dirk Hartog in 1616, the island was in pristine condition with a rich mammal fauna and flourishing vegetation. Since this time, introduced plants and animals have degraded the island causing the local extinction of native species. *Return to 1616* is an ambitious program to restore the island’s natural ecosystems to how Dirk Hartog would have seen them. Introduced animals have been removed and native mammals are gradually being reintroduced.

These resources and activities have been designed to achieve a range of learning outcomes across curriculum areas – particularly HASS, Science and English.

After using the materials in *Return to 1616* learners will be better able to:

• describe how Dirk Hartog Island is being restored by the *Return to 1616* project
• provide examples of adaptations of species to their environment
• describe interactions between animals in an ecosystem
• describe predator prey relationships (food webs, food chains)
• identify threats to native species
• explain how our actions can have both positive and negative impacts on the environment
• identify practical ways that we can protect threatened species.
Let’s begin your journey to Dirk Hartog Island National Park…
How to Use this Resource

People will be driven to learn when they’re solving problems that matter to them. This resource is designed to engage learners in devising actions for real-world problems - big and small. Select an Inquiry Activity and let it lead the way. The Information Hub is there to support knowledge construction by learners. The Teacher Section is there to support teachers as they guide learners to achieve curriculum expectations.

Return to 1616 Background Information
Learn about the incredible project to restore the biodiversity of Dirk Hartog Island to its natural state.

Virtual Tour
Interact with 360-degree images within Google Earth to explore the island and the Return to 1616 project.

Inquiry Projects
Use ‘Information Fluency’ to guide your research or ‘Solution Fluency’ to guide you to real-world action!

Student Activities
Browse activities to complement your current programs and curriculum. These can be used as ‘one-off’ activities or as a series.

Information Hub
Search here for information you need when you need it. Find the information that best suits your inquiry and use it for real-world action. Share the information with others.

Teacher Section
This section includes curriculum links and other supporting materials for busy teachers.