

Stage 4 Geography

Place and Liveability Module



Learning intention and sequence

- 1) Understand geographic concepts in the topic 'Place and Liveability'
- 2) Understand features that make places liveable
- 3) Understand how social, cultural and physical features enhance the liveability of places



Image: Cooks River Federation Reserve, Campsie; Photo by GREEC

Content focus

Students discuss factors that influence people's perceptions of the liveability of places. They investigate features and characteristics of places across a range of scales that support and enhance people's wellbeing such as community identity, environmental quality and access to services and facilities. Students assess the liveability of places and propose strategies to enhance the liveability of a place on the Cooks River.

NAME: _____



Assessing Liveability

There are many ways to assess liveability. As part of this module, you will be asked to complete two different types of assessment that are used by geographers. The first is the SCHEEPT (Social, Cultural, Historical, Environmental, Economic, Political and Technological) method of assessment, which helps to identify and consider the factors that influence liveability.

Start your research of the Cooks River by learning more about it.

Explore this **Google site that was created for the Cooks** by clicking [here](#).



What makes a place liveable depends on people's perceptions. This means someone's point of view or what they personally think of something. A place could be quite liveable for one person and unliveable for another. So features that make places liveable can be common for all groups. Everyone would prefer to live in a safe place, so safety would be a common liveability feature.

Geographers often group liveability features together into categories of common things. By doing this they can use these categories to assess what a place is like to live in. Liveability is the total of a range of factors, each of which added together contributes to the liveability of an area.

A simple grouping could include:

Physical – e.g., the natural environment, buildings, streetscapes, food supply, waste, energy, transportation, etc.

Social – e.g., equity, safety and crime, corruption, being part of decision-making processes in your community, employment and jobs.

Cultural – e.g., the feel of a place, the identity of a place, the things we believe in, happiness, health and wellbeing, education, art.

Task 1. Consider your part of the Cooks River and complete the SCHEEPT table of liveability in the work sample section (*found on page 6*)

SCHEEPT – an acronym to remember factors influencing liveability

Factor	Explanation	Examples include:
S - Social	How are people able to interact with other people	Community identity and pride, social spaces, ability to catch up with friends and family, etc
C - Cultural	The culture (including traditions) of the location	The type of people, religions, language and special events that are connected with an area.
H - Historical	History of the location	How old is the area? evidence of history like old buildings and events that occurred there.
E - Environmental	All elements of the physical environment, including natural and human made	Natural features like open spaces, vegetation, local waterways, and built features like transport links, types of housing, sustainable design and noise.
E - Economic	All elements that relate to money	House pricing, cost of living, job availability and distance to jobs, etc
P - Political	Government policies or political decisions that affect how people live	Freedom of speech, policies that affect people who live in the area, etc.
T - Technological	All areas of technology that affect people	NBN / internet access, mobile coverage, transport technology.

Liveability is all about how pleasant a place is. To get you think more deeply about your current place / suburb we are going to use a useful thinking tool called a SWOT analysis. **SWOT** stands for **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats and it will focus attention on what makes living around the Cooks River desirable.

Task 2. Consider the SWOT analysis table below and complete the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats table in the work sample section *(found on page 6)*

What makes your place/suburb liveable?	
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it do well? • What makes it a really great place to live? • What unique features does it have? • What do others see as its strengths? • E.g., it's a safe place to live 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes it less pleasant for you? • What problems does it have? • What do others see as it's problems? • E.g., it's boring on weekends
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What opportunities does it have that could make it more liveable? • What positive trends could be taken advantage of? • E.g., it's close to a major attraction that could bring more jobs and money 	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What threats could harm your place and make it less liveable? • E.g., the main factory / employer is closing



Image: Cooks River Boat Harbour, Earlwood; Photo by Steve

Task 3. Create your own map of important locations (Places I enjoy, Services and facilities, Environmental quality & Cultural features)

To help communicate your learning and understanding of the liveability along the Cooks River you will prepare a map to show locations, destinations, and significant features around your particular area of interest. Include a link to your map in the work sample section.

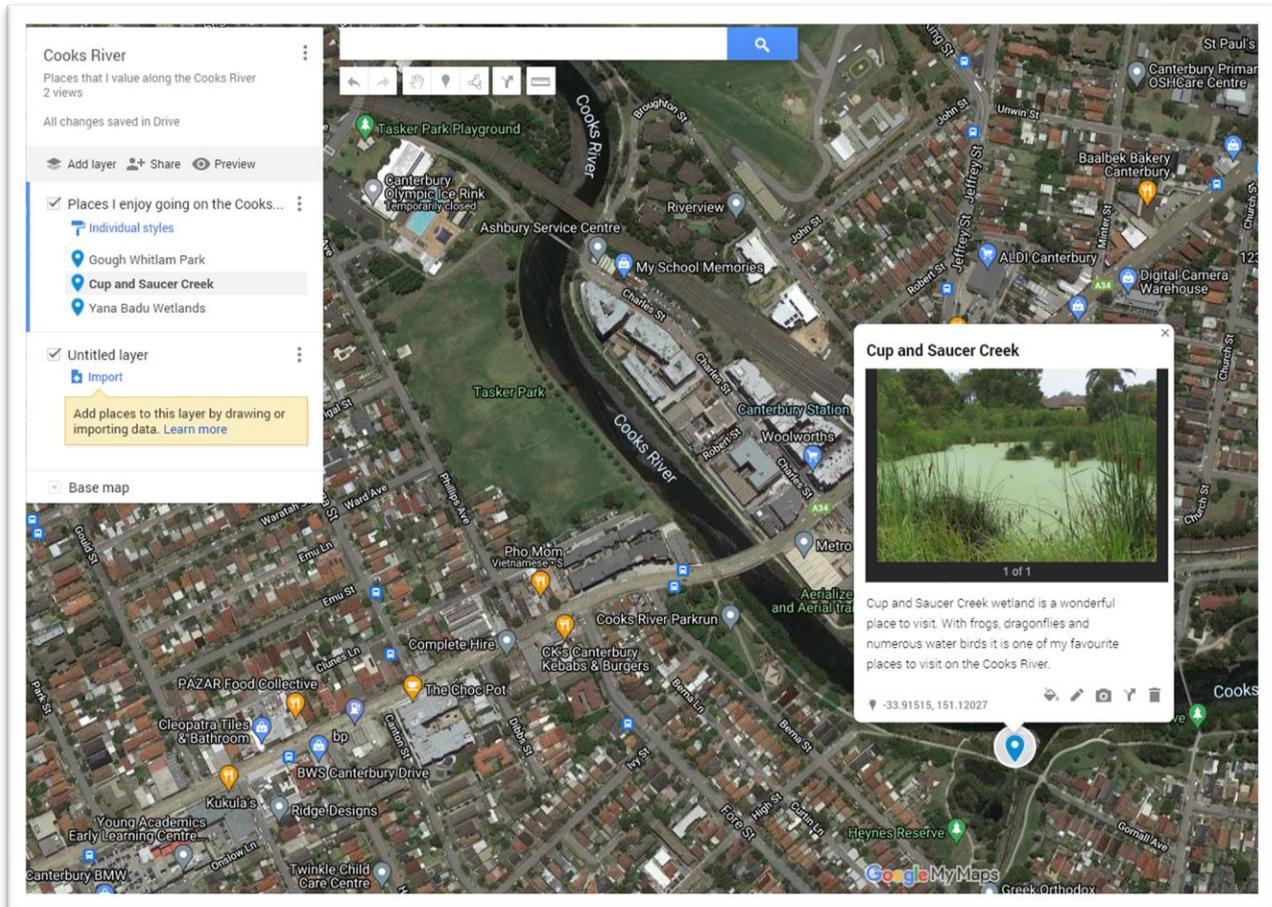


Image: Google map example of Cup and Saucer Creek site used by Georges River EEC

Create an individual map of your special places on the Cooks River using Google My Maps.

Instructions for map creation:

1. On your computer, sign in to [My Maps](#). (click on My Maps to be taken to sign in page)
2. Click Create a new map.
3. Go to the top left and click "Untitled map."
4. Give your map a name and description.
5. To show your special locations and features click Add marker .
6. Select a layer and click where to put the place. A layer can have photos, 2,000 lines, shapes, or places.
7. Give your place a name.
8. Click Save.
9. Once you have created your map click Share  and Enable link sharing. Copy the link and paste it in Task 3 of the work sample section on page 6.

Task 4. Imagine you are working as a town planner to transform your part of the Cooks River into more liveable space. Complete Task 4 on page 8, describe four changes you would make to improve your suburb.

The following links will help you to learn more about the concept of liveability:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMPSUPH4lvE>
- <https://www.greater.sydney/metropolis-of-three-cities/liveability>.
- <https://www.youtube.com/embed/TRb52O76HxQ>

Task 5. Be part of the real improvement plan for the Cooks River and take part in the survey by clicking on the link below.

Cooks River Catchment CMP

The Cooks River Alliance has been working with the government, private and community partners to develop the **Cooks River Catchment Coastal Management Program (CMP)**. In 2019, we finished the Stage One scoping study. For Stage Two, we are now preparing studies, including a **community values survey**, to understand risks, vulnerabilities, and opportunities to consider in the development of the CMP.

[Cooks River Community Values Survey – What Matters?](#)

We are inviting everyone who lives, works, recreates, plays, or does business in the Cooks River Catchment to take the [survey](#).

By doing the survey, you will help us understand what people value about the Cooks River and Botany Bay areas, their wetlands and smaller creeks and drains that flow into them. It will help us prioritise the CMP to provide appropriate works and services along the river and throughout the catchment. **You could also win \$100 voucher!***

COOKS RIVER AND BOTANY CATCHMENTS... WHAT MATTERS TO YOU?

WIN A \$100 PRIZE

What do you value about these areas?

What should change or improve?

What's important for the future?

Have your say and find out more: cb.city/cooks-river-survey

Cooks River Alliance, Bayside Council, City of Sydney, Canterbury Bankstown, Inner West Council, Strathfield Council, Sydney Water, Burwood

*Parents/Guardians/Carers consent to the entry on behalf of minors (under 18 years) and individuals under their care.

Evidence of Learning Work Space

Task 1 - SCHEEP

Factor	Explanation	Examples from your area
S - Social	How are people able to interact with other people	
C - Cultural	The culture (including traditions) of the location	
H - Historical	History of the location	
E - Environmental	All elements of the physical environment, including natural and human made	
E - Economic	All elements that relate to money	
P - Political	Government policies or political decisions that affect how people live	
T - Technological	All areas of technology that affect people	

Task 2 - SWOT

Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	Weaknesses <ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none">•	Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none">•

Task 3 - Paste the link to your Google map in the box

Link to My Cooks River map;

Task 4 - What are **four changes** you would make to your suburb that would enhance liveability for the whole community whilst also improving the Cooks River?

1)
2)
3)
4)

Task 5 - Complete the community values survey to be part of an authentic liveability study

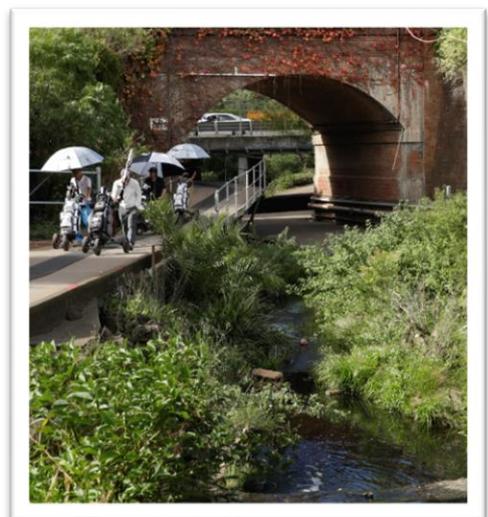
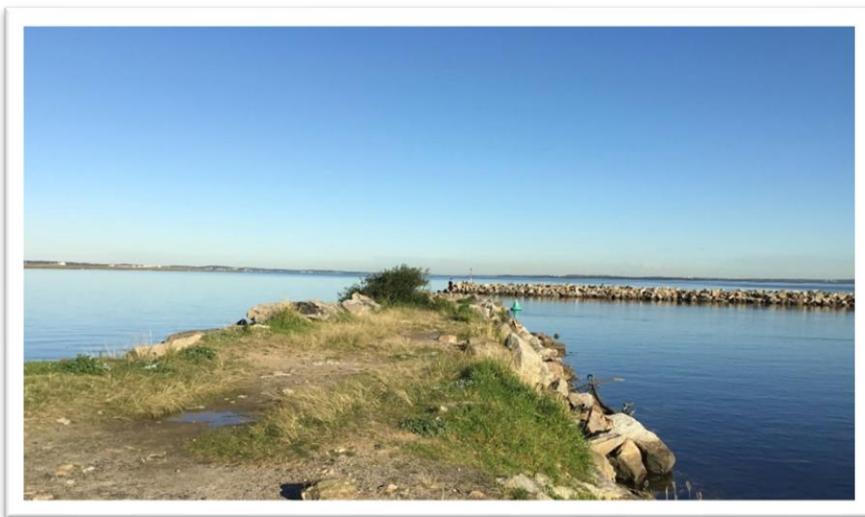


Image: Left - Cooks River Kamay Bay, Mascot; Photo by GREEC. Right - Strathfield Golf Course, Strathfield; Photo Cooks River Alliance

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Cooks River valley, the Wangal, Cadigal and Gameygal of the Eora nation. From Yagoona to Kamay Bay the 23 km river has experienced numerous changes throughout the past. With thought, respect and best practice this river will continue to improve into the future.

