

Regenerating Australia - Regenerating Democracy



Name

Class

Teacher Preparation

Teacher Content Information

About Regeneration:

Sustainability seeks to reduce harm whereas regeneration takes things a big step further. Regenerative design and development reverses environmental degradation and social fracturing; it addresses the unprecedented challenges our environment faces today by enabling human systems to co-evolve with nature. If our intention for this planet is sustainability, then regeneration is the active and inclusive process that can get us there. Regeneration is the default mode of life - from the cells in our bodies to a forest after fire.

Learn more about regeneration [here](#) and share the "[What is Regeneration](#)" video and use the password: **EDURA** to access the link. The video will help inspire your class's thinking and refresh their understanding of regeneration.

A good frame of reference for the damage we are doing is the Planetary Boundaries framework by the [Stockholm Resilience Centre](#). The [work of Kate Raworth and Doughnut Economics](#) also highlights these breached ecological boundaries and also incorporates the violation of social boundaries. This [video](#), presented by director Damon Gameau, will help provide context to students about where we are with our Planetary Boundaries and why we need to regenerate before we can achieve sustainability.

Film Synopsis

Regenerating Australia is a short film by the writers and producers of the award-winning 2040 film. It is based on a 4 month interview process with a diverse group of Australians who shared their hopes and dreams for the country's future.

Set on New Year's Eve of December 2029, a news anchor is ending the nightly bulletin with a look back at the decade 'that could be'. A decade that saw Australia transition to a fairer, cleaner, more community-focused economy. The film is a construction of news reports and press conferences featuring real journalists, politicians, business leaders and citizens.

The film brings to life the greener, more vibrant cities and communities that the interviewees are asking for. We see what a high-speed rail network connecting regional areas and cities would look like, what large scale wind, solar, battery and hydrogen projects would do for hundreds of thousands of employees, and show the impacts of landscapes coming to life when regenerative agriculture and reforestation programs combine with Indigenous knowledge and fire ecology to bring more people back onto the land.

This 'mocked up' look back at this critical decade is full of hope and aspiration, mapping out a pathway for change that can lead us to a more sustainable future. But it is a muscular hope, as each news event is grounded in the research and modelling of several organisations that have been examining and advocating for such a transition.

The main solutions highlighted in the film are:

- Valuing, amplifying and adhering to First Nations knowledge
- Decentralised decision-making with more community involvement
- Regional investment that creates local jobs and economic activity
- Community-led clean energy projects and localised food systems
- Regenerative farming and land management practices.

How to access the Regenerating Australia film

Australian schools can apply for a free educational license to screen the film either virtually or on the school campus. Schools will receive a digital copy of the film and are also invited to download the free School Action Toolkit. The film is also available on [ClickView](#).

To view the trailer, click [here](#).

Regenerating Australia is a Regen Studios film developed and produced in association with [WWF-Australia](#). Cool.org and Regen Studios would like to acknowledge the generous contributions of [Shark Island Foundation](#), [Documentary Australia Foundation](#), and our philanthropic partners in the development of these teaching resources.

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