

Regenerating Australia - Watching The Film (Years 7 & 8)



Name

Class

Teacher Preparation

Learning intentions:

Students will...

- understand the concept of 'regeneration'.
- understand that regeneration is something that we can do for our communities and ecosystems.

Success criteria:

Students can...

- explain what the concept of 'regeneration' means to them.
- describe an example of regeneration.
- identify something in their own lives that they believe would benefit from regeneration.



Make the learning intentions and success criteria visible for students throughout this lesson.

Teacher content information:

Sustainability seeks to reduce harm whereas regeneration takes things a big step further. Regenerative development seeks to reverse environmental degradation and make a positive impact on people and the planet. Regeneration is a way for us to address the contemporary challenges our environment faces today by enabling and encouraging human systems such as governments, communities and the infrastructure they rely on to co-evolve with nature.

The [Planetary Boundaries framework by the Stockholm Resilience Centre](#) is a good frame of reference for the damage we are doing.

The work of [Kate Raworth and Doughnut Economics](#) also highlights these breached ecological boundaries, and also incorporates the breached social boundaries.

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. 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.

These lessons have been created in partnership with

