The Australian Marine Debris Initiative aims to create awareness in the community about marine environmental and conservation issues through integrative hands-on experiences and learning opportunities linking beyond the classroom. Aligned with the Australian National Curriculum and streamlined to work well in conjunction with different science resources recognised by the Australian Academy of Science, such as Primary Connections and Science Can Do, the Tangaroa Blue Marine Debris Education Kit contributes to students developing investigative skills and an understanding of the nature of science in an easy-to-use way.

Embedded within the curriculum framework and units of learning, the Tangaroa Blue Marine Debris Education Kit gives focus to:

- What is marine debris?
- Why is marine debris a problem?
- What can we do about it?

Students cover the concepts of consumption, pollution and resolution through the developed understanding that there is an interrelationship between the Earth’s environment and human activities.
Components of the Tangaroa Blue Foundation Marine Debris Education Kit:

Three multi-levelled unit plans that cater from Foundation Year to Year 10.

- Unit at a glance
- Individual lesson plans

Links to curriculum. Each lesson shows which aspect of the curriculum it links to for ease of teacher planning.

- Science
- English

Teaching and Learning Model

- Philosophy behind the design
- Cross-curricular Priorities
- The 5E teaching and learning model
- Marine Debris Learning Cycle

Extra resources: a comprehensive list of extra resources that can accompany learning in the classroom, books, website, videos and computer games.

Marine Debris Fact Sheets are available on the Tangaroa Blue Foundation website and provide information and background on the marine debris issue and how it fits into the bigger picture.

Linking to Community: how schools and communities can link up and share ideas, activities and knowledge through the Tangaroa Blue Foundation website.

Detailed lesson plans: orientation tasks; whole level introductory activities and extending activities that are specialised for each level; keyword suggestions to help literacy; materials; pre-prepared worksheets; PowerPoint presentations; and links to short video clips.

- The Flying Debris E-book to engage learners and support links with literacy.
- How to videos linked to learning outcomes
- Online quizzes that accompany marine debris Fact Sheets.
Defining features of the Tangaroa Blue Foundation Marine Debris Education Kit:

Hands-on beach (or river) clean-up activities that contribute to the Australian Marine Debris Initiative.

Opportunities for findings to be sent off internationally for analysis that is then used in the real world.

Having data published on the internationally recognised Tangaroa Blue Foundation website.

Links to other schools and communities around the world that are working on the same project with a communication platform provided on the Tangaroa Blue Foundation website.

Students and community members getting involved in providing solutions that can then be used as part of a Source Reduction Plan.

Real opportunities for students to work with other members of the community.

Opportunities for students to write and talk about social change and the marine debris issue with Tangaroa Blue Foundation’s penfriend links in Kenya and Asia.

Creating and improving systems within the school and community that help reduce possible contribution to the marine debris problem.

Strong links to all three cross-curriculum priorities: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia, and sustainability.

Pathways and connections between science and literacy.

Tangaroa Blue Foundation Teacher and Student feedback and reflection forms

Feedback and student reflection is an important part of the student learning process and will also enable Tangaroa Blue to improve our education kit to reflect teacher and learner needs. Please go to the Tangaroa Website and fill in our online feedback/reflection forms:

- Teacher feedback form  https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3M38HSC
- Student feedback form  https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3MTGL23