

Moreton Bay – effects of the Brisbane River Floods (Catalyst video)

Prior to watching the video, spend time as a class viewing the before and after images of the Queensland floods of 2010-11. Images can be found here: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/specials/qld-floods/>

As they view the images, students are to use the *think, puzzle, explore* thinking routine to create a concept map of the topic.



Show the Catalyst Video on Moreton Bay and the effects of the Brisbane River Floods entitled Coastal Flood Impact at [www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3480317.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3480317.htm)

Even though this video focuses on human impacts, it gives a good introduction to Moreton Bay. It provides students with a visual reference, introduces them to new terminology (such as sediment, catchment and ecosystem), and presents human impacts.

## Effects of the Brisbane River Flood – Student handout

1. What is this video focusing on?
2. It is estimated that pre-European times, the Brisbane River carried twenty thousand tonnes of mud to Moreton Bay. What is the figure today, and how much was estimated in the Brisbane floods?
3. What are the differences in the last century that may account for these changes?
4. How different is the ecosystem in the eastern side of the bay to the western side?
5. What impacts did the scientists/ecologists expect to see in Moreton Bay?
6. Why is seagrass important?
7. How does flooding affect seagrasses?
8. How do the scientists/ecologists test the seagrass for impacts?
9. What did they find?
10. How else have the scientists/ecologists been testing the health of Moreton Bay and what did they find?
11. Why do the scientists/ecologists think that the eastern side of the bay suffered more than the western side?
12. Go back to the think, puzzle, explore mind-map and add to it. Compare your mind-map with the person sitting next to you.
13. Based on what you have seen and discussed, write a response using each of the sentence stems:
  - *I used to think...*
  - *But now, I think...*