



# Teacher Earth Science Education Programme

**Victoria & South Australia, November/December 2024**

**Sponsored by Sydney Mineral Exploration Discussion Group**

## Summary

The visits included two trips, the first to Somerville College on November 21<sup>st</sup>, the second to Monivae College Hamilton, Victoria, Tenison Woods College Mt Gambier SA, and Naracoorte High SA on December 2,3,4 consecutively. The two trips included:

- 11 x professional development workshops, attended by 29 teachers and laboratory technicians from 7 different schools
- 2 x new schools received TESEP rock kits and 0 new school received TESEP Minerals Kits. The Mineral Kits were reviewed with all attendees for future consideration.

School	Professional Development Workshops for teachers and laboratory technicians (number / attendees)	Field trips for teachers and laboratory technicians (number / attendees)	Classroom incursions for students (number / student attendees /staff attendees)	School resource checks (rocks, minerals, fossils etc)
Somerville College (Somerville Vic)	2 /5			Yes (Rocks& minerals). Supplied TESEP Rock Kit
Monivae College (Hamilton, Vic)	3 /10			Yes. Identified about a dozen unknown rocks Supplied TESEP Rock Kit
Tenison Woods College (Mt Gambier, SA)	3/7			No
Naracoorte High (Naracoorte, SA)	3 /7			Yes. Great lab with filed rock storage and petrographic microscopes. Held TESEP Minerals Kit
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11 x PDs 29 attendees</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>3 x resource checks</b>

## Events

Thursday 21/11/2024 – Somerville College (Somerville)

- 2.5 hour professional development workshop session on 'Rock Kit & Tectonic Poster' and 'Fossils & Extinctions'.  
Four teachers and the lab technician from Somerville College attended. (PD initiated by technician after attending similar TESEP at her previous school and seeing the value. Loved our kit.)
- Check of rocks, minerals and fossils in the school collection. They loved our rock samples as theirs were much smaller, about size of 20c coin.

Monday 2/12/2024 – Monivae College (Hamilton, Vic)

- 3.5 hour professional development workshop on 'Rock Kit and Tectonic Poster', 'Critical Minerals' and 'Riding the Climate Rollercoaster'. Eight teachers and two laboratory technicians from two schools attended (Monivae College, Hamilton & St Bridgit's College, Horsham).

Tuesday 3/12/2024 – Tenison Woods College, (Mt Gambier, SA)

- 3.25 hr professional development workshop on 'Critical Minerals' and 'Plate Tectonics and Sustainability' and 'Fossils, Life & Five Mass Extinctions', including Mt Gambier local geology. Six teachers and one laboratory technician from two schools attended (Tenison Woods College, Mt Gambier & St Martins Lutheran College, Mt Gambier).
- Checked rocks, minerals and fossils in the school collection, about 12 unknown samples identified.



Wednesday 4/12/2024 – Naracoorte High School (Naracoorte, SA)

- 3.5 hour professional development workshop on ‘Critical Minerals’ ‘Fossils, Life and Five Mass Extinctions’, and ‘Riding the Climate Rollercoaster’ – including local Naracoorte geology. Seven teachers attended (from Naracoorte High School and Sunrise Christian School).
- Checked rocks, minerals and fossils in the school collection.



## Feedback

Via email

- From Christine Heine (Monivae College, Hamilton): *‘Hi Andy, Sorry I didn’t get a chance to thank you in person yesterday. I learned quite a bit from the presentation I managed to attend. I will try to get the remainder of the information from Aoife. It was lovely to meet both yourself and Nic. Thank you.’*

Via feedback form

- 14 responses (at time of writing)
- Question: Please make any other comments - for example interesting and/or useful aspects of the course.  
**Somerville College (Somerville, Vic)**
  - *Andy was very knowledgeable and receptive to questions*
  - *I really enjoyed the session and would really like to attend more. I will be looking up the webinars*
  - *Andy and Annabelle were great, highly knowledgeable and enthusiastic. This will help not only what we do at Somerville Secondary but should benefit neighbouring schools who we collaborate with. The rock kits are fantastic, and we look forward to using them in class. The fossils gave great insight for biology and earth science and left us with questions to investigate.*
  - *Poster mapping physical samples of rocks to locations. Excellent range of information to cover multiple year levels yr 7-VCE biology*

### **Monivae College (Hamilton, Vic)**

- *Great knowledge and skill level*
- *Course was very interesting! The presenters were very knowledgeable. The provided resources are high quality*
- *Was interesting and useful- Rock cycles, climate change.*
- *Eye opening*

### **Tenison Woods College (Mt Gambier, SA)**

- *Great presenters, very engaging*
- *Very informative, especially in economy pf minerals*
- *Fascinating*
- *The session was very informative and fascinating. Thoroughly glad I opted in & I have lots of key takeaways 😊*

### **Naracoorte High School (Naracoorte, SA)**

- *Great graphs and info.*
- *Having the samples really supported the understanding. All very interesting topics, thank you so much for coming. I'll be sure to look into the Webinars*

### **Some thoughts for next TESEP events in Mt Gambier**

- **Provide more examples / perhaps mineral ID kit (loupe, scratch plate, copper coin, steel plate, acid)** Two teachers stayed back for ½ - 1 hour after the presentations to explore other things we could provide. The possibility of rock / mineral id kit was canvassed.
- **Develop more specific practicals/exercises using the Rock and Mineral Kits** One of the lab technicians said “But what do we DO with the Kits?”

### **Andy Mills**

TESEP Presenter

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