

# St Georges Basin



## Walk Activities

- What animals would you expect to see living around the Basin?



*Look around for some clues!*



- What do you think they might need to survive?



*Think about what you would need!*

### *Did you know?*

*The traditional custodians of the land surrounding St Georges Basin were the Yuin people, who named the basin 'Bherwherree'*

### *Our Inland Sea*

*The basin is an inland sea where freshwater from Tomerong and Wandandian creek mixes with seawater via Sussex Inlet. It covers about 40.9 square km's but its 'catchment area' is 316 square km's. This means that the water that runs into the basin comes from land within 316 km's surrounding it!*

### *Further than you think*

*Whatever we do within the catchment can affect the quality of the water that ends up in the basin and therefore the health of plants and animals that live there.*

### *A Changed environment*

*The basin foreshore we see today is very different from that which would have been here over 200 years ago. The vegetation here would have been saltmarsh and swamp oak forest, teeming with wildlife including snakes, turtles, frogs and lizards. Although clearing has enabled our community to live and play close to the water, the vegetation and animal communities that used to be here are now endangered in NSW because they have been so over cleared by humans.*

- List some habitats that you find along your walk...



*Look in the trees for hollows! Look at the ground for animal tracks,... where do they lead?*

The natural environments surrounding St Georges Basin have been changed by humans. So you will not see many of the habitats and animals that would have once lived here.

- Can you list some human activities that have changed the environment around St Georges Basin?

Back in the Classroom

- Draw in some habitats on this picture of the Basin to create a healthy place for wildlife



*Think about the animal habitats that you have seen and talked about on your walk*

