

# SUPPORTING MATERIALS TO HELP EMBED SUSTAINABILITY

These tools and templates are provided on the following pages:

- Images of the ecological footprint and the social handprint
- Sustainability actions for reducing our ecological footprint worksheet
- Sustainability actions for increasing our social handprint worksheet
- Calendar of dates related to sustainability

The footprint and handprint images (pp. 2–3) and the worksheets (pp. 4–5) can be printed at A3 size for group discussions and displays.

Some suggestions for using them:

**The ecological footprint and social handprint images can be used for:**

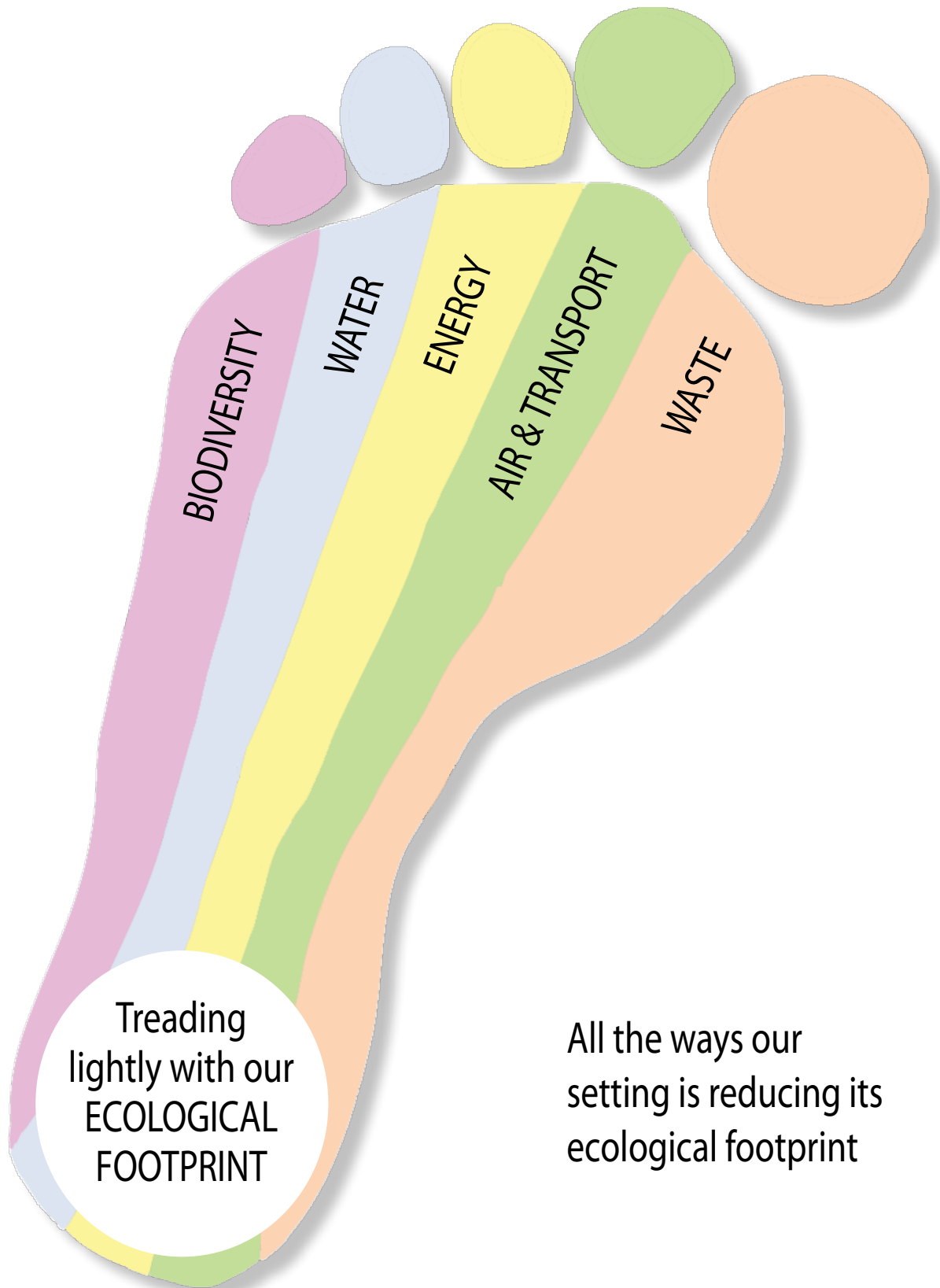
- establishing shared understandings about sustainability, its aspects and connections at staff and/or committee meetings
- talking with children about sustainability and the connections between aspects, perhaps noting some of their comments or observations
- reflecting on current practices and/or brainstorming new ideas – using sticky notes can be helpful so the sheets can be used again
- discussing and noting staff members' skills and interests against the different aspects to identify our setting's strengths and knowledge gaps
- creating displays so families can see our approach to sustainability and the actions we're taking
- providing prompts for what could be included in a Sustainability Policy or Code of Practice (perhaps by writing a statement relating to each aspect)

**The sustainability actions worksheets can be used for:**

- personal reflection about what's relevant and appealing to individuals, and about the potential for new actions or initiatives
- discussing and collating the interests, strengths and aspirations of the staff team and identifying new areas to focus on

The **calendar of dates** related to sustainability offers suggestions for times when new resources can become available and when there might be opportunities to mark or celebrate significant dates or events together.

## OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT



Adapted from the WA Department of Education AuSSI-WA Toolkit

## OUR SOCIAL HANDPRINT



All the ways our setting  
is increasing its social  
handprint

Adapted from the WA Department of Education AuSSI-WA Toolkit

# SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS TO REDUCE OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

## Protecting BIODIVERSITY

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## Caring for WATER

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## Understanding and Conserving ENERGY

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## Approaching AIR & TRANSPORT sustainably

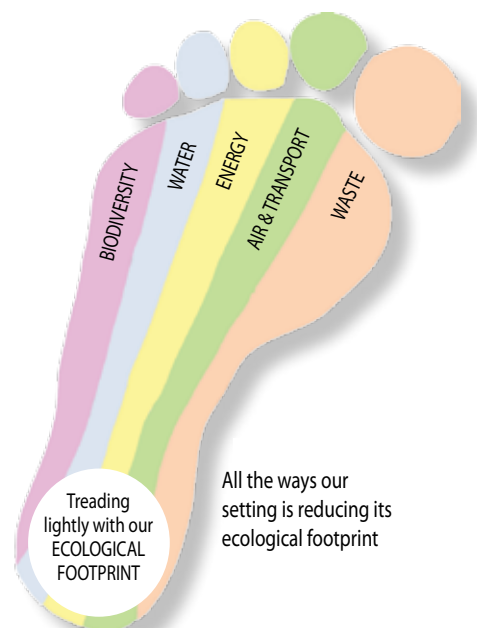
What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## Rethinking WASTE

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?



# SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS TO INCREASE OUR SOCIAL HANDPRINT

## **Nurturing CHILDREN'S WELLBEING**

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## **Exploring ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CULTURES**

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## **Respecting CULTURAL & SOCIAL DIVERSITY**

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## **Fostering COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS**

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?

## **Weighing up ECONOMIC decisions**

What we're doing already

What other things could we do?



# CALENDAR OF DATES RELATED TO SUSTAINABILITY

Many aspects of sustainability are recognised on particular local, national and international dates, and we can use these to launch or support our ongoing actions. At these times we might be able to access additional resources and find extra opportunities to involve families in activities, create new relationships in our communities, participate in local events, access funding and make contributions to sustainability beyond our early childhood settings.

Entries without a date vary from year to year. Dates in red are significant to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultures.

## January

26 Australia Day/*Survival Day*

## February

2 World Wetlands Day

13 *National Apology Day*

## March

21 Harmony Day, International Day of Forests

22 World Water Day

First Sunday Clean Up Australia Day

*Third Thursday National Close the Gap Day*

Last Saturday Earth Hour

Last Sunday Neighbours Day

National Ride2School Day

## April

7 World Health Day

22 Earth Day

Australian Heritage Week

## May

15 International Day of Families

21 World Day of Cultural Diversity

22 International Biodiversity Day

26 *National Sorry Day*

27 *May to 3 June National Reconciliation Week*

Second weekend World Migratory Bird Day

National Volunteer Week

National Walk Safely to School Day

## June

3 *Mabo Day*

5 World Environment Day

8 World Oceans Day

20 World Refugee Day

29 International Mud Day

International Children's Day

## July

1 *Coming of the Light*

11 World Population Day

30 International Day of Friendship

Plastic Free July

*NAIDOC Week*

Clean Energy Week

National Tree Day

## August

4 *National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day*

9 *International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples*

Keep Australia Beautiful Week

National Science Week

## September

1 National Wattle Day

7 National Threatened Species Day

21 International Day of Peace

22 World Car-free Day

First Friday Walk to Work Day

First two Sundays Sustainable House Day

Second Sunday National Bilby Day

Last Sunday World Rivers Day

National Biodiversity Month

National Landcare Week

World Parks Day

Seaweed

## October

1 World Habitat Day

16 World Food Day

Buy Nothing New Month

Children's Week

Mental Health Week

National Organic Week

National Water Week

## November

National Recycling Week

## December

10 Human Rights Day

11 International Mountain Day

Coastcare Week