Depth Studies

What are they?

Types?

Examples?

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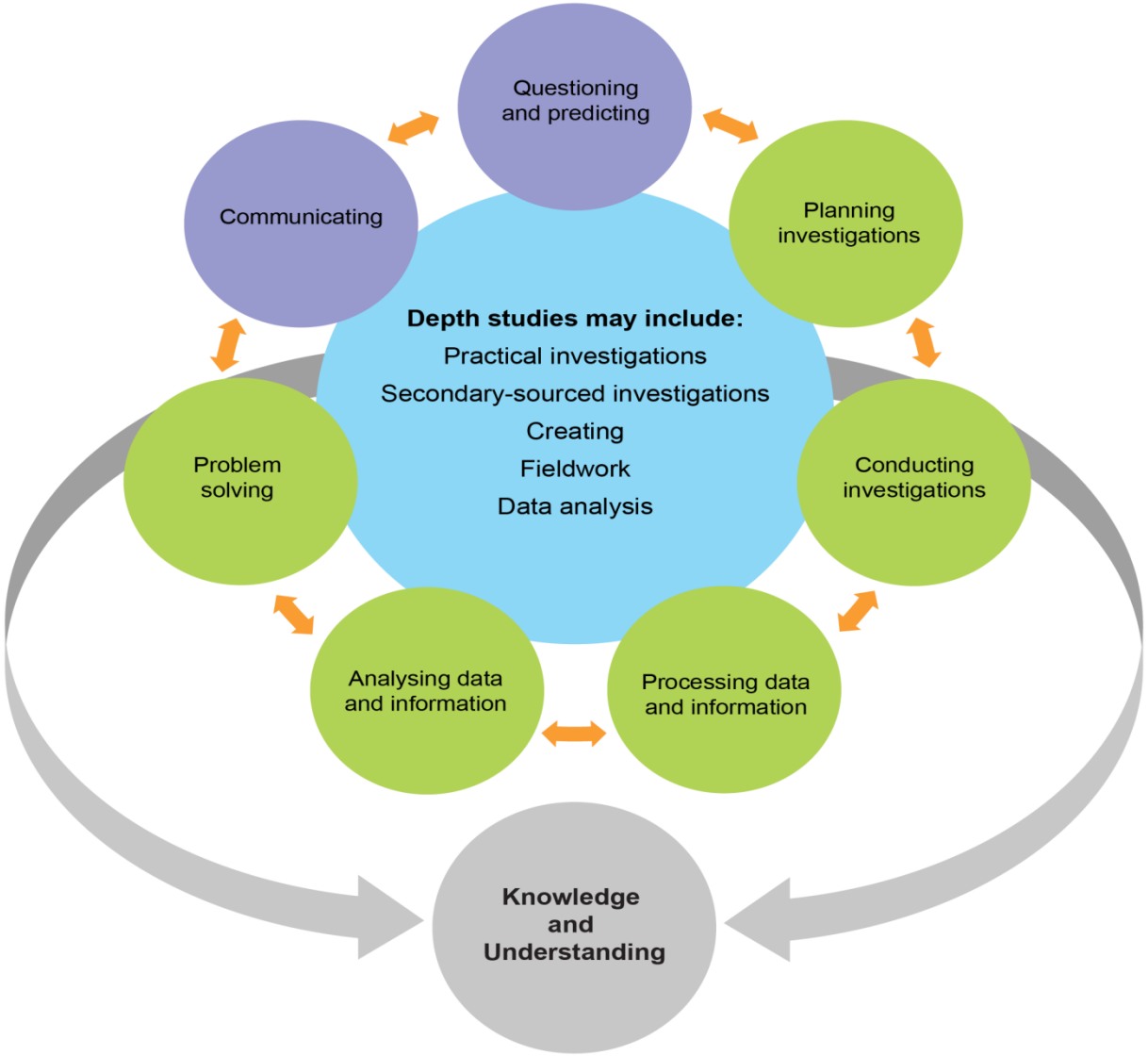
Depth Studies



Assessment of depth studies must:

- address Questioning and predicting and Communicating skills outcomes
- address a minimum of two additional Working Scientifically skills outcomes
- include assessment of at least one Knowledge and Understanding outcome.

What are depth studies?

- A depth study is any type of investigation/ activity that a student completes individually or collaboratively that allows the further development of one or more concepts found within or inspired by the syllabus

What are depth studies?

- It may be one investigation/activity or a series of investigations/activities.

What are depth studies?

- Depth studies promote differentiation and engagement, and support all forms of assessment, including assessment for, as and of learning

What are depth studies?

- Depth studies must address at least one Knowledge and Understanding outcome to a greater depth, the Questioning and predicting and Communicating outcomes, and at least two additional Working Scientifically skills outcomes.

What are depth studies?

- Depth studies allow students a pathway to pursue their interests in science, acquire a depth of understanding and take responsibility for their own learning.

What are depth studies?

- . Depth studies allow for the demonstration of a range of Working Scientifically skills.

A depth study may be, but is not limited to:

- a practical investigation or series of practical investigations and/or a secondary-sourced investigation or series of secondary-sourced investigations

A depth study may be, but is not limited to:

- presentations, research assignments or fieldwork reports

A depth study may be, but is not limited to:

- the extension of concepts found within the course, either qualitatively and/or quantitatively.

Requirements

- A minimum of 15 hours (30 hours for Investigating Science) per year of in-class course time is to be allocated to the depth studies

Requirements

- The length of time for any individual study and the pedagogies employed are not prescribed.

Requirements

- The time for the depth studies may be allocated to a single study or spread over the year, and incorporate several studies depending on individual school and/or class requirements

Requirements for depth studies Summary

- A minimum of 15 hours of in-class time is allocated in both Years 11 and 12.
- At least one depth study must be included in both Years 11 and 12.
- The two Working Scientifically outcomes of Questioning and predicting and Communicating must be addressed in both Years 11 and 12.
- A minimum of two additional Working Scientifically skills outcomes, and further development of at least one Knowledge and Understanding outcome, are to be addressed in all depth studies.

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Requirements for the assessment of depth studies

- The school-based assessment in both Years 11 and 12 is to include assessment of at least one depth study or a component of a depth study.
- Depth studies' assessment must contribute a minimum of 20 per cent to a maximum of 40 per cent in Year 11, and a minimum of 20 per cent to a maximum of 30 per cent in Year 12, towards a student's school-based assessment.
- The two Working Scientifically outcomes of Questioning and predicting and Communicating must be addressed in the school-based assessment component of the depth study in both Years 11 and 12.
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Ideas for depth studies

- **Practical investigations**
  - Design and conduct experiments
  - Test a claim
  - Test a device

Ideas for depth studies

- **Fieldwork**

  Fieldwork may be a starting point for a practical investigation or secondary-sourced study and could be initiated by the following stimuli:

  - an excursion
  - engagement with community experts.

Ideas for depth studies

- **Secondary-sourced investigations**
  - Make a documentary or media report
  - Conduct a literature review
  - Develop an evidence-based argument
  - Write a journal article
  - Write an essay – historical or theoretical
  - Develop an environmental management plan
  - Analyse a work of fiction or film for scientific relevance
  - Create a visual presentation
  - Investigate emerging technologies

Ideas for depth studies

- **Create**
  - Design and invent
  - Create a working model
  - Create a portfolio

Ideas for depth studies

- **Data analysis**
  - Data analysis could be incorporated into a practical investigation or secondary-sourced investigation. For example:
  - construction and analysis of graphs/tables
  - data analysis from a variety of sources
  - research analysis, eg of longitudinal data, resource management data.

How do you program the depth studies?

- With creativity and imagination, ensuring that the class has the correct differentiation occurring and that the students have a say in what they are learning in depth either as individuals or in a team collaborating.
- The philosophy is that the students chose their own adventure yet are still guided by achieving the stated outcomes of the course.