

Scenario One:

Off leash dogs in a nature reserve



Setting

The Sandy Dunes Nature Reserve is a popular coastal park known for its walking trails, wildflowers, and a small but important population of endangered hooded plovers that nest on the beach during spring and summer. Signs at the main entrances remind visitors that they are required by law to keep their dogs on leashes at all times, especially during the hooded plover breeding season (September to March), to protect the fragile nests and chicks.

Situation

On a sunny Saturday morning, three friends- Jess, Sam, and Alex arrive at the reserve. Jess is a keen birdwatcher and is excited to spot hooded plovers. Sam is a local dog owner who often brings her energetic Labrador, Max, to the reserve for exercise. Alex is a passionate ally and invested in caring for Country. He is concerned about protecting culturally significant sites. As they walk along the main trail, Sam unclips Max's leash.

In your group, have a discussion and answer the following questions:

1. What are the perspectives of each person in this scenario?

Jess	Sam	Alex

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2. What are the possible consequences of ignoring the leash rule?

3. How could this situation be resolved in a way that protects wildlife?

Scenario Two:

Off-road driving on closed tracks



Setting

The Toolangi State Forest is popular for 4WD adventures, with a network of marked tracks winding through bushland and across small creeks. Recent rains have made many tracks muddy and slippery, and some seasonal tracks are closed to protect the environment and public safety.

Situation

A group of friends, Mia, Tom, and Dylan set out for a weekend 4WD trip. Mia is an experienced 4WD driver and always checks for track closures before heading out. Tom is new to 4WDing and eager to test his vehicle's capabilities, including different terrains such as creeks and waterways. Dylan is a proud Wurundjeri man, a Traditional Custodian of the forest in Victoria. Dylan is mindful of how 4WD can impact Country. As they explore, Tom suggests taking a shortcut through a closed track that crosses a creek.

In your group, have a discussion and answer the following questions:

1. What are the perspectives of each person in this scenario?

Mia	Tom	Dylan

Scenario Two:

Off-road driving on closed tracks



2. What are the possible consequences of ignoring the track closure?

3. How can the group enjoy their trip while respecting environmental, community, and cultural values?

Scenario Three:

Leaving a campfire unattended



Setting

Buchan Caves Reserve campground is a popular spot for weekend campers, with shared fire pits throughout the campground and clear signs outlining fire safety rules, and that it is illegal to leave your campfire unattended.

Situation

Sophie, Ben, and Aunty June are camping together. It is a cold and wintery weekend. Sophie is a seasoned camper and loves to cook over the fire all day. Ben has never been camping before and needed help from Sophie to light the fire for the first time. It took many attempts to get it started, and he didn't really enjoy the process, burning himself. As a proud Gunai Kurnai Elder, Aunty June understands the purpose of fire for its many uses, including cooking, warmth and bushfire control. However, Aunty June holds a strong cultural responsibility in preserving the cultural heritage of Buchan Caves. Sophie wants to take a break from cooking and go for a quick walk as a group, letting the potatoes bake in their absence so that they have a hot meal to return to.

In your group, have a discussion and answer the following questions:

1. What are the perspectives of each person in this scenario?

Sophie	Ben	Aunty June

Scenario Three:

Leaving a campfire unattended



2. What could happen if the campfire is left unattended, even for a short time?

3. Why do you think Victorian conservation regulations require campfires to be attended at all times and fully extinguished before leaving?
