

# VORTEX CENTRE

## GIPPSLAND AND WATER EDUCATION PROGRAM

# 5 We Treat It Right

### Program focus

We Treat it Right will focus on wastewater and how it is treated in Gippsland.

Students will find out about what wastewater is and the difference between wastewater and stormwater. The program will look at the importance of treating wastewater, the treatment process, and the improvements as a result of the newly constructed Gippsland Water Factory.

### Presentation

The presentation in We Treat it Right will look at what wastewater is and why we need to treat sewage. The treatment process and the improvements created by the Gippsland Water Factory will also be covered.

### Activity

In We Treat it Right, students will participate in a filtration challenge to learn about the process of wastewater treatment. In the challenge, students are given a bucket of dirty water to simulate the solid-liquid mix of sewage and must devise the best way of producing clean water using the equipment they are given.

### VELS links

VELS levels	Strand	Domain	Dimension
4-5	Discipline-based learning Interdisciplinary learning	Science Design, Creativity and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Science knowledge and understanding</li> <li>Science at work</li> <li>Investigating and designing</li> <li>Producing</li> </ul>



### This program includes:

- Introductory welcome presentation (5 minutes)
- Opening video (10 minutes)
- Vortex interactive walkthrough (30 minutes)
- We Treat It Right presentation (15 minutes)
- We Treat It Right activity (30 minutes)

\*Times are approximate only and can be tailored to meet your school's objectives and needs.

## About the Vortex Centre

### The Vortex Walkthrough

The Vortex Centre is Gippsland Water's new water educational resource located at the world-first Gippsland Water Factory in Maryvale, Victoria.

The Vortex Centre provides a multimedia experience for students to learn about water usage and management in the Gippsland region, the water cycle and water sustainability.

The state-of-the-art 'green' facility features interactive displays, touch-screens and videos, with a focus on efficient water use and sustainable water management; highlighting water as a precious resource at a local, state, national and global level.

Students will also learn about the treatment process happening at the Gippsland Water Factory and how recycled water is produced. This will include a behind-the-scenes look at the operational centre of the wastewater treatment plant.

The Vortex Centre is a sustainable building that sits on a lake of recycled water, which is pumped through the floor to provide cooling. It is also heated sustainably through waste energy and contains a variable membrane that saves electricity by controlling the level of light.

Vortex Centre education programs and the school curriculum

The different presentations and activities provided by Gippsland Water run across various VELS levels, domains and dimensions and can be tailored to fit the needs of students and the school curriculum.

For VCE students, information can be provided which is tailored to the needs of specific projects. Experts on wastewater treatment can also be provided to discuss various processes.



Admission to the Vortex Centre is free for those within Gippsland Water's service area.

School tours are available on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 9:30am and 3:00pm only.

To book a tour, please contact Gippsland Water's Communications team on 1800 066 401 or visit [www.gippswater.com.au](http://www.gippswater.com.au) to download a Vortex Centre Tour Information Pack.

Please note: All bookings must be made at least two weeks in advance of the tour date.

### Did you know?

A vortex is a whirling motion, like a whirlpool, whirlwind or water going down the drain. This motion was the inspiration behind the architecture of the Vortex Centre and is captured in the building's name.

The Vortex Centre is made up of seven barrels that appear to be floating on water and fit into one another, decreasing in size giving the appearance of a 'vortex'.

