

Activity 1: Engagement and questioning – Australia’s Tropical North

Engagement – students view Sources 1 and 2. Ask the students to imagine visiting the Barron River area and travelling by boat to the mountains in the sketch as the artist did. Students describe what they would see around them and the type of weather they may experience (temperature, humidity).

Use Google Earth or an atlas to locate the Barron River. Students compare the Barron River area to where they live.

Formulate inquiry questions. For example:

- How are climates similar and different in different places?
- How does location of different places affect the climate?
- What is the relationship between weather and climate?

Source 1: Mouth of the Barron River, northern Queensland, 1881, drawing by J.E Tenison-Woods



<http://www.acmssearch.sl.nsw.gov.au/search/itemDetailPaged.cgi?itemID=423858>

Source 2: Aerial view of tropical rainforest adjoining the Barron River near Cairns northern Queensland, 2000, CSIRO Science Image 4193 is licenced under CC3.

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<http://www.scienceimage.csiro.au/image/4193>