

The Kokoda track (kokoda.commemoration.gov.au)

Jungle Warfare

Lesson: Research Project

The dangers of jungle warfare were not restricted to those caused by the enemy. In New Guinea both the Australians and the Japanese lost more men to sickness than to battle. The two main problems were malaria and dysentery but soldiers also suffered from dengue fever and scrub typhus. Choose one of these for your research topic. Using the web or your school library write a report entitled '(name of the disease) on the Kokoda track'.

Divide your report into eight parts. The questions below are a guide to show you what to write about in each part. You don't need to include the questions in the report but each part should have a heading.

1. Introduction. What is your report going to be about?
2. What exactly is the disease?
3. How is the disease transmitted to humans?
4. What are the symptoms of the disease?
5. What drugs can prevent or minimise the disease? Were they available in 1942?
6. How did the disease affect the soldiers on the Kokoda track?
7. Is the disease still a problem in New Guinea today?
8. Conclusion. What is the most important thing you have learned from this report?

Include a heading and a chart or diagram that illustrates an aspect of your research project.