



RETROSUBURBIA

THE DOWNSHIFTER'S GUIDE TO A RESILIENT FUTURE

CHAPTER 2: AUSSIE ST

QUESTIONS:

- What did you like about your childhood? What made these things possible? What are some ways you could recapture this?
- What features of Aussie St appeal to you most? How could you make this happen in your life?
- What issues might the various characters have disagreed on? How do you think did they deal with this?
- What is your relationship to suburbia?

ACTIVITIES:

- Talk to someone a generation or two older than you (or someone from a different culture or country), if possible someone who lived in a suburban area or country town. Ask them about how they grew up. Some questions you might like to consider include: Did they grow food? How many people shared the house? Did they feel a sense of community? Did neighbours help one another out? If not, why not?
- Create your own future Aussie St story – this could be a complete fantasy or based on what you think/hope will happen (or a combination of the two). You might like to illustrate it or make a model – Martina Hoepfner makes a Lego model as she tells the story.
- Work out the data for your household. How many square meters per person is your household? What is your average awake time away from home? How does this compare to the various points of Aussie St and/or other members of the group?*

* Further resources for this activity may be available to registered book clubs

