

The Earth's Environment - Threatened Animal Case Study

Bobbin Head

Stage 2 Geography



Program Overview

This excursion provides the field work component of the teaching unit The Earth's Environment - Local Study of an Endangered Species.

This inquiry-based teaching program focuses on a locally endangered species - Powerful Owl or Glossy Black Cockatoo.

Inquiry Questions

1. How does the local environment support our locally endangered species?
2. What are the features of the habitat?
3. How does it use its habitat?
4. What other plants and animals does the species interact with?
5. How is this species and its habitat protected?

Learning Experiences

Building Nest Boxes

Habitat protection and creation is one of the most important features of an environment for animals, both in terms of their own nesting requirements and feeding.

During this session, the students will create a nest box and use clues to identify the species of animal that may call it home.

Habitat Walk

During the habitat walk, students will locate and identify a range of different habitats for animals that live in the National Park. The students will also use this time to search for and identify suitable habitat for their species, including nesting sites. Students will also record information in their diary, including field sketching habitat trees.

Bird Watching

Using a bird identification chart, binoculars and a recording sheet, the students will learn the techniques of 'birding' and will work together to complete a species count in a variety of habitats. Students will also learn about the different calls that birds make and may even hear or sight a Glossy Black Cockatoo!!

Best Beaks

Focused around the text 'The Best Beaks in Boonaroo Bay' students will learn about animal adaptations and in particular how beaks are shaped according to the feeding requirements of individual birds. Students will then be challenged to create and test their own beaks to perform different feeding tasks.

Key Syllabus Outcomes and Content

Geography K-6

GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-4

Significance of environments

Students:

- investigate the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources to the environment, animals and people,

for example: (ACHGK021, ACHGK022, ACHGK024)
- identification of types of natural vegetation e.g. forests, grasslands, deserts
- explanation of the importance of natural vegetation to animals and the functioning of the environment e.g. provision of habitats, production of oxygen.