

The Earth's Environment - Forest Features

Kalkari to Bobbin Head

Stage 2 Geography and Science



Program Overview

The Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park is one of Australia's most spectacular and important areas of land.

During the walk from Kalkari to Bobbin Head, the students will explore three different forest types and use a range of geographical tools to investigate the animals, plants and the relationships between them.

Inquiry Questions

How does the forest vegetation of Sydney provide habitat for native animals?

- What are the features of different forests found in Sydney?
- What native animals live in these forest environments and how do they use them?
- What are some of the relationships between living things in these forests?
- How can these animals and their habitat be protected?

Learning Experiences

Explore Kalkari

Kalkari Visitors Centre provides the students with an opportunity to learn about the features and Aboriginal history of this area of Sydney. Within the building, the students will be able to observe and record a range of preserved animals that are found in the forests.

Bush walk - Kalkari to Bobbin Head

Using a map as a guide, the bush walk provides an opportunity for the students to further understand the characteristics of the forests, including the vegetation and interconnections with animals.

Students will use a variety of fieldwork tools to gather and record observations including sketching, mapping, scratch-

art and an investigation of the invertebrates of the bush during a mini beast search. During the walk, caring for the environment will be modelled through walking on paths and ensuring all rubbish is taken home.

Aboriginal connections will be explored through the identification of bush resources and language during the walk with students able to learn about some traditional uses of plants from the area.

Bobbin Head Mangroves

The walk concludes with a visit to the mangrove ecosystem at Bobbin Head, home to a variety of different animals including fish, crabs and birds. During the exploration of the boardwalk area, the students will learn why this is such an important area and how they can protect areas like this when visiting.

Key Syllabus Outcomes and Content

Geography K-6

Significance of environments GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-4

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
- discussion of the importance of natural vegetation and natural resources

Science and Technology K-6

Living World ST2-11LW

Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive (ACSSU073)
Students:

- identify some factors in the local environment that are needed by plants and animals for survival
- outline the relationship between plants and animals, including that plants are able to use light to make food, while animals must eat plants or other animals to obtain food