



Program Overview

The day centres around an exploration of the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park with a bush walk from Kalkari to Bobbin Head. During the bush walk, the students will engage in several hands-on learning activities to observe different plants and animals and use these features to classify them into groups.

Learning Experiences

Explore Kalkari

Kalkari Visitors Centre provides the students with an opportunity to learn about the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park. Within the building, the students will be able to observe a range of preserved animals and remains of animals to get a sense of that type of animals that call the park home. Within the Centre, students will also be able to observe Aboriginal artefacts and learn about Aboriginal engravings - a significant feature of the Park.

Bushwalk - Kalkari - to Bobbin Head

Students will learn about invertebrates in the environment and the interconnected nature of invertebrates, habitat and other animals through observations of the Brush Turkey at Kalkari.

Significant plant, animal and invertebrates of the local area will be identified along the walk. Students will hear of the interconnected nature of traditional Aboriginal people and the land. The importance of invertebrates in Aboriginal culture will be discussed.

Students will participate in magic spot activity to facilitate a sense of enjoyment and wonder in the natural world, helping students to feel comfortable in nature and a connection to their local area.

Key Syllabus Outcomes and Content

Science and Technology K-6

Living World

A student:

> describes observable features of living things and their environment ST1-4LW-S

Syllabus Inquiry Questions

1. What are the external features of living things?
2. How can we improve a local environment to encourage living things to thrive?

Guided Questions

1. What plants and animals live in the local area?
2. How can they be classified?
3. What do they need to survive in their environment?
4. What can we do to help local living things to survive?

Mini beast Survey

Students will work in groups to conduct an invertebrate survey in a bush habitat. Together the class will negotiate a code for caring for ethical and safe handling methods. Students will record the name and draw the observable features of the invertebrates they find. They will also collect a tally of the total number of that species found in their area. Students will use a simple dichotomous key to correctly identify the invertebrate species. The EEC teacher will facilitate a review of the field work with a focus on suggestions for comparing this data to the schoolyard survey and suggestions for improving the research methods/ invertebrate survey.

Create a Bug

Students will use some of the natural materials around them to recreate their mini beast. Through this process, the students will be able to describe some of the external features of invertebrates.

Mangroves

The Mangrove ecosystem at Bobbin Head is home to a variety of different animals and is the nursery area of many fish as well as home to 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.

Students:

- Describe the external features of a variety of living things (ACSSU017)
- Identify and group plants and animals using their external features
- Identify that living things live in different places that suit their needs (ACSSU211)