Program Overview

Amazing Adaptations

Year 5
Full day program
9.15am – 2.30pm

“Adaptations of plants and animals were observable and very clever. They enjoyed taking on the role of a field scientist and collecting data”

Year 5 Teacher

“There were many extra benefits to the program that allowed the students to think about an Indigenous perspective, sustainability and mindfulness in the bush”

Year 5 Teacher

Big Idea
All living things have adaptations for the particular environment in which they live in order to survive

Curriculum Links
Science, HASS (Geography), Cross Curriculum priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Sustainability.

Overview
In the Amazing Adaptations program, students work scientifically to collect evidence about the ways plants and animals are adapted to different environments and conditions. The program also incorporates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander understanding of Country and how Indigenous Australians both care for and manage the land, especially with respect to the sustainable use of resources and traditional firestick burning. In this full day program at Bunyaville Conservation Park, students participate in a 2 hour earthwalk and your choice of two activities outlined below:

Plant Places

Students explore three different habitats within the Bunyaville Conservation Park and investigate the different adaptations that plants have developed to live successfully within these areas.
**Program Overview**

**Ponding**

Students study the animals and plants of a pond, their needs and their adaptations for living within an aquatic ecosystem. In the field, students use pond nets to collect and identify aquatic macro-invertebrates (water bugs), discussing and reflecting on their findings.

**Birds**

Guided by the visiting teacher, students use binoculars to observe and investigate the physical and behavioural adaptations of birds that inhabit the forest environment of the Bunyaville Conservation Park.

**Earthwalk**

A forest walk immerses the students in the forest environment and connects them to a local natural place. Earthwalk activities are tailored to the specific curriculum needs of the visiting teacher and provide students with opportunities to apply science and geography inquiry skills and higher order thinking in a real-world context. A typical earthwalk in this program will provide students with an opportunity to:

1. Explore the adaptations of animals and plants within the forest environment
2. Investigate adaptations of eucalypts that allow them to survive and regenerate when exposed to fire
3. Contemplate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives of Country, how it should be cared for and sustainable use of natural resources
4. Examine Indigenous land management and custodianship and how humans influence the environmental characteristics of a place
5. Consider how fire can be used for land management in Australian forests

**Curriculum Links**

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