Handling of Minibeasts

Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment

Introduction
Handling of minibeasts (including insects, arachnids and other invertebrates) can take place in Bunyaville Conservation Park and in off-site locations relevant to individual school. Handling of minibeasts commonly occurs during biodiversity assessments and includes activities such as 'leaf shake' and 'leaf litter search'. These activities are carried out in accordance with Handling Live Animals in a School Setting at the following link:


If this activity is taught in your school grounds, your school’s Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment for Outdoor Activities will also apply.

Risk Level
Medium (Likelihood Level 2, Consequence Level 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likelihood</th>
<th>1 Insignificant</th>
<th>2 Minor</th>
<th>3 Moderate</th>
<th>4 Major</th>
<th>5 Critical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Almost Certain</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Extreme</td>
<td>Extreme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Likely</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Extreme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Possible</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Unlikely</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Rare</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Medium</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hazards
1. Environmental - falling branches; insect and animal bites and stings; allergic reactions to flora or fauna; sun exposure; adverse weather conditions.
2. Injury from unsafe handling of equipment.
3. Safe access to site if away from the Bunyaville Conservation Park.
4. Traffic - crossing the road; getting on & off transport.
5. Amenities - sharps and other hazards in the toilets in the picnic area; BBQs could be hot.
6. Stranger danger - Park visitor not with the school group
Risk Control
- Centre Teachers assess off-site location to check for safe access.
- Visiting Teachers are required to attend a pre-visit session where the safety issues and basic student requirements (i.e. protective clothing, sun-screen, insect repellent and water) are discussed.
- Visiting Teachers supply the Centre with students’ information about special needs including known allergies prior to their visit. This information is entered onto the pink student list sheets by the Visiting Teacher brought on the day and carried throughout the day.
- Centre Staff check toilets for sharps and that the BBQs are cool.
- Students are instructed to go to the toilets with a partner and/or adult according to their age.
- Appropriate safety rules are established and adhered to:
  - responsible behaviour when using equipment or near ponds; and
  - making sure students stay with their group at all times.
- Students are given a safety talk about snakes and what to do if they see one.
- Students are shown how to use equipment to safely collect insects from shrubs and leaf litter and return them once information has been collected. They are shown which insects require special care such as hairy caterpillars.
- First aid kits to be carried by Centre and Visiting Teachers including medication for identified students.

Location Specific Notes
Bunyaville Conservation Park
- Students are informed the road in the park is a public road and care needs to be taken when crossing.
- Bunyaville staff will:
  - check the toilets in the picnic area before students arrive for sharps, other hazards (i.e. hot BBQs)
  - make sure toilets are clean.
- BEEC consults with Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service at regular intervals to ensure the safety of walking tracks.

Off-site
- Centre teachers negotiate with Visiting teachers to choose a suitable off-site location. A site inspection prior to the excursion is conducted.
Leader Qualifications

- All supervisors/adults/students are under the direction of a registered teacher who has experience working in the environment and familiarity with this program.
- All Centre teachers hold a Certificate IV in Outdoor Recreation SRO40206.
- All Centre field staff hold current Senior First Aid Certificates.

Approved by:

N. E. Rowntree  
Principal  
23/1/2017

Expires: 8/12/2017