

Outdoor Learning Lesson Plan

Year
6

Science

Biological Sciences

- The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment (ACSSU094)

Cross Curricular Links:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures Country and

Place: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities maintain a special connection to and responsibility for Country/Place (OI.2)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures Country and

Place: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have holistic belief systems and are spiritually and intellectually connected to the land, sea, sky and waterways (OI.3)

Resources and Preparation:

- ipad or other digital device (ideally 1 per 4 students) with I Naturalist App downloaded.
- Paper, pencil and clipboard to take notes on investigations.

Activity 1: Natives Hunt

Go on a 'Native Plant' hunt around your school groups to discover what native plant species you have growing. Explore each species carefully using sight, smell and touch (and where appropriate with Bush Tucker also to taste) and discuss findings.

Children can use the iNaturalist App to help identify and log where they spot each native species. Once a plant is found, observe together whether they think it is thriving and discuss why.

Research together whether the native species they observed have traditional uses from the first Nations Peoples in their area, e.g. were they used for food, tools or medicine?

Mapped to the Australian Curriculum

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Activity 2: Investigating Growing Natives

In groups, children decide upon a native species they would like to plant more of in their school grounds and design and conduct their own investigation into which physical conditions are most supportive for the successful growth of their chosen native species, e.g. a variety of soil types, using salt water or fertilizer.

Reflection:

Each group observes and monitors the growth of their native plants in each of the physical conditions chosen and reflects upon the most beneficial conditions for their species.

Bonus Mission: Make a class action plan to develop further native flora species in the school grounds, considering the ideal locations, costings and the fauna that will be benefitted from planting.