



Rainforest Ramble

Year 4 to 7

Department of Education

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Our vision is for a community that cares for self, others and the environment to achieve enough for all forever.

The Big Idea: Connecting to the natural world

Students' Blanket Role: They are invited to be **Rainforest Ramblers**

Program Snapshot

In this program students experience and learn about the rainforest environment.

Curriculum – General Capabilities

This program addresses aspects of **critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, ethical understanding, and cultural understanding** (see [General Capabilities in the Aust. Curriculum](#))

Cross Curriculum Priorities

Sustainability– addresses the ongoing capacity of Earth to maintain life.



Students develop the knowledge, skills, values and world views necessary to contribute to more sustainable patterns of living, which means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Systems O1.2 All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival. **O1.3** Sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems. **Futures O1.7** Actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identity is central to this priority and is intrinsically linked to living, learning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, deep knowledge traditions and holistic world view.

Organising Idea: Systems O1.5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' ways of life are uniquely expressed through ways of being, knowing, thinking and doing.



Pre-visit

Prior to the excursion, students receive an invitation from Pat the Catbird to visit Ravensbourne National Park to answer the question: “What is the key to protecting my habitat for me and all my forest friends forever?”.



Visit Day - Program

Session 1

Introduction: Orientation to Ravensbourne National Park—the nature & purpose of a National Park; brief history of Ravensbourne NP; safety issues.

Blindfold Activity: Working with a sighted partner as a guide, blindfolded students examine a tree using senses other than their sight. They are challenged to identify the tree after being led away and the blindfold is removed.

Session 2

Two-part Rainforest Circuit Walk:

Part 1 is an Earth Walk, where students experience the rainforest physically, emotionally and aesthetically.

Part 2 has a science and understanding focus; students observe and discuss plants and animals, how a rainforest ecosystem functions and Indigenous and historical influences and uses.



Session 3

Conclusion: Students solve the mystery of Pat the Catbird’s rainforest message.

Call to Action: Students reflect on the importance of precious rainforest habitat and how it can be protected.

Post-visit

- Research a local native rainforest animal or plant and do a report/poster/video or sound recording on its features, habitat and adaptations.
- Use an artistic medium to depict your experience and enjoyment of Ravensbourne Rainforest.

Amaroo EEC pedagogy

Amaroo is guided by the Place-Responsive Pedagogy, in particular Learning Beyond the Classroom.

This particular program uses the strategies of **Learning By Doing** and **Being in the Natural Environment**.

Also at the fore-front of our pedagogy is connectedness, real-world context, and sense of place, which can lead to other powerful, long-term, lifestyle outcomes, often not assessable in traditional curriculums.

For more information please refer to Amaroo’s [Pedagogical Framework](http://amarooeec.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/formsanddocuments/documents/pedagogical-framework.pdf) (amarooeec.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/formsanddocuments/documents/pedagogical-framework.pdf)

