

OVERVIEW

Year 5: Invertebrates - Adapt and Survive



Invertebrates - Adapt and Survive is a whole day program that transports students into the amazing world of invertebrates.

At the start of the day, students meet a disgruntled 'Professor' who needs to learn more about insect adaptation to get their job back. Students identify structural adaptations of native plants to determine if they would ideally survive in a wet or dry environment. Students sketch the iconic Australian grass tree and discuss Aboriginal People's knowledge of the adaptations of this species and how different parts of the plant were used in daily life.

The program leads students on an adventure into Toohey Forest to locate and collect invertebrates using a variety of entomological equipment such as insect jars, sweep nets and beating trays. Whilst in the forest, students will find a multitude of invertebrates that may include moths, ants, spiders, termites, stick insects, centipedes, millipedes, bugs and beetles.

Using a large digital microscope, students examine in depth the structural features and adaptations that assist invertebrates to grow and survive in different environments. A particular focus will be on the different adaptations that allow an invertebrate to defend itself, such as camouflage, smell or pincers.

Working in groups, students complete an activity entitled 'Creature Feature' where they design an insect with adaptations that are suitable for survival in a prescribed environment.

At the end of the day the 'Professor' returns and students are given the opportunity to explain how particular structural features and behaviours of living things enable their survival. The program concludes with a live animal presentation where student get up close with some of the forest inhabitants.

Invertebrates - Adapt and Survive has been assessed as medium risk. A Curriculum Activity Risk Assessment is available on request. A student field booklet will be provided upon confirmation of your booking.



Curriculum Intent:

Content description:

Science: Examine how particular structural features and behaviours of living things enable their survival in specific habitats (AC9S5U01)

Elaborations:

- Investigating First Nations Australians' knowledge of the structural features of certain species and how those features can be exploited
- Identify physical and behavioural characteristics that enable a plant or animal to survive
- Investigate how camouflage is used by animals to hide from predators and ambush prey.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and

Cultures: First Nations communities of Australia maintain a deep connection to, and responsibility for Country/ Place and have holistic values and belief systems that are connected to the land, sea, sky and waterways (A_TSICP1)

