



# Overview



**Toohy Forest  
Environmental  
Education  
Centre**



## Overview

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

Students will identify structural adaptations of native plants to determine if they would ideally survive in a wet or dry environment. Students will 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 Toohy 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, butterflies, ants, spiders, termites, stick insects, centipedes, millipedes, bugs and beetles.

Using a large digital microscope screen students will 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.

The program concludes with a live animal presentation where students get up close and personal 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

### Science: Year 5

- Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment (ACSSU043)
- Investigating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' knowledge of the adaptations of certain species and how these adaptations can be exploited (OI.5, OI9)
- Describe and list adaptations of living things suited for particular Australian environments

