

Itinerary

Ecosystems: Year 9



Toohey Forest
**Environmental
Education
Centre**

Learning Goals:

- Identify and examine the impacts that human actions have on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems
- Record, analyse and compare abiotic and biotic data at both a terrestrial (land based) and aquatic or water based ecosystem
- Use a range of sampling techniques and equipment
- Collect, identify, classify and sketch a variety of flora and fauna species
- Identify interdependence of organisms through feeding relationships

Inspiring science beyond the classroom

Time	Activity
9.30–9.50am (20 mins)	Introduction to staff, program and facilities Detail development scenario plus media clip: <i>Urban Sprawl</i> Toohey Forest Aerial Photographs: Changes over time
9.50–10.20am (30 minutes)	Plant Identification: Samples of local native plants identified using booklet
10.20–10.40am (20 mins)	First Break
10.40–12:10pm (1 hour 30 mins)	Terrestrial Equipment Use: Review of Field Guides Forest Studies — 2 sites (wet/dry): Adaptations to Ecosystem; Flora classification (using field guides); recording of abiotic data (e.g. temperature, light, pH, soil composition and moisture)
12:10–12.40pm (30 mins)	Lunch: Visiting teacher to supervise completion of field booklets, data sharing and specimen ID using classroom resources
12.40–2:10pm (1 hour 30 mins)	Aquatic Ecosystem – Identify the catchment area, collect abiotic data. Biotic sampling: Aquatic animal identification, classification occurrence and sensitivity rating
2.10–2.30pm (20 mins)	Conclusion: Collate data and identify relationships between abiotic and biotic factors, discuss findings and make recommendations for sustainable management.
2.30pm	Farewell and Depart

Students will need:

- Covered footwear
- Sun safe clothing and hat
- Sunscreen and insect repellent already applied
- Water Bottle
- Morning Tea and Lunch
- Field booklet, Clipboard, Pencil

Litter Free Lunch

We encourage students and staff to pack a litter free lunch. A litter free lunch contains no throwaway packaging. Everything in it can either be re-used, composted or recycled. Therefore food is brought in re-usable containers rather than disposable plastic wrap. Drinks are brought in refillable plastic bottles. Pre-packaged foods are discouraged.

