

Creating a Buzz about Bugs

Rationale

During the students' STEM session We will have a special lesson dedicated to exploring insects that are within our school grounds. These sessions will run across 2 whole days and involve students from Foundation to year 6. The day will include hands-on activities where all students will be involved. Students will start by conducting an audit of the insects that they see in our gardens and keep a tally of the amount and record the different species. Students will then create a bug water station and install a bug hotel, to provide extra shelter and a source of water for the insects. Finally students will plant a pollinator friendly grevillea, to entice more insects and provide a source of food. These activities will involve and develop problem solving and observation skills and a sense of curiosity about the world. Senior students will work with younger students in the activities. The lessons will involve students and staff observing and photographing different insect species with iPads.

Budget

Item	Quantity	Cost
Stained Solitary Native Bee Hotel Australian Ladybird and Insect House All Bamboo With Roof	3	\$294
Lovely- A Story About A Stingless Bee By Melissa Ballantyne	1	\$29.98
Terracotta Pot	10	\$16.50
Terracotta Saucer	10	\$16.50
16 Plant Box	1	\$139.95
	Total	\$496.93

What is the likely impact on STEM?

Students will use observation skills and mathematics as they observe and tally the insects species. They will use critical thinking and engineering skills as they build their bug watering station and use their technology skills as they take photos of the insects in our school.

What will the outcome be for the school?

It will provide spaces within our school grounds where students will be able to continue to observe and audit insects. It will hopefully mean that when we continue to collect data, the changes we have made will show an increase in insect activity and students will be able to compare this at a later date.

Resources

- <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/goodliving/posts/2018/10/insect-hotels>
- <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-01-21/native-honeybees-provide-popular-bush-tucker/9333278>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6vHTfdMCVs>
- <https://www.huck.psu.edu/institutes-and-centers/insect-biodiversity-center/helping-insects>
- <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/topics/wildlife/2009/06/the-good-fight-saving-insects/>
- <https://www.csiro.au/en/news/all/news/2019/december/australian-researchers-call-for-help-to-save-our-insects>
- [Insect Farming](#)