



MERRI CREEK STUDY

(YEARS 7-10)

The following activities are offered in the CERES Merri Creek Program. Content and presentation are adjusted according to age level and language skills. Each activity runs for approximately 50 minutes.

Full Day program	3/4 Day program	Half Day program
Choose FOUR activities 10.00 - 2.30pm	Choose THREE activities 10.30 - 2.00pm	Choose TWO activities 10.00-12.15pm or 12.30-2.45pm

URBAN IMPACT WALK

- Walk along the Merri Creek and see how it has changed over time with different uses.
- Use survey techniques to assess the current health and problems for the Merri Creek.
- Learn about the “Index of River Conditions”, a national system of determining the health of any given water-way.
- Identify current impacts affecting the health of the creek ecosystem and discover possible solutions such as litter and weed management techniques.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

- Get into the science of the health of our waterways.
- Use chemical and physical tests to monitor water quality (depth, temperature, speed of flow, turbidity, pH and salinity).
- Assess creek & habitat health using the data gathered.
- Discuss the reasons why different results were found and what the results relate to in terms of the health of the creek.
- Evaluate how healthy the creek is for plants, animals and humans.

BIOLOGICAL NETTING*

- Net for fresh-water macro-invertebrate animals living in the Merri Creek.
- Learn and participate in a kick sampling technique.
- Identify the aquatic organisms caught and find out how they indicate water health.
- Consider the role of aquatic organisms in maintaining the health of freshwater ecosystems.

MACRO-INVERTEBRATE I.D.*

- View and identify your catch through the microscopes.
- Calculate the stream pollution and habitat health rating of the Merri Creek based on the pollution sensitivity of the animals found.
- Discuss variables that may affect the health rating of creeks e.g. weather, temperature, sampling techniques etc.

** Note: When booking this program the starred activities should be booked concurrently because content is closely linked.*