



# BIODIVERSITY INCURSION PROGRAM

The following activities are offered in the CERES Biodiversity Program. Content and presentation are adjusted according to age level and language skills. Each activity runs for approximately 45 minutes. All programs directly relate to the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (see [www.ceres.org.au](http://www.ceres.org.au)), are designed to enhance Resource Smart Biodiversity components and meet the following curriculum areas; Design and Technologies, Science and Geography.

*Programs can be specifically designed to cater for Schools and their desired outcomes.*

Bookings:.

F-2	Book 3 x 45 mins sessions
Grade 3-6	Book a min 3 x 45 or max 5 x 45 mins session
Grade 7-10	Book a min 3 x 45 or max 4 x 45 mins session
Grade 11-12	Book 3 x 45 mins sessions

Costing:

3 x 45 minute workshops = \$600

4 x 45 minute workshops = \$780

5 x 45 minute workshops = \$960

We cater for a maximum of 30 children or students per workshop.

Additional travel costs of \$1 per km will apply if your school or centre is over 40km from CERES.

## HANDS ON GARDENING F-10 (45 mins)

- Get your hands dirty working in the gardens at your school and learn skills you can use to maintain and grow a thriving School Kitchen Garden
- Get the students involved in constructing new outdoor spaces such as raised edible gardens, chook houses, rain gardens, fences, habitat houses, signage and revegetation areas.
- Explore how people create designed solutions and change environments for food production, participate in seasonal activities, such as planting, composting, seed collecting, propagation, harvesting, fertilising, weeding and weed identification, watering, mulching, garden design and more!

## HEALTHY SOILS 3-12 (45 mins)

- Learn how you can look after the soil on your school grounds!
- Discover the importance of soils, different soil types and the life cycles within.
- Undertake soil health tests in your school garden and decide which soils are suitable for growing vegetables and how they can be improved.
- Learn about soil deficiencies and soil health, identify ideal soil types for producing food.
- Make compost to improve soils and reduce the schools organic waste by creating a valuable resource!

## INTEGRATED GARDENING PRINCIPLES 3-12 (45 mins)

- Learn organic and ecological practices that can be applied to improve and maintain School Kitchen Gardens!
- Discover how food production is used in the modern world and how sustainable practices can integrate ecological principles, organic waste recycling, and animal systems into a School Kitchen Garden.
- Participate in hands-on activities and investigate how food is produced in managed environments with a focus on ecology, soil quality, natural pest control, crop rotation and plant selection.



COMMUNITY  
ENVIRONMENT  
PARK



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- Recognise the role of people in design and technologies occupations and explore factors, including sustainability, that impact on the design of solutions to meet community needs
- Consider the differences between ecological and conventional gardening practises.

## WORMS & MINIBEASTS F-6 (45 mins)

- Hunt for mini-beasts and learn about food webs and their importance for a healthy environment.
- Handle a real worm and learn about its role in the composting cycle.
- See how you can start your own worm farm in your School!

## GUIDED REVEGETATION: Indigenous plants and/or bushtucker F-12 (45 mins)

- Do you have an area you want to plant out with indigenous plants, create habitat or a bushfood garden?
- Be introduced to a variety of indigenous plants that can enhance your school garden biodiversity
- Learn how to identify various indigenous plant species, and about their uses for food, drink, medicine, tools and building materials.
- Learn about the local seasons and how to identify them through ecological signals
- Discuss indigenous origins of common food plants.