

Program two - Wildlife of our waterways

In program two, to teach children about the importance of healthy creeks, you are encouraged to harness children's natural curiosity and instinct to care for animals and book a wildlife show. All resources mentioned below can be found in the resources section of this lesson on the Creek Neighbours online program page.

If you cannot find a wildlife contractor, please reach out to us via email to ECschoolsprogram@brisbane.qld.gov.au and we will provide a list of contractors for you to choose from.

Required resources:

- Wildlife show experience (video)

Learning outcomes

Learning Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

- 1.4 Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect.

Learning Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

- 2.4 Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.

Learning Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

- 4.1 Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

Wildlife Show considerations

When booking a wildlife contractor, teachers may wish to consider the following:

- We recommend you select a reputable, licenced, wildlife demonstrator who has a good array of animals.
- Ask the wildlife contractor to bring in only 4 or 5 animals. This allows time for children to ask questions and to develop a deeper connection to each animal and their needs.
- Ask the wildlife contractor to bring in animals that visit the creek including one that children might not see often, one they see regularly at the creek and animals that are nocturnal.
- Include a frog in your animal choice. Frogs are biological indicators and are often the first animals to disappear when creeks become polluted. Ask your wildlife contractor to explain why this is.



- Animals need food, shelter and clean water to survive. For each animal, ask the wildlife operator to explain how healthy creeks provide these survival elements.
- Ask the contractor to discuss single use plastics and their effect upon creek wildlife.

If you're not able to afford a wildlife show, use our slide show to learn about local creek animals. You can also print off our creek wildlife colouring page and have fun identifying and learning about the native Australian animals depicted.

Required resources:

- Creek Creatures virtual wildlife show (ppt)
- Colouring page – creek wildlife (Word doc.)

Discussion questions

- What are the three things that animals need to survive?
- How do healthy creeks provide the three things that animals need to survive?
- What are some things we can all do to help native Australian animals?
- What does nocturnal mean? What are some creek animals who are nocturnal? Why are they nocturnal?

