

Lessons in the Gardens – Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Overview

The Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha offers a wide range of hands-on outdoor learning opportunities for early childhood, primary and senior school groups. Our lessons are aligned with both the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines and Australian Curriculum, and have been designed to suit specific early childhood, prep, primary and secondary levels. Help your students see science theory in action, explore geographical concepts, immerse themselves in botanical art and develop sustainable approaches to living with our trained and knowledgeable education staff.

We are currently in the process of re-writing the lessons to suit the v9.0 Australian Curriculum and are adding these as they are completed. Teachers are encouraged to contact the Education and Interpretation Coordinator on BotGardensEd@brisbane.qld.gov.au for more information.

Please note: you can use 'Ctrl f' (for PCs) or 'Command f' (for Macs) to search this document for specific words.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Early childhood

All students, particularly our youngest learners, benefit from playing and learning outdoors. Research into nature deficit disorder clearly identifies that time spent in nature has positive impacts on children's education, physical health and emotional wellbeing. The Little Sprouts Kindergarten program allows you to choose from a range of outdoor, interactive lessons with a sustainability or nature-based focus.

Lesson Details	Overview
Early Childhood Little sprouts Delivery location: Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha Duration: 45 minutes Maximum students per group: 15	Cultivate young imaginations and nurture all the senses with a fun and engaging session in the magical spaces of the botanic gardens. Nature play and outdoor learning have positive impacts on children's education, physical health and emotional wellbeing. Choose from a range of interactive lessons based on story, song, exploratory activities and nature play. Please select <u>one</u> of the following nine lessons. <i>A walk on the wild side:</i> Become a wild thing of the lagoon! Listen and respond to story, explore the lagoon environment and the creatures living there; and embark on a wild thing hunt. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Active learning: building positive dispositions towards learning, showing confidence and involvement in learning



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Lesson Details	Overview
	Rainforest discovery: How are Aboriginal people connected to rainforest country? How do rainforest plants provide for their needs? Explore the rainforest, play Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander games, and smell and taste some native plants and food. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments, showing respect for diversity • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language Water bugs: Can insects live in the water? What do they look like and what do they eat? Observe insects dipped from the lagoon and learn about dragonflies. Create a bug artwork using plant materials. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language We all love the eucalypt: Celebrate one of our iconic native trees and its many special qualities. Learn a song all about the eucalypt; and observe, touch and smell parts of the plant just like a botanist. Be creative with leaves and use recycled materials to make a gum blossom to take home. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language, building literacy in personally meaningful ways



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Lesson Details	Overview
	Wild and wonderful bees: Discover why bees dance! Explore the botanic gardens to watch native and European honey bees. Learn the story behind Mt Coot-tha's name and best of all, try some delicious sugarbag honey. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments, showing respect for diversity • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language Lemon tree very pretty: Using all your senses, experience the orchard garden with a focus on the lemon tree. Play some sensory guessing games using seasonal fruit and flowers from the botanic gardens. Learn a special sun-shiny song about lemon trees. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language Seeds please!: Get crafty and green with paper pot making! Learn about seed germination and turn old newspapers into biodegradable take-home seedling pots for the home or school garden. A fun, hands-on lesson that boosts creativity and fine motor skills; and teaches children about sustainability. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Lesson Details	Overview
	Companion planting: Get ready to dig in with 'Garden Buddies: The Companion Planting Game'. Learn how Nature uses teamwork to grow super-powered gardens. Discover how plants help each other with natural pest control, nutrient sharing and create mini ecosystems. Join our gardening adventure, where every plant has a best friend. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Communicating: engaging with and expanding language Kuta nature play: A less structured nature play session in various garden areas. Explore natural and found materials using hands-on and whole-body learning approaches. Curriculum links: Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline (QKLG) 2024 • Identity: building a sense of security and trust • Wellbeing: building physical wellbeing (engaging with ways to be healthy and safe) • Connectedness: showing respect for environments • Active learning: building positive dispositions towards learning, showing confidence and involvement in learning