



In The Australian Bush



Teacher Resource Guide

What's included in this resource:

- Introduction to Eucalyptus Forrest Habitat classroom poster
- 3 worksheets on learning activities about Australian Bush Habitats
- Koala Keeper Talk
- Suggested guide of how to use the resources in classroom activities
- Craft Activity- Make your own Australian Bush scene!

Introduction to Eucalyptus Forrests

Australia is unique in the vast range of diverse habitats you can find within the Australian landscape. The Australian bush is just one environment that can be different from state to state. The Australian bush is home to so many of Australia's native animals and often enjoyed by nature lovers, who love to either hike, walk or camp within the bush.

Suggested Learning Activities

During Group time, ask students if they have ever been to the bush before? Ask students to list things they might come across in the bush. With these words create a word wall to test students prior knowledge on the topic. Suggest items if students have forgotten any obvious ones.

Explain to students that there are many different habitats within a bush environment and that one you are going to look at most closely is a Eucalyptus Forest habitat and find out about certain creatures that like to call this habitat home!

Eucalyptus Forrest Classroom Poster

Use the poster to introduce eucalyptus forest to students so they can see what they look like- in case not all students have seen one before. Either read to the class or choose students to read out facts about eucalyptus forest from the poster.

Once finished ask students to think of or research how does the weather effect this habitat.

Ask students to think of animal that they will find living in a eucalyptus forest. Get students to write one animal down on a piece of paper. Collect all students thought and place in a bag or hat. Get students to create a tally and record the animals to see which animal is the most popular one student think lives in a eculaptus forrest.

Students complete the In the Australian Bush Worksheet.



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Koalas

Koalas are the most common species you will find living in the Australian bush particularly in eucalyptus forests because eucalyptus leaves are its main food source. Koalas are so iconic to the Australian landscape it will be interesting to see if it's the number one animal the students think of in their animal poll.

Koalas are such fascinating creatures that have learnt to adapt extremely well to their ever-changing environment. Use the suggested activities and worksheet to get your students learning about them!

Suggested Learning Activities

Have a group class discussion to see what students already know about Koalas. Ask students if they have seen one before- in the bush or in a zoo! Ask students to describe what a Koala looks like.

Create a word wall with the words the students have used to describe the Koala.

Ask Students to write a sentence describing the Koala to a friend who is blind and can't see what they look like. Ask students to be very clear in their description.

Ask students if anyone used the word "bear" to describe the Koala? Ask students to listen carefully to our Koala keeper talk and find a reason why they are not bears!

Get students to watch the Koala Keeper Video on WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo YouTube page

After watching the video students are to complete In the Australian Bush Koala Worksheet!

Research

Ask students to research and find out 3 more features about Koalas that help them to survive living in a bush environment.

Koala's are very good at sleeping, they can sleep up to 20 hours a day, this is due to lack of nutrients found in eucalyptus leaves. Ask students how long do they sleep for? Do they dream when they are sleeping? Ask students to pretend they are a koala that is sleeping and get them to write a story about what a koala might dream about!

Excursion Time

Bring students to your WILD LIFE Sydney zoo on an excursion to bring their classroom learning to life, so they can experience In the Australian Bush first hand in a safe learning environment! Head to our website to check out how to book!



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Craft Time - Suggested Learning Activity

Now that the students are familiar with Eucalyptus Forests and the Australian Bush habitats and have a understanding of what they look like and key features they can design and create their own Australian Bush environment!

Use the In the Australian Bush Make your own habitat worksheet for templates and instructions!

Conservation

Eucalyptus Forest and the Australian Bush are important environments for all to enjoy and should be protected for all future generations to experience. However, many human impacts such as changes in climate, fire and pollution are placing these environments under threat!

Suggested Learning Activity

In pairs ask students to brainstorm ways they think they can protect these environments.

Students are to create a poster that they can place around the school to educate other students about what they can do to protect the Australian Bush and provide them with easy to follow tips the next time they are ush walking, hiking, playing or camping in this environment!

