



Introduction to Biodiversity

Teacher Information Sheet 2

DRAFT

Biodiversity is the study of all living things within a certain area, their interaction and interdependence. In this session children are introduced to the concept of biodiversity, helping them to understand how an ecosystem works and any plants or animals of particular importance- drivers- within the habitat. They are assisted to explore the idea of why biodiversity is so important to our well-being. The concept of rare and dominant plant and animal species is discussed and why too much or too little of any one thing can be a problem. The role the Green tree ant plays in this delicate balance of diversity is explored

Overview

Students will learn about biodiversity through a brief talk given by Townsville City Council ISS staff. TCC staff will introduce the concepts of biodiversity, ecosystems and habitats. Students will mind-map their ideas of biodiversity and why it is important. Green tree ant's role in maintaining the delicate balance of diversity is examined.

Activities

- » Introduce the Green tree Ant
- » Discuss how the Green Tree Ant fits in with biodiversity
- » Mind map/brainstorm definition of biodiversity & present their ideas to the class
- » Students discuss and present their thoughts and ideas of how to maintain biodiversity
- » Explore what students would like to know about biodiversity
- » Students write down why they think plants are great and hang ideas on a ceremonial tree.

Biodiversity Facts

- » Australia is one of the world's most diverse countries in terms of its plant and animal life.
- » About 85 % of flowering plants, 84 % of mammals, more than 45% of birds, and 89 % of inshore, freshwater fish are unique to Australia.
- » The Townsville contains 4 significant environments that all come together here – Tropical Savannas, the Great Barrier Reef, Einasleigh Desert Uplands and Wet Tropics Rainforest.
- » Townsville has species of plants and animals found nowhere else in Australia.



Greentree Ants



Web Information

<http://www.soe-townsville.org/biodiversity.html>

<http://www.soe-townsville.org/greentreeants/>

<http://www.soe-townsville.org/communityeducation/curriculum.htm>

<http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/about-biodiversity.html>

Administration

Duration

1 hr

Max Students

1 year group

What's Required

Classroom, writing materials, energy and creativity

Contact

Townsville City Council

Integrated Sustainability Services

4727 9525



Kids Greening Townsville



Core Learning Outcomes

Science	SOSE
SS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, D1.4 EB 1.1, 1.3, D1.4 LL 1.1,1.2, 1.3, D1.4	TCC 1.4 PS 1.2
SS , 2.3 EB 2.3 LL 2.1,2.2, 2.3, D2.5	PS 2.1, 2.2
SS 3.2, 3.3, D3.4 EB 3.1, 3.3 LL 3.1, 3.3, D3.4	
SS D4.4, D4.5 LL 4.3	PS 4.1
SS 5.1, 5.3 LL 5.3	

