

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Our Precious Trees

UNIT OVERVIEW

Red Hill Environmental Education Centre provides a wonderful learning backdrop for Early Childhood education students. This program invites students to explore the Centre whilst learning all about trees and the importance of learning in nature. Students are also immersed in the culture of our First Nations people, learning about the importance of Aboriginal culture and how we can live and learn through *yindyamarra*.

OUTCOMES: Early Years Learning Framework

- 1-1 Children feel safe, secure and supported
- 1-3 Children develop knowledgeable and confident self-identities
- 1-4 Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect
- 2-1 Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation
- 2-2 Children respond to diversity with respect
- 2-3 Children become aware of fairness
- 2-4 Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment
- 3-1 Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing
- 3-2 Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing
- 4-1 Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity
- 4-3 Children transfer and adapt what they have learned from one context to another
- 4-4 Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTY

Students take part in an acknowledgement of country activity in our 'Yindyamarra' Welcome Circle showing respect to the traditional owners of this land, the Wiradjuri people.

OBSERVING TREES

Students make observations of trees and discuss their importance. This is followed by an observation walk that utilises all senses to determine the similarities and differences between trees. Students learn about the life cycle of a trees and explore the connection between all elements in the environment.

NATURE ART

Students explore Red Hill EEC's Discovery Zone, creating their own plant art to take home using bark rubs and leaf stencils.

CULTURAL STORIES AND BUSH TUCKER

Students listen to the Dreamtime Story 'The Echidna and the Shade Tree'. Students discuss the lessons we can learn from the story and practice animal movements in dance form. Students explore Red Hill EEC's various Tool Gardens, investigating plants that can be used for food, medicine and tools.

GUMNUT BABIES

Students listen to the famous story 'Gumnut Babies' and then create their own gumnut babies using natural found materials.

For bookings or further enquiries about this program, please contact Red Hill Environmental Education Centre on 02 6374 2558 or redhill-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

