



## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

# Stories in Nature

### 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 their environment 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.
- 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.
- 2-4 Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.
- 3-2 Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing
- 4-2 Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, enquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating.
- 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.
- 5-1 Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.
- 5-2 Children engage with a range of texts and gain meaning from these texts.
- 5-3 Children express ideas and make meaning using a range of media.
- 5-4 Children begin to understand how symbols and pattern systems work.





## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

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.

## NATIVE ANIMAL GUESSING GAME

Students are presented with a 'native animal friend' cuddly toy who accompanies them for their day of learning. After hearing about each cuddly toy's habitat and special characteristics, students guess what type of native animal they are.

## CULTURAL STORIES – Gugaa the Goanna

Students visit the Red Hill EEC Yarning Circle and listen to a traditional Wiradjuri story about 'Gugaa the Goanna'. Students discuss the lessons we can learn from the story and practice animal movements in dance form.

## LEAFT ART

Students explore Red Hill EEC's Nature Gallery, collecting art resources and creating their own leaf art story to take home with them. Students discuss how art is used as a form of communication.

## NATURE TREASURE HUNT

Students engage in stories about the garden and explore Red Hill EEC's Discovery Zone. Students use the colours of the rainbow to find nature treasure in the garden, collecting items and sharing their treasure with others.

**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](mailto:redhill-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au).**

