



GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS

Education Service

The Geelong Botanic Gardens is located in Eastern Park, just one kilometre from Geelong CBD. The Geelong Botanic Gardens (gbg) is today considered one of the great regional botanic gardens in Australia. The Gbg Education Service is facilitated by a qualified teacher and offers curriculum – based programs for Prep – Year 12, supported by hands – on activities and student worksheets.

In addition to the beauty and tranquillity of the Gardens, there are many features that make the gbg a wonderful resource for teachers and their students.

Sustainability: Lessons for Life

The 21st Century Garden is regarded as one of the best examples of a low water garden today. Students can discover the principles and importance of sustainable gardening through this unique landscape.

Diversity

The diversity of the Gardens' plants provides a great teaching resource, with over 6000 species and varieties.

Indigenous Plants

The gbg showcases many local species found in areas such as the Brisbane Ranges, Coastal Heathlands and the Bellarine Peninsula.



A visit to the Geelong Botanic Gardens will give students a better understanding of:

- The important part plants play in the ecosystem
- The role of botanic gardens in conserving rare and threatened plant species
- The diversity of plants and the system of plant classification
- Sustainable planting practices with hands-on activities
- The relevance of plants in our lives

Students will also gain a sense of ownership and appreciation of the Gardens.



GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS EDUCATION SERVICE

Plant Conservation

Many rare and endangered species highlight the important role that botanic gardens play in plant conservation. Students are alerted to the threats that plants face globally and shown that everyone can act to conserve local species.

Plant Adaptations

Plants of the 21st Century Garden magnificently illustrate how plants have adapted to arid environments. Contrast this with the lush elements of the Original Garden.

Plant/Animal Interrelationships

The gbg is visited by black cockatoos feeding on pine cones, possums, pollinating insects, wattlebirds feeding on nectar, grey-headed flying foxes, kookaburras and kingfishers. Many examples of ecosystems will prove interesting to students.

Heritage

The gbg is the fourth oldest botanic garden in Australia. It was founded in 1851 and is rich in superb specimens of mature trees. Many are listed by the National Trust on the Significant Trees Register. The Gardens' history parallels that of Geelong and provides interesting opportunities for students to research their local community.

The Beauty of Nature

The Gardens is a source of inspiration for art, craft and photography classes. It's unique qualities give students creative opportunities that cannot be found in the school environment.



For details of Education Programs offered at the Geelong Botanic Gardens, refer to the attached Booking Form.

Contact the **Friends of Geelong Botanic Gardens** on tel/fax: 5222 6053, e-mail: friendsgbg@sunet.com.au or **The Director** on tel 5227 0387, fax 5227 0555, e-mail jarnott@geelongcity.vic.gov.au





GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS BOOKING FORM

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING FORM AND FAX TO (03) 5222 6053

For further details please phone (03) 5222 6053 or e-mail: friendsgbg@sunet.com.au

School Name: _____ Teacher in charge of excursion: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Number of Students: _____ Number of Classes: _____ Levels/ Grades: _____

@ \$4.40 per student including GST

Number of supervising adults (Teachers and Parents) (No Charge – Max 8) _____

Proposed dates for excursion, preferably a Thursday or Friday. Please give at least three weeks' notice

Choice 1: _____ Choice 2: _____ Choice 3: _____

Proposed time of arrival: _____ Duration of Classes (usually 1½ hours): _____ Time of Departure: _____

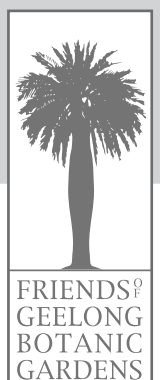
You are all welcome to stay after the class and enjoy the gardens at your leisure

Please tick the box beside the program of your choice (contact us for details)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Wonders Trail with potting activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Behind the Scenes (Propagation, Research, Gardens Maintenance) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plants and their Habitats | <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Guided Tour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rainforest Flora and Desert Dwellers (Plant Adaptations) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What's in a Name? (Plant Classification) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Evolution | _____ |

For Office Use:

Confirm day of excursion:	Date:	
Invoice Sent:	Date:	\$ _____
Payment Received:	Date:	\$ _____



SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT THE GEELONG BOTANIC GARDENS

	THEME	CONTENT	MOST APPROPRIATE LEVELS
1	Garden Wonders Trail	Introduction to the Gardens, special trees and activities including potting of seedlings	1, 2, 3, 4
2	Weather – Its Effects on Plants and People	Seasons, seeds, life-cycles, food gardens	1, 2
3	Living and Non-living Things	Eco-systems, life-cycles, mini-beasts, survival and man-made structures in the Gardens	1, 2, 3
4	The Spice Trail	Plants discovered by early explorers. Students see, smell, feel and taste spices and fruits Fits in well with LOTE.	2,3, 4
5	Forest Flora & Desert Dwellers	Plant adaptations – contrast drought-tolerant plants with tropical and temperate region plants	4, ,5, 6
6	What’s In a Name	Plant classification – the need to classify, recognition of plant groups, identify and compare different species, dichotomous keys	5, 6, VCE, Horticulture
7	Plant Evolution	Investigate the development & reproduction of plants, including algae, moss, cycads, conifers & angiosperms	6, VCE
8	Behind the Scenes	Propagation, nursery practices, research & Gardens maintenance	5, 6, Horticulture
9	What’s Bot?	“Garden Hunters” and “Dirty Hands” – students study and present plants to a small group	3, 4 for (gifted) students with environmental intelligences
10	Special Requests	New programs can be designed to meet the changing needs of teachers	All

In all of the above programs, an explanation of the role of Botanic Gardens is given and age-appropriate activities are included.

Activity boxes are stationed around the Gardens for extra sensory experiences in Programs 1, 2 and 3. Level 4 can be given a treasure hunt called “The Amazing Race”. Levels 5, 6 and VCE are provided with worksheets which can be used for assessment purposes at school.