



Roving Reporter SITE ACTIVITY

What Can Be Learned?

While National Parks exist to protect natural values – they also exist so that humans can appreciate, enjoy and learn from them.

This activity will provide students with an insight into where park visitors come from, and the various reasons why people choose to visit and work in national parks. Through their research, students can gain an appreciation of how humans value the park, and how Tasmanian National Parks are regarded overseas.

Materials Required

Interview questions
Clipboards, pencils
Tape recorder/video

The Activity

Before visiting a national park the students should design a visitor survey. Below are some suggestions for interview questions.

At the national park students conduct their surveys. Some interviews could be taped or videoed if a recorder is available.



For Park Visitors

Where are you from?

Have you been here before?

What inspired you to visit this national park?

Is there something you are particularly looking forward to during your visit?

Have you seen any birds or other animals on your visit?

Do you think it is important that land is set aside for national parks? And why do you think this?

If the visitor is from interstate or overseas:

Are the plants and animals different where you come from? In what ways?

Do you visit national parks when you are at home?

Had you heard about Tasmania's national parks before you arrived?

At home, do you live in the city or the country?

Precious Parks E-Set suited to lower secondary students.

For Park Staff



What is your job? What does it involve?

How long have you been working here?

What do you particularly like about your job?

Have you some favourite animals that you see in the park?

Are there any people that create a nuisance in the park?

Have you met visitors from all over the world? What sort of comments have they made about their experiences at this park?

What sort of activities do visitors do when they come to this park?

Do you have to travel from far away to get here every day?

What is the most difficult thing about your job?

Do you feel it is important that we have land set aside for national parks? Why do you feel this?

Back in the Classroom



Collate some information from the interviews. Have each student contribute to a large table that shows information gathered from the surveys. For example collect information on:

How many visitors were:
Local,
From interstate (which states),
From overseas (which countries),

What activities they participated in.

Answer the following questions:

Were most visitors to the park from overseas/ interstate, or local?

When do you think most locals use the park?

What do overseas and interstate people think about the park, or Tasmania's parks in general?

List the activities that people who visit the park can participate in: (e.g. bird watching, camping, walking, climbing, swimming...)

Would you like to work in a national park? Why? Why not?

Additional Activity:

Students can use the information gathered to create a news report script. Students can record the script as if it were a news story on the radio or to be used as a television news report.

Precious Parks E-Set - Site Activity

E-Sets are an Electronic Environmental and Educational set of notes for teachers

FURTHER INFORMATION

Head Office; 134 Macquarie Street Hobart Tasmania 7000
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