



Neighbourhood Research

LESSON PLAN

What Can Be Learned?

Urban native wildlife can vary in species and number from backyard to backyard. The amount of wildlife can depend on the natural habitat of each backyard.

In this activity students can learn where wildlife is congregating and why.

Materials Required

Animal Visitor Survey Form (included)

The Activity

As a class list the elements of habitat that native animals need to survive in the urban environment.

Write a letter for the students to take home and give (along with the included survey form) to neighbours or locally living relatives.

An example letter:

Dear

We are currently working on a unit about native urban wildlife. We are gathering information about Tasmanian natives and other animals that are likely to inhabit our backyards or urban parks.

Please complete the attached survey and return it to the student who passed it onto you, as soon as you can.

Please record if your backyard has any native vegetation within it. Please also record the names of animals you know of that have visited your backyard, and if possible, indicate:

How many at a time;
What time of the year and day (season, evening/morning);
Where they were (in trees, on fence, in garden, near bin, etc.);
Other evidence (noises, scratches, holes dug, bites out of fruit).

We appreciate your help,

Class and Teacher

Chart the data that you receive from the survey. You may wish to do this with a map and pins to indicate species that are found in certain areas. Bar charts will be useful to illustrate the number of different types of animals found and to compare the number of species for native and non-native gardens.

Ask the students if they think their neighbourhood is good habitat for:
native animals,
introduced animals,
an animal that they have researched.



Urban Wildlife E-Set suited to lower primary students.

Urban Wildlife E-Set - Lesson Plan

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

