

> LANDCARE

Target Group: **Year 9**

Australian Curriculum Reference: **Science (Biological Science)**

- + Ecosystems consist of communities of interdependent organisms and abiotic components of the environment; matter and energy flow through these systems (ACSSU176).

LESSON SUMMARY

This lesson is to be conducted in two parts as follows.

1. An introductory lesson or lessons including a visit from a local Landcare representative.
2. An excursion with a local Landcare group (or other environmental organisation) to undertake work on a local project, such as tree planting along a waterway.

LESSON CONTENT AND METHODOLOGY

Introductory Lesson(s)

- + Coordinate a visit from your local Landcare representative. The talk should encompass:
 - + what Landcare is
 - + what Landcare does
 - + who does the work of Landcare (volunteers)
 - + how students can become involved in Landcare
 - + information about the project students will be working on
 - + why Landcare – and this project in particular – are important.
- + Discuss specific details about what the class will be doing on their excursion (planting trees) and what they will need to bring (for example hat, sunscreen, water, old clothes, appropriate shoes).
- + Practice the skills that will be required to do the task, for example plant some trees at the school or dig some holes at the school farm.

Excursion

Students go out into the field and carry out tasks as directed by the Landcare group and the teacher.

Follow-up

Students engage in teacher-led discussion, focusing on questions such as the following.

- + What did you do as a volunteer for Landcare?
- + Did you notice that there were different roles that Landcare volunteer adults played in the activity?
Can you name them (eg supervisor, equipment manager)? Why do you think the roles were split up like this?
- + How did it feel to contribute something to the community without being paid?
- + Would you volunteer with Landcare in your own time?
- + How might you go about organising that?

ASSESSMENT

Assessment may be carried out by including some questions in a final exam or by constructing a class or group presentation related to the task being carried out.

RESOURCES

Many of the required resources may be supplied by the Landcare group, however schools may also have a supply of planting equipment such as spades and watering cans.