Yellagonga Wetland Ecology Education resource

ACSS 0002 Biological Sciences, Science Understandings: Living things have basic needs, including food and water.

Elaborations
• Recognising the needs of living things in a range of situations such as plants and animals in bushland.
• Comparing the needs of plants and animals.

Teaching Points
• A need is something a plant or animal must have in order to survive.
• A want is something a plant or animal would like to have but is not necessary for survival.

Pre-excursion
• Discuss the difference between a need and a want. Draw a T chart comparing needs and wants and complete as a class. Children could complete their own T chart using drawings of words or a collage of magazine pictures.
• Where do animals live? Discuss different habitats – e.g. turtles live in the water, Corellas live in the trees, skinks live on fallen tree trunks.
• Where do plants live? Discuss different habitats – reeds live in and near water, Paperbark trees live in moist areas near water, Eucalypt and Banksia trees live away from the water.

During the excursion
• See Year 1 for suitable resources: e.g. Find That Plant Activity Cards
• Make observations of the environment by:
  · Doing bark and leaf rubbings.
  · Drawing plants and animals.
  · Using digital cameras to record images of the environment.
  · Looking at the differences between the park environment and the natural bush.

Post-excursion
• Make a display of the children’s observations and the photographs taken.
• Further ideas can be found at wildlifefun4kids.com

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