

## Encouraging Native Birds into the School

<b>ISSUE:</b> Absence of native birds in the school grounds <b>GOAL:</b> To increase the number of native birds in the school grounds <b>STRATEGY:</b> The restoration of habitat						<b>CURRICULUM INTEGRATION:</b>	
<b>Performance indicators</b>	<b>Action to be taken</b>	<b>Action checklist (tick)</b>	<b>Who is responsible?</b>	<b>When will it be completed?</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Relevant KLA</b>	<b>Teaching and learning strategies to be undertaken</b>
Community participation and cooperation	Formation of a School Grounds Management Committee (SGMC)		The School Environmental Management Committee (SEMC)	Term 1		HSIE	Visit an area of local bushland and complete the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a bird count</li> <li>• description of the birds</li> <li>• a record of the behaviour of each bird</li> <li>• examination of ecosystems: record the species of plants, soil types etc., and all the things necessary for the birds to survive.</li> </ul> After the visit, list the features that could be replicated in the school grounds. Give this information to the SGMC.
	Determine the most suitable plants to attract birds and where to place them.		Students, teachers, Landcare	Term 1			
	Notify school neighbours of the plan to attract native birds to the school		Principal	Term 2			
Greater student and community involvement	Invite the neighbours to a student presentation of the plan		SGMC, students	Term 2		English	Write to the neighbours informing them of the plan; invite them to a meeting.
	Suggest ways the neighbours could assist (e.g. keep cats in at night)		SGMC, students	Term 2			
	Prepare area for planting		Teacher, general assistant, students P&C	Term 2		Mathematics	Determine the size of the area to be planted; record the size of selected plants. <i>How many plants are required to fit in the selected area?</i> Pass this information to the SGMC.

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Increased habitat	Purchase plants to attract birds (e.g. red flowers, dense and prickly)		Teachers, general assistant, P&C	Term 2	\$250	Creative Arts	Produce a pamphlet informing people why it is not appropriate to feed wildlife. Decorate and print copies for each student in the school. Place the information on the school's web site.  Examine the designs of bird boxes. Construct bird boxes using recycled materials. Discuss with the SGMC suitable sites to locate the boxes and set them in place.  Make large posters featuring birds and display around the school. Have each bird saying why the school grounds are important to it.
	Plant in clumps to protect birds		Students, general assistant, teachers, P&C	Term 2			
	Maintain and monitor plants		General assistant, students	Ongoing			
	Examine and select the most appropriate bird box designs		Stage 3 students, teachers	Term 2		English	
	Construct bird boxes		Stage 3 students and teachers	Term 2	Recycled materials \$200		
	Place bird boxes in appropriate sites		Stage 3 students and teacher	Term 3			
More native birds in the school grounds	Monitor the number of birds that use the bird boxes		Teachers, students, general assistant	Term 4			"Attracting birds to our school grounds will make our time at school more enjoyable". Write a discussion text including arguments for and against this statement.
	Complete a bird count and compare the results with the biodiversity audit		Teachers, students	Term 4		Mathematics	Do a bird count at the end of the year and compare it with the results from the audit. The variation could be seasonal. It will be necessary to do counts next year.