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Nearer to Nature

Trusted leaders in experiential learning in the natural environment

About us

For more than 20 years *Nearer to Nature* has been immersing students in nature to experience and learn about Western Australia's fauna, flora and ecosystems through their senses as well as intellect. We do this to ensure our diverse environment with its rich biodiversity is protected and conserved for its intrinsic values as well as to enrich people's lives now and into the future.

Part of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, *Nearer to Nature* offers a wide range of school and community programs from diverse locations in the Perth metro area (including Canning River Eco Education Centre), Dwellingup, the South West, and even the beautiful Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk.

What we offer

- Curriculum-linked programs Kindy to Year 12 with teacher support materials and students resources.
- Expert site selection – this is our business, we know the best places to learn specific things and have access to amazing bush, forest, beach, lake and river sites within WA's conservation estate.
- Purpose-built centres in the Perth metro area and the South West.
- Vast experience in environmental education - we have unrivalled depth and breadth thanks to the scope of our programs and the length of time we have been operating.
- Engaging hands-on activities informed by what our scientists do in the field.
- Appropriate, relevant Aboriginal cultural content and programs.
- Comprehensive safety and risk management strategies.



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Learning by doing

A wide range of programs are offered across each of our main themes:

Aboriginal culture – walk the forest to explore traditional practices for sustainable resource management. Have a go at making tools or learn to hunt and fish the Noongar way through roleplay.

Threatened species/wildlife recovery – get active, get monitoring and measuring and discover what is involved and at stake for conservation programs like Western Shield in the ongoing fight to manage introduced feral animals and save native animals.

Fire in the landscape– a huge topic and we have a wealth of content packaged into activities and modules for all ages, covering everything from traditional burning practices to using fire hoses on our fire trucks; from investigating the habitat impact of fires of different intensity to responding to a fire in a roleplay exercise.

River and Wetlands – another big topic that we have covered. Our diverse programs, tailored for students from Kindy to Year 12, get students taking samples, identifying, measuring, comparing, analysing, mapping as they explore ecosystems, water quality, macroinvertebrate diversity, birdlife, human impacts, management strategies.

Forest and bush ecosystems – explore connections in our forests or bushland with a focus on the biology of WA's unique native flora; sustainably managing forests for biodiversity and timber; or managing the spread and impact of dieback.

*Providing experiences that build understanding
and inspire action for conservation.*

(DBCA Strategic Directions 2018-21)

For more information

Visit our website: dbca.wa.gov.au/nearertonature

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