

Term 3 is shaping up as a busy one and already bookings for our programs exceed those for other times of year. If you plan to visit one of our field sites in the spring make sure you book as soon as possible so we can try to give you a choice of dates.

There have been many highlights during this semester; scores of students celebrating World Environment Day, whole of school visits (great for fostering that team spirit), NAIDOC Week Aboriginal cultural activities and an overnight camp for teachers keen to find out about CALM's *Western Shield* threatened species program. At The Hills Forest Discovery Centre we were also lucky to have the help of Tamerlane Birkelbach and Claire Hard, Bachelor of Education student teachers, during their practicum – a new win-win partnership with Edith Cowan University (ECU), which has also extended to ECU Bunbury.

Spring is a glorious time of year to be out exploring the natural environment, our parks and reserves. We look forward to guiding your students through some new and never to be forgotten experiences, helping them to demonstrate that value of environmental responsibility!

Read on for details of our activities and Professional Development (PD) opportunities for Terms 3 and 4.

Liz Moore, Senior Project Officer, EcoEducation, CALM



Students from Adam Road Primary School fish in the Nyoongar Way under the guidance of CALM Ranger, Ken Ninnette, during NAIDOC Week celebrations at Wellington Discovery Forest. Photo by L. Moore

Join our campaign...

Biodiversity Conservation Campaigners offers free resources, \$8000 in prize money, a wildlife adventure and hands-on action.

The Campaign, sponsored by Epic Energy, was launched by Environment Minister Dr Judy Edwards at Morley Primary School on Friday 2 July. It encourages students to investigate and promote the values and protection of the biodiversity of a local Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) managed park or reserve.

Entries close at the end of September, Biodiversity Month, so there is still time to enter! Once we receive your expression of interest we will send you a free pack of information and assist you with information and ideas for your project. Entries do not have to be elaborate and the action can be as simple as preparing a display about a threat, planning a photographic record of an area or removing weeds. Call Cheryl on (08) 9334 0319 for more information or visit the 'For Schools' section of CALM's NatureBase website at www.naturebase.net.



Students of Morley Primary School at the launch of the Biodiversity Conservation Campaigners have a closer look at a Stimson's python with Environment Minister, Dr Judy Edwards and Epic Energy Manager, Ian MacGillvray. Photo by R. Mooney



Special offer – Free bus travel for excursions!

The woodlands at Star Swamp, North Beach, were humming with activity in May during our joint teacher PD with Greening WA. The PD focused on conservation strategies for tuart woodlands and protection of native animals. Following the success of this day, *Western Shield* is sponsoring upper primary classes from schools in the City of Stirling to take part in our *Threatened Animals and Ecosystems* excursion. This special offer is limited so call our Hills Forest EcoEducation Office to book soon (see contacts box in this newsletter).

Video on threatened species now in your library!

Check with your librarian for the video, *Deadly Protectors*, with stunning footage of bilbies, bandicoots, chuditch, boodies and other native animals that tell the success story of CALM's *Western Shield* wildlife recovery program. Every school in the State was sent this video, as well as a curriculum planning form to help integrate its use into a Society & Environment or Science project.



Thanks to Alcoa World Alumina Australia for continuing to sponsor our EcoEducation programs at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

PD opportunities

Our PD days will provide you with resources, activities and support for excursions that will help you address learning area outcomes and assist to instill core environmental values in your students. You will not regret spending a day with us at one of our centres! Enquire about details and costs from our coordinators (see contacts box this newsletter).

Exploring The Hills Forest programs

Who: Primary School teachers
When: Friday 6 August, 9 am to 3.30 pm

Henderson Environment Centre, Star Swamp Free!

Who: All teachers
When: Friday 22 October, 3.45 pm to 5.30 pm
 For South-West PDs at Wellington Discovery Forest and Margaret River Eco Discovery Centre (Monday 16 August, all welcome) contact Kristy (see contacts box this newsletter).

Be a Nature Conservation Officer for a (Friday) Night

Our Shark Bay camp is booked out but places are still available at Wellington Discovery Forest. Don't miss this chance to take part in hands-on science, meet CALM scientists, encounter our unique fauna, and return to the classroom with a free action pack, case studies and data for Biology.

Who: Secondary and upper primary teachers
When: 5 pm Friday 17 September to 3.30 pm Saturday 18 September.

FloraBase Plant of the Month

Leschenault's Starflower
Calytrix leschenaultia

See what's flowering each month on CALM's online FloraBase website at www.naturebase.net/florabase where you can access descriptions, photos and distribution maps.



Know your parks? Your class could win \$50!!

Which was the first national park to be created in Western Australia and in what year was it first established to conserve its many natural and cultural features?

The first class to email the correct answer to ecoeducation@calm.wa.gov.au after 8.30 am on Wednesday 25 August will receive a \$50 discount voucher for their next excursion to either The Hills Forest Discovery Centre or the Henderson Environment Centre. This must be redeemed in 2004.

Congratulations Glen Forrest Primary School Year 6 students!

You successfully identified the delightful but threatened marsupial featured in our February newsletter competition with its Aboriginal name, mala, and common name, rufous hare wallaby. You will receive a \$50 discount voucher for your next visit to The Hills Forest Discovery Centre. Well done!

A day of celebrations!

World Environment and Arbor Day provided great opportunities for students to get out of the classroom, make a difference to their environment and be involved in EcoEducation and Nearer to Nature activities. Thanks to Rossmoyne and Duncraig Senior High Schools CALM Bush Rangers who assisted with this day.



Students from St Mary's Anglican Girls School plant a tree at the Henderson Environment Centre, Star Swamp, to celebrate World Environment Day. Photo by C. Van der Beeke, City of Stirling

EcoEducation Contacts

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