



Kimberley Schools Wrap

Volume 7, Issue 2

Term 2, 2018

Term 3 events

- [Plastic Free July](#) 1-31/7
- [NAIDOC Week](#) 8-15/7
- [Schools Tree Day](#) 27/7
- [Science Week](#) 11-19/8
- [International Youth Day](#) 12/8
- [Keep Australia Beautiful Week](#) 20-26/8
- [Biodiversity Month](#) 1-30/9
- [Great Northern Cleanup](#) 1/9 - 31/10
- [SeaWeek](#) 1-9/9
- [World Carfree Day](#) 22/9



A video series sharing stories from fire managers across the Kimberley is a core element of the package

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North West Bushfire Patrol ready for Term 3

Term 3 signals the start of the Kimberley 'bushfire season', so what better time to announce that all elements of *North West Bushfire Patrol* are now complete and available to Kimberley teachers?

This online resource, developed in partnership between DFES and the Parks and Wildlife Service, offers background information for teachers and curriculum-linked activities covering a variety of topics such as home bushfire preparation, the impacts of bushfire on the community and the environment, fire danger and the seasons, and managing fire. Divided into two levels, [Pre-primary - Year 3](#) and [Years 4-6](#), the package is available online on the [DFES website](#) as well as on a USB that can be sent out to schools.

The final element of the package, a [video series](#) that accompanies the Years 4-6 modules, has now been uploaded to [YouTube](#) and is also available on USB. Videos include interviews with Parks and Wildlife

Service and DFES staff, Aboriginal rangers, volunteer firefighters, and a range of other stakeholders involved in fire management across the Kimberley. It is hoped that the videos impress upon students the significant skill and experience required to manage fire effectively, while examining many different considerations that must be taken into account when working with fire. See p4 for an interview with Yawuru Ranger Curtis Robinson, the star of one of the videos.

An incursion program to accompany the package will be rolled out in late Term 3, bringing fire managers into the classroom to share their experience with students.

For a copy of the USB resource, please send your postal address through to [Sally](#). USBs will be sent out during the July holidays. You are welcome to add this resource onto your school's shared drive to make it available to others. Please also get in touch with [Sally](#) to give feedback on the package, to request an incursion, or for any questions about *North West Bushfire Patrol*.



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions





Semester 2 incursions

Semester Two
School Education Program
KIMBERLEY
ALL ACTIVITIES FREE!

<p>CROCS ARE DEADLY 1 hour incursion Adaptable for all primary students</p> <p>Listen to some catchy croc raps and learn how to be crocwise in croc country. Learn about what makes crocs so deadly, create a croc awareness message.</p>	<p>TOAD LIFE CYCLE 1 hour incursion Suitable for Years 1 and 2</p> <p>Did you know cane toads are toxic at all stages of their life? Create your own life-cycles, find out how to tell toads apart from frogs and learn how to stay safe around cane toads.</p>
<p>TOAD SAUSAGES 1 hour incursion Suitable for Years 5 and 6</p> <p>Learn about the Conditioned Taste Aversion program going on in the Kimberley where native animals like goannas and quolls are being taught to avoid cane toads.</p> <p>Experience radio tracking a goanna and do your own taste aversion experiment.</p>	<p>MARINE MAMMALS 1 hour incursion Suitable for Years 5 and 6</p> <p>Dolphins, whales and dugongs all frequent the Kimberley waters. Find out what they do here and learn how to identify Kimberley marine mammals like snubfin dolphins by their unique fins and behaviours.</p>
<p>SCHOOLYARD BIODIVERSITY 1 hour incursion Suitable for all ages</p> <p>Explore the biodiversity of your schoolyard through a fun scavenger hunt and bring back interesting things to look at under the scope stands. Make a bug hotel, and watch it fill up.</p>	<p>COMPOST CREATURES and waste audits Suitable for all primary students and P&Cs 1 hour session + 1.5 hour waste audit</p> <p>Your compost is alive! Get up close with the creatures that inhabit your compost and worm farm. Conduct a waste audit on your school.</p>

Excursions and high school incursions also available on a range of topics. For bookings, enquiries and more information, please contact Parks and Wildlife Service Broome on (08) 9195 5500 or Kununurra (08)9168 4200.
Email: kimberleycommunityed@dbca.wa.gov.au

The following free incursions are on offer to Kimberley schools in Terms 3 and 4. To book, or to request a copy of the flyer or hard copies of our cane toad, marine environment, or fire curriculum resources, please email kimberleycommunityed@dbca.wa.gov.au. Information sessions on these resources and programs are also available for school staff and P&Cs.

Incursions

- **Crocs are deadly** - All year levels
- **Cane toad life cycle** - Years 1-2
- **Toad sausages** - Years 5-6
- **Marine mammals** - Years 5-6
- **Schoolyard biodiversity** - All year levels
- **Compost Creatures and Waste Audits** - All year levels

Curriculum-linked Kimberley education resources

- **Kimberley Education Manuals: Cane toads** [Year 1-3](#) [Year 4-6](#)
- **Kimberley Education Manuals: Marine Environment** [Year 1-3](#) [Year 4-6](#)
- **North West Bushfire Patrol** [Pre-primary - Year 3](#) [Year 4-6](#)

Out and about

Dampier Peninsula schools had a visit from the Parks and Wildlife Service Kimberley education team and a couple of baby crocs at the start of June. More than 200 students in Beagle Bay, Lombadina and One Arm Point were introduced to the story of 5.5m 'Bluey', the biggest crocodile at the Malcom Douglas Crocodile Park in Broome, who was caught because he was stealing cattle and horses

from a station on the Fitzroy River. As there are many resident crocodiles on the Dampier Peninsula, students were reminded of actions they can take to stay safe in and around the water, and to Be Crocwise by always keeping an eye out and not taking unnecessary risks.

In Kununurra, the team started the term with some of the community's youngest learners, at the Neighbourhood House Playgroup. Children and their carers took part in a nature scavenger hunt and learnt about all kinds of local plants and animals with an interactive touch table.

The Kununurra Girl Guides finished the term with a visit from 'Rex', the Parks and Wildlife Service's friendly Stimson's python, and learnt about snake safety and snakebite first aid ahead of their Lake Argyle camp.



Students are introduced to 'Bluey', a renowned troublemaker

Cane toad update



Have you ever heard of 'fighting fire with fire'? Well, DBCA are fighting toads with toads! It may sound crazy, but the Parks and Wildlife Service's cane toad team have been busy breeding up baby cane toads, known as metamorphs, for a new project which involves releasing metamorphs ahead of the cane toad frontline. Metamorphs have low levels of toxin, and are usually not fatal to predators, but they do make the predator feel sick. The idea is that once an animal like a goanna eats a metamorph once, and feels sick, it will avoid eating both small and large toads again in the future. It's worked in controlled scientific trials, including trials out in the field, so now it's time to test it out on a larger scale.



Bush Rangers and River Rangers

Broome cadets' surprise swim with manta rays on Minyirr Park 'Survival Camp'



Top: A raft building challenge had cadets working together on their first day of camp

Bottom: Back in the classroom, building microbat boxes with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA)

The Broome Bush Rangers had a surprise visit from a friendly manta ray during their first camp of the year at Minyirr Park. Cadets and instructors noticed fins approaching while they were in the middle of a raft regatta, and after some initial apprehension (and cries of, "Shark!"), they realised that it was a curious manta ray coming over to investigate what they were up to. Other camp activities included first aid and stretcher bearing scenarios and the chance to show off their fishing skills and catch their own dinner. The camp was the first of many planned for the cadet unit this year.

Back at school, students finished the term learning about microbats with a visit from CVA.



Waste Wise Schools Corner



How to.... make your own deodorant

Try this [simple recipe](#) for long days on camp or a pleasantly scented class, or to make as gifts or sell as a fundraiser.

- 1/3 cup coconut oil
- 2 tablespoons bi-carb soda
- 1/3 cup arrowroot powder
- 10-15 drops essential oils* (try classic combos like orange and cinnamon or lavender, or get ideas online to mix your own signature scent)



1. Mix all ingredients together in a small bowl, adding the essential oils last.
2. Store in an airtight container. If you want a firmer product, keep it in the fridge.
3. Take a small amount on a fingertip (less than pea-sized) and rub into your armpits after a shower.



*For sensitive skin, leave out oils or choose a combo known to be gentle. If irritation occurs, discontinue use.

Results are in on Waste Free Lunches



'Before and after' Waste Audits revealed Waste Free Lunches really do make a difference

Broome North Primary School held a Waste Free Lunch in Week 7. 'Before and after' waste audits revealed that the event reduced the school's waste for the day by over 6kg! All of the school's fruit and veg scraps go to their pet chooks, reducing waste going to landfill and providing fresh eggs for anyone who wants them. Keep it up Broome North!

Cable Beach Primary School are well on their way to achieving their goal of 'zero waste'. This term's count is in, showing that they have only generated 20kg of waste across the whole school, with only 3kg going to landfill! Well done Cable Beach, what an extraordinary effort! Find out how they did it in next term's Kimberley Schools Wrap.



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An interview with... Curtis Robinson

Curtis is a Yawuru Ranger, based out of the Parks and Wildlife Service's Broome office. Curtis recently starred in the [Leaders in Fire Management](#) video series, produced as part of North West Bushfire Patrol (see p1).



Tell us about a typical day at work Get tools ready for the day then head out to site, which could be Crab Creek, Minyirr Park or anywhere on our Yawuru Conservation Estate. Works on a daily basis could be placing in signs for our new Gurlbinwula projects, natural revegetation works in Minyirr Park, or talking with visitors about traditional Yawuru knowledge.

What do you like most about your job? I like working outdoors in areas where we grew up. I also like the special trips we get to go on, such as dolphin surveys, whale watching, crocodile surveys, fauna trapping and the odd fire.

What is most challenging? We have a continuous problem with rubbish being left at popular fishing spots, some people have no respect for the area.

What is your favourite part of working in the Kimberley? Being involved with a network of rangers that work across the whole Kimberley. Our ranger group has worked with other rangers from Kimberley Land Council and groups such as Environs Kimberley. You get to meet really good people and learn about their traditional knowledge and experience, something that people generally have to pay for.

What three things would you want when stranded on a desert island? Charged satellite phone, water and my fishing bag.

