

Sustainability Excursion to Tuckerberry Hill: Paddock to Plate (P2P)

The Big Question

What activities on Tuckerberry Hill promote the capacity of Earth to maintain life and what practices could harm the capacity of Earth to maintain life?

“Sustainability addresses the ongoing capacity of Earth to maintain all life.

Sustainable patterns of living meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Actions to improve sustainability are both individual and collective endeavours shared across local and global communities. They necessitate a renewed and balanced approach to the way humans interact with each other and the environment.”

(VCAA Learning about Sustainability)

This excursion can be modified to address any or all the following

Victorian Curriculum: Sustainability related content descriptions

Intended Year Levels: Year 9 and 10

History:

Analyse the long-term causes, short term triggers and the intended and unintended effects of significant events and developments (VCHHC127)

Science:

Ecosystems consist of communities of interdependent organisms and abiotic components of the environment; matter and energy flow through these systems (VCSSU121)

Advances in scientific understanding often rely on developments in technology and technological advances are often linked to scientific discoveries (VCSSU115)

Geography:

Human alteration of biomes to produce food, industrial materials and fibres and the environmental effects of these alterations (VCGGK136)

The interconnection between food production and land and water degradation; shortage of fresh water; competing land uses; and climate change, for Australia and other areas of the world (VCGGK135)

Economics and Business:

Explore the nature of innovation and discuss how businesses seek to create and maintain a competitive advantage in the market, including the global market (VCEBB024)

Research the way the work environment is changing in contemporary Australia and analyse the implications for current and future work (VCEBW025)

Design and Technologies:

Investigate and make judgements on the ethical and sustainable production and marketing of food and fibre (VCDSTC057)

Plan and evaluate new and creative interventions that promote their own and others' connection to community and natural and built environments (VCHPEP150)

Overview

The P2P excursion option includes 4 activities/rotations to reflect the horticultural and agricultural activities on the farm. The excursion addresses the sustainability issue of practices of growing food that impact on the environment in a positive and negative manner. The excursion has a final session during which the students can discuss and create possible solutions to the sustainability issues that they have witnessed on the farm.

1. Planting – whole orchard – schoolteacher

What do we plant, when and how?

Investigate and make observations about the produce on the farm.

2. Maintaining – blueberries and lemons – Farmer and schoolteacher

What do we need to do to keep the plants alive and producing food?

Soil, water, fertiliser, pests, pruning.

3. Harvesting – strawberries – schoolteacher

When and how do we harvest the produce on the farm?

4. Consuming – kitchen – Farmer and schoolteacher

What happens after we harvest and how can we use the produce?

Excursion Timeline

Students in 4 groups (A, B, C and D) of 4 students with one teacher each.

Time				
10.30	Welcome to Tuckerberry Hill. Explain organisation / focus of the excursion.			
	Planting	Maintaining	Harvesting	Consuming
11.00	A	B	C	D
11.30	D	A	B	C
12 noon	C	D	A	B
12.30	B	C	D	A
Lunch				
1.30	Create and discuss responses to the Big Question Questions and answer session			
2.30	End			

Worksheets will be provided to support each rotation in this program.