



Bush Tucker Garden Program

Explore the flavours, medicines and stories that have nourished people on Country for thousands of years. Students will design and plant their own bush tucker garden while learning how First Peoples used native plants for food, medicine and tools. This hands-on session is for schools looking to build connection and understanding of First Peoples' relationship with Country, while learning more about our natural environment.

Age level

Prep – Grade 6.

Number of students per session

Up to 30 students per session.

Location

Incursion.



What's involved

Survey by an expert botanist

This is a quick visit to your school prior to planting to gain an understanding of which native plants are already present and to develop a species list of suitable plants for your bush tucker garden. It also allows us to identify weeds that may need to be managed before planting.

Duration: 1 hour (ecologist only). **Location:** garden site and surrounds. **Timing:** 4–6 months before planting day.



What's involved



Bush tucker garden design

Students will join a First Nations representative for a hands-on workshop to design their bush tucker garden. They will explore the planting area, learn about traditional food and medicine plants, decide together which plants to include and then design a garden layout. This session teaches students about cultural plant uses and how First Peoples understand seasons, while helping them understand why different plants grow best in certain places. It also builds a strong sense of ownership of the garden before planting day.

Duration: 1.5 hours. **Location:** school grounds. **Timing:** 4 months before planting day.

Planting day

This is a fun, hands-on outdoor session where our team helps students to plant native bush tucker plants suited to the school's environment. Students learn about native plants traditionally used for food, healing, and everyday life and why these plants are important to Country. Includes all seedlings, mulch and digging and safety equipment for students.

Duration: 1.5 hours. **Location:** school grounds. **Timing:** May-September.

Maintenance

We will teach students how to identify common weeds and safely remove them from their bush tucker garden. Includes all digging and safety equipment for students.

Duration: 30 minutes. **Location:** bush tucker garden. **Timing:** three months after planting day.

Optional sessions

Want to learn more about native plants and wildlife? Why not join one of our Revegetation Programs or a Seeds on Country, Wildlife Rope Bridge or Bird Detectives session?

