Resources to borrow

Your local NRM Education team have some amazing resources and kits available for loan, at no cost to you or your school.

Some of the loan kits contain equipment like GPS units, soil or water monitoring equipment and others contain life-like models and activities for hands-on learning about local native animals.

The kits are designed to add value to learning within your classroom. If you would like to borrow any of the kits please contact your local Education Officer. Kits are available for pick-up and drop-off unless otherwise arranged.

**Threatened species kit**

These new kits are designed to raise awareness of some of our local animals listed as threatened or endangered.

The life-like models can be displayed and handled by students which may be as close as they will ever get to these special creatures.

The fact sheets provide information about habitat, threats and what needs to be done to ensure we don’t lose the species altogether.

**Macroinvertebrate kit**

Another new addition to our ever expanding kits full of amazing hand-made models for you and your students to handle and study.

The macroinvertebrate kits contain oversized water bugs and information about some of their quirky or amazing features. Get up close with these creatures you may never imagine live in our waterways.

Kits also include identification charts and instructions as to how you can get your very own waterbug sample to examine.
Fish kit

This wonderful set of life-size and life-like fantastic fabric fish includes species such as: Murray cod, golden perch, carp, silver perch, catfish and purple spotted gudgeon. The fabric fish are perfect to hang in the classroom, or let the students handle and study if you are learning about the river or native animals. The kit also includes fact sheets about native and introduced fish species along with lots of activity ideas.

Frog kit

The frog kit includes an oversized life-like southern bell frog which your students can study and handle. It also includes a powerpoint presentation which you can use to educate students about local frog species and their mating calls. Frog themed activity ideas along with magnetic and 3D frog life cycle are also included to assist with learning about these amazing creatures.

Bird kit

This kit contains 10 handpainted native birds which you can hang and display in your classroom. Included are: superb fairy wren, pelican, caspian tern and regent parrot to name just a few.

The kit also contains local bird identification guides and 10 pairs of binoculars so that you can get out into the school yard or local area and monitor local birds. Information about citizen science and the bird portal is also included so you can upload your data.

Bat monitoring kit

Your class could get involved with bat monitoring and see which of our native bats are living around the school.

The kit includes an echo meter and ipad to record and visually see bat calls. It also includes a "baton" which allows you to hear the calls as they happen (at night). There's a bat box template that you can use to copy and build your own bat habitats.
Home energy toolkit

If you have downloaded our energy auditing resources, this kit is the perfect addition to your school or class auditing unit.

The home energy toolkit contains items and information to help you find out what is using energy and how you can start saving. These kits can also be borrowed from local libraries.

Life cycles kit

The life cycle kit contains a set of 3D butterfly and frog life cycle models which you can use in conjunction with learning about life cycles.

The kit also contains an activity about food webs and life cycle colouring sheets as well as information about where you can purchase your own butterfly chrysalis to observe in your classroom.

Five senses nature display

This collection of natural materials is perfect for environmental expos, libraries, school open days, or engaging younger students with nature.

The hands-on collection contains items to appeal to all the senses including animal skins and fur, pine cones, shells, native plants, soil, bird calls and animal noises, magnifying glass with light, macroinvertebrate samples and much more.

Kit includes set up instructions and examples.

GPS units

This kit contains 10 Garmin eTrex10 GPS units.

Available for a week at a time these units are simple to use and suitable for geocaching or marking/locating sites. Excellent tools for collection of data and orienteering.
Soil kit

The soil kit contains equipment, resources and ideas to assist you in creating some amazing soil lessons and experiences for your students including exploring the different soil layers using fabric.

Students can bring soil samples from home or collect from the school yard and carry out many different hands-on tests and experiments while learning about the importance of soil. Included are several CSIRO soil testing kits for simple soil analysis.

What grain/seed is that?

Exploring seeds, grains and food production is easy with this simple kit containing A3 laminated picture-posters featuring 11 different kinds of grains and seeds, what the crops look like and what they are made into.

The kit also contains samples of each kind of grain and seed to touch and feel!

Set the posters up in your classroom with the seeds in the bags below for the students to explore and examine up close.

Water testing kits

These kits contain all the equipment needed for simple water quality testing and perfect for schools wishing to participate in our Waterwatch program. Kits include equipment for testing turbidity and pH.

Kits also include bug viewers, macro identification sheets, data recording sheets and instructions for entering your data onto the community monitoring database.

Borrow long-term for Waterwatch or short-term for unit of work on water or the river.

Nude food sample kit

This kit contains many great alternatives to plastic bags and wrap (snack boxes, sandwich wraps etc). Use the kit for teacher or parent workshops or to show students how to reduce packaging in their lunch.

Kit includes many resources and facts/figures about nude food and waste. Available for a week at a time.
Wicking bed kit
This kit includes the key materials to build your own wicking bed. There is a wicking bed model box, picture instructions, pipe, hessian and gloves. Soil and additional boxes can be arranged on request.

NRM Education library
We have a growing library of books and DVDs on a range of NRM topics including:
• nature play
• food gardens
• arts and crafts
• water, waste, biodiversity, sustainability and weeds.
If we don’t have a book you would like, let us know and we might be able to add it to our collection.
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