

Study/site risk management form: Science in the Bush

Description: Located at the REEC. Students walk to a bush camp site (500 m) with stick shelters. On the way they take note of significant items which may help survival in the bush – edible plants, water holes, kangaroo resting places etc. At the camp they make a map of their walk and cook a damper from SR flour and jam. There is a campfire with a billie of hot water. Students walk back to the buildings and build shelters from sticks and make ‘popperangs’ from paddle pop sticks after studying technology. Students may also use the obstacle course or go orienteering

Task/Activity	Hazard	Risk Assess.	Elimination or Control Measure
General	General		REEC staff have current Senior First Aid qualifications and carry first aid kits with constrictive bandage, Ventolin asthma medication, water and mobile phone.
Campsite	Fire with hot water Making dampers	2 4	Students not allowed in marked area around fire. Students closely supervised. Dampers made from SR flour & water with jam. Students not allowed in marked area around BBQ.
Shelter building	Stick poked in eye	1	Students instructed on how to carry sticks, groups kept small – up to 5 students. Close supervision.
Making popperang	Eye injury from thrown popperang	1	Popperangs are 2 paddle pop sticks tied in a cross. Students are not allowed to sharpen the ends. Closely supervised when throwing them.
Walking over rough ground	Separation from group; sprains, bites.	5	Teacher at front and back of group. Teacher/student ratio < 1:15 (guideline) Students wear enclosed footwear such as joggers. Students warned of possible snake presence.
Obstacle course	Falls from and misuse of equipment	3	Staff trained in use of course and students given instructions on use. Students with poor behaviour do not participate.
Orienteering	Fall resulting in sprains Snake bite	5 1	Students instructed to walk or jog Activity not held if there is a perceived risk.
Environment	Possible cold weather Sun	5 3	Students must take warm clothing. If weather judged too severe an alternative activity will be done. Students must take hat, sun screen and water bottle
People	Allergic reactions, asthma, diabetes	1	Schools give prior advice to EEC staff of student and staff medical conditions. Student and/or teachers carry personal medication. Students with anaphylactic reactions to bring EpiPen.

Risk Assessment Matrix	How likely is it to be serious				Note: risk management for the excursion is the responsibility of the school and teachers from the schools involved. This form is just for the activities and site.
How serious could the injury be?	Very likely	likely	Unlikely	Very unlikely	
Death or permanent disability	1	1	2	3	
Long term illness or serious injury	1	2	3	4	
Medical attention and several days off	2	3	4	5	
First aid needed	3	4	5	6	

Risk management responsibilities of students

Summer: students will need water bottles, hats, sunscreen, enclosed shoes (no sandals/thongs).

Winter: students will need hats, sunscreen and enclosed shoes (no sandals/thongs), warm clothes.

Medication: please bring medication for students with asthma, allergies, diabetes and other medical conditions.

Behaviour: students in the field with poor behaviour are a danger to themselves and others (disobeying instructions, throwing rocks etc).

Please assess their suitability for participation.

Welfare Information Return

Riverina Environmental Education Centre

Please notify the centre of any students (**first name only**) with the following welfare concerns. This information will be used to assist us with the safe management of students whilst at the centre. (**This information will be kept confidential and the form destroyed after the visit**):

- Students who have asthma, allergies, diabetes or other medical conditions.
- Students with physical disabilities such as broken limbs or use wheelchairs.
- Students with behaviour concerns.

School	Date of Visit	Study	
		Science in the Bush	
Student first name only		Welfare Concern	

Teacher: _____ Signature: _____

Principal: _____ Signature: _____

Please fax or post this form back to the centre as soon as possible. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Keith Collin
Principal Telephone: 02 6932 9134 Fax: 02 6931 5084 PO Box 5336 Wagga Wagga 2650