

Tertiary & Adult Education Programs

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

The National Herbarium of Victoria and the Royal Botanic Gardens has a history of nearly 160 years of providing education, recreation and scientific research. The Herbarium and the living Gardens hold internationally significant collections.

The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden is a resource offering the latest thinking in designing outdoor play spaces for children. Using the imagination as a key to learning this Garden explores the value of nature in play.

The Royal Botanic Gardens encourages teachers and students to explore the wealth of resources which enrich studies in education, biology, science, health science, geography, environment, horticulture, The Arts and history.



Outdoor Landscapes for Learning

Suitable for Education, Early Childhood and Landscape Design professions

Through the exploration of the plants and landscapes of the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden, participants examine outdoor play and learning spaces for children and how they can be designed for imaginative play. Topics may include: child participation, development and application of a learning philosophy (pedagogy), plant selection, creation of space or rooms, the role of literature, children and the real work of a garden, links to VELs, forging community partnerships and developing sustainable practices.

Behind the Scenes

Suitable for TAFE Horticulture students and Environmental professions

Visit the National Herbarium of Victoria and the Gardens' Nursery Collections and discover some fascinating botanical specimens. See the work that goes on in the Herbarium and Nursery, such as plant identification, propagation and research and their significance over the last 160 years. See how specimens are collected, prepared, documented and mounted. Meet the scientists and horticulturists who work at the Royal Botanic Gardens.

Sustainable & Water Conservation Gardening

Suitable for Education and Health professions; gardening for beginners, school/community gardening.

The basic skills of good gardening practice are taught during this hands-on program, exploring water conservation, organic gardening methods, composting and worm farming. Participants will consider ideas for designing or developing their own gardens.

Meet a horticulturist in the Kitchen Garden. *Full day Water Workshop available on request.*

Landscape Design

Suitable for Horticulture and Design professions

Discover the design secrets of the Gardens through contributions made by Guilfoyle and Mueller. Visit the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden and learn about the philosophy behind its design and why it is so popular. Meet the Royal Botanic Gardens Landscape Architect.

Horticulture & Play Therapy

Suitable for Child and Adult Health professions

For thousands of years people have known the value of plants, for subsistence, physical health and mental well-being. This program explores the therapeutic benefits of gardening and horticulture. Gardening can help people appreciate nature, learn how plants grow, encourage social interaction and improve your health. This hands-on program teaches gardening skills and shows you how gardens can be therapeutic. This program also explores the benefits of nature play and how it can be used as an integrated approach to child health.

The Aboriginal Resources Trail

Suitable for Land Management & Sustainability, Art, Education and History professions

The Aboriginal Resource Trail is designed to give students a greater understanding and respect for the local Kulin culture. Visit Long Island, where indigenous plant habitat has been returned, see remnant plants and understand the significance of Waa (the raven) and Birrarung (Yarra River). The Gardens also have more than 100 species of plants used by Aboriginal people in other parts of Australia. Experiences include making and using ochre paint, string-making using cumbungi and a hands-on exploration of tools. The emphasis is on cultural diversity and examining sustainable land practices used by Aboriginal people. Meet an indigenous guide.

Teacher kit available on www.rbg.vic.gov.au

Plant Toxicology

Suitable for Veterinary Science and Human Health professions

Come on a journey to discover the hidden power of plants and how they fight for survival in the face of constant attack from animals. Many plants make poisons in order to defend themselves and the effects are significant for humans and other animals. Learn the shocking truth that many common garden plants and parts of common food plants are poisonous. Recognise the features of poisonous plants, like those in the Solanaceae family. Visit the Herbarium and learn about its role in plant identification from the botanists that work there.

Prices

\$9.60 per participant (including GST)

Minimum Charge \$164.00 per group

Teachers free

Session Times: 1hr 45mins duration

10.15am – 12.00 noon

12.30pm – 2.15pm

See our website for

Teacher Professional Development

Workshops are also available on request.



For further information and bookings, please contact:

phone: **03 9252 2358**
email: **edserv@rbg.vic.gov.au**
website: **www.rbg.vic.gov.au/education**

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