

# Ecosystem Explorers

## Program Outline

**What is a forest?** Explore the characteristics of a forest and identify the main features of a forest system.

- Walk through a eucalypt forest observing the features of the forest and looking for any evidence of wildlife making the forest their home.
- Morning tea and toilet break

**Tree Life Cycle** Role play the growth and change of a tree in a forest and examine how its needs may or may not be met. Will your tree make it from a seed to a forest giant?

**Build a Forest Ecosystem** How do living/non-living things rely on each other to survive? Explore the relationships between living and non-living components of a forest ecosystem.

- Walk through a eucalypt forest comparing the forest changes, exploring interdependence of living things and the ways in which people interact with the environment. - Lunch and toilet break

**The Role of Rotting Logs** Observe and search through samples of decaying wood for evidence of invertebrates and understand the role of decomposers in a forest system.

**Build a Tree House** Take the challenge to design and build a miniature tree house using found materials.



## Curriculum Links:

### Science

- Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things. (ACSSU044)
- Living things have life cycles. (ACSSU072)
- Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive (ACSSU073)

### HASS

- The importance of environments, including natural vegetation, to animals and people (ACHASSK088)
- The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably (ACHASSK090)

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