

BELONGING TO A LIVING HOME Baker



Artwork by Jeannie Baker, from her picture book *Belonging*, published by Walker Books.

We invite you to be transformed by learning landscapes at the ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS

At the Royal Botanic Gardens we offer teachers, students and their parents the opportunity to be transformed by two extraordinary landscapes.

Experience one of the world's finest landscaped gardens at RBG Melbourne, with a collection of over 50,000 plants from across the world. Be delighted by The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden, a dedicated garden for children where plants equal play!

RBG Cranbourne on Melbourne's south-eastern fringe has important remnant woodland and heathland ecosystems in its bushland areas. Embark on a journey into the Australian Garden from Australia's arid inland to its coastal fringes: remarkable for its collection of native plants, landscape features, art and architecture.



Nothing without joy Malaguzzi

What we offer

We invite you and your students to join us on a social, emotional, sensory, and physical learning journey into these two extraordinary gardens.

Our Education Team delivers programs from early childhood through to tertiary and teacher groups. Programs are led by qualified teachers who believe that passion is the key to connection.

We offer you our expertise in:

- exploring the culture of the Kulin Nation
- developing gardens for learning and play
- understanding ecology & biodiversity conservation
- sustainable gardening in a changing climate.

What we do

We welcome you

Indigenous programs at both sites welcome you to country.

At RBG Cranbourne, experience the lands of the Kulin nation as Indigenous people would have known them long ago: visit country managed by fire as they once did; work together to collect bush materials and then build a traditional Wilam (shelter); and, prepare and taste some of the bush foods that the Kulin might've eaten.

At RBG Melbourne, take part in a special sacred rite, the Tanderrum Ceremony, which welcomes you to country; learn about indigenous plant uses and the culture of the Kulin Nation; crush and grind ochre to make paint, and work together to make string from plant fibre.

Learn about the ways of an ancient living culture



We learn with you

Programs are a 1 hour 45 minute experience providing face-to-face contact, engaging students through stories, hands-on learning and the rich sensory landscapes of our two extraordinary gardens.

We use a play-based approach to engage your creative hands and minds directly with the secret life of plants.

Follow the tracks of some of our native animals as we venture into the RBG Cranbourne bushland. Learn about the lives of these special creatures and sometimes even catch a glimpse of them in their habitat.

Throughout the year children do the real work of a vegetable garden and hold worms on their hands, often for the first time. Or, rug up and try winter as one of the best times for bringing children to RBG Melbourne.

We reveal the layers and interactions of natural systems when we take kids ponding – peering into the pools of an indigenous wetland to reveal the connections between plants and animals.

Children need to touch the earth and be touched by it



Surely a garden is not a success if it doesn't bring joy to children Edna Walling

We challenge you

Learn some hands-on strategies for tackling some of the big issues we face today.

We challenge students to discover practical approaches to climate change: they build a rain garden and learn to propagate indigenous plants.

Exploring Guilfoyle's Voclano at RBG Melbourne, students look at the vital role that plants play in our response to gardening in a drying climate.

At RBG Cranbourne, many students have their first authentic Australian bush experience: they can see ecosystems recovering from fire, find the plants and animals important to the Boonerwurring people and witness the amazing biodiversity of the Australian bushland.

our education programs AUTHENTIC, EARTHY, TACTILE

We work with you

RBG Education supports the delivery of school curriculum with programs based on the following:

- Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS) and the Australian Curriculum, providing an excellent means of teaching and integrating across the Domains
- Resource Smart Schools AuSSI Vic's planning framework and certification program for sustainability in schools
- Principles of Learning and Teaching (PoLT)
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework

Teacher resources

Resources are available online at www.rbg.vic.gov.au/education and include teacher kits that support programs, rich in information and ideas, for pre- and post-excursion learning.

Professional development

RBG Education provides you with a variety of professional development opportunities that assist you in developing an enquiry-based integrated curriculum, innovative pedagogies and sustainable practices for use at school.

We run programs to support school communities in developing sustainable, playful and imaginative gardens that engage the whole school community.

We can tailor-make programs according to your school's needs.



Nourish the child in a garden where the imagination grows

Find out more

For bookings and further information, check out our website, email us or phone our Education Services staff at either RBG Cranbourne or RBG Melbourne.

Web: www.rbg.vic.gov.au/education

Email: edserv@rbg.vic.gov.au

Ph: 9252 2358 (RBG Melbourne)
5990 2245 (RBG Cranbourne)

Bookings are essential for programs at both Gardens.



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