

Project Numbat

Teacher and Student Resource Package

Junior Primary School

About Project Numbat

Project Numbat is a community-based not-for-profit organisation working to raise awareness and support for the conservation of Western Australia's unique animal emblem, the Numbat.

Information about the organisation and its activities can be found at www.numbat.org.au.

Teacher Overview

The following package has been developed by Project Numbat to support teachers in embedding conservation education into curriculum programs. The package provides cross-curricular activities focusing on the Western Australian animal emblem – the endangered Numbat – and other native animals.

It has been designed to enhance the effectiveness of the Project Numbat powerpoint presentation which can be downloaded and delivered by teachers with the accompanying detailed lesson plan to support its implementation. It is strongly advised you read the **Numbat Fact Sheet** before delivering the presentation as this covers most aspects of the Numbat and will help in guiding discussion and answering questions during the presentation.

Alternatively, teachers can request a Project Numbat volunteer to deliver the presentation and facilitate discussions on-site with students. Requests can be sent to info@numbat.org.au.

If a Project Numbat volunteer is visiting your school, please note they are not all trained teachers, though all have experience working within the education field and all have current Working with Children status. Please support our presenters and your students by reading this support pack carefully to ensure you maximise the learning opportunities available from this experience.

The Before and After Activity Packages extend the learning experiences beyond the powerpoint presentation, thus enabling the key understandings to be embedded across the curriculum over a period of time instead of being delivered as an isolated learning experience.

Through use of these activities prior to and after the presentation, teachers can ensure learning opportunities are maximised. This will nurture the development of environmentally responsible students and ultimately lead to positive actions being undertaken that support the well-being of our unique Western Australian native animals.

We Want to Hear from You!

We are keen to hear how you have implemented the Project Numbat education package in your classroom and would like to showcase student learning on our website. If you have anything you would like to show us, please send it to info@numbat.org.au.



After Presentation Activities

My Numbat Habitat

Design a diorama of a Numbat's habitat. Use recycled and/or natural materials to create a safe environment for a Numbat including leaf litter, hollow logs, termites, trees, other animals (either native, introduced and/or predators).

Measuring with Numbats

Use jellybeans to represent the size of a seven-week-old Numbat. Investigate what items in the classroom are the length of a baby Numbat. How many baby Numbats fit along the length/area of various classroom items eg: ruler, desk? Finally how many times taller are YOU than a baby Numbat?

Numbat Report (Resource 7)

Use the research framework to find out and record information about the Numbat and/or other native Western Australian animals. Present a report to your peers.

Numbat Numbers

Give each letter of the alphabet a value (eg a=1, b=2... z=26) and discover what the Numbat's lucky number. Use the same technique to discover your lucky number using your name before doing the same for other animals or classroom items. For more able students, introduce estimation of values prior to the calculation stage.

Numbat Sanctuary

You are a conservationist who wants to establish a sanctuary to protect the Numbat. In pairs, small groups or individually*, design a plan for the sanctuary.

You need to make decisions about what features to put in the sanctuary, such as food sources, flora and fauna to ensure the survival of the Numbat population over time. As part of the plan, consider how you intend to present the sanctuary so it can be easily interpreted and constructed by others. You can achieve this using a map legend or 3D components to represent the features. Explain why each feature has been included in your sanctuary eg "We have a fence around the sanctuary to protect the Numbats from predators like the fox."

**Teachers may like to facilitate this activity by tackling the project as a whole class task, and following a brainstorm of ideas to allow student ownership in the decision making process, delegate groups of students to focus on certain areas.*

Numbats in the News

Write an article for the local community newspaper and/or school newsletter educating others about the Numbat and explaining what action could be taken to help them survive in the wild.

Who Am I? Flip Book

Create a Western Australian Native Animal Flip Book using a Who Am I? format. For example; Who Am I? I have four legs, I have a bushy tail, I have black bands across my eyes and I love to eat termites. Who Am I? Part of the page flips up to reveal the answer.

Australian Animal Acrostics

Write an acrostic poem for Australian animals as seen in the presentation. Eg:

- N is for ... never awake at night
- U is for ... under the log
- M is for ... mum has a pouch
- B is for ... beware the bird of prey
- A is for ... Australian
- T is for ... termites I love to eat!

Similarities and Differences (Resource 8)

Compare and contrast the Numbat with another Australian animal and think about what each needs to survive, their features, location, habitat, diet and movement. Identify similarities and differences.

Numbat Tangram (Resource 9)

Complete the Numbat tangram. Once complete, colour it in and draw some Numbat habitat or termites.

Wanted Poster (Resource 10)

Design a Wanted Poster for one of the introduced predators threatening Numbats. Use resource 12 or create your own.

Australian Native Animal Finger Puppets

Create one or more animal finger puppets. In small groups, plan and present a finger puppet show educating everyone about caring for our unique animals.

My Numbat (Resource 11)

Use the description of the Numbat given in the presentation to draw your own Numbat and name it. Fill in the blanks on the sheet either by cutting out the words providing or writing them in the blank spaces.

Numbat in the Wild (Resource 12)

Add features of the Numbat's native habitat in the wild to the illustration on resource 12 using the focus questions to direct your thinking.

Numbat Songs

Sung to the tune of Ten Little Indians:

One little, two little, three little Numbats,
Four little, five little, six little Numbats,
Seven little, eight little, nine little Numbats,
Ten little wild Numbats.

Sung to the tune of 'The Wheels on the Bus':

The tail on the Numbat goes swish, swish, swish,
Swish, swish, swish,
Swish, swish, swish,
The tail on the Numbat goes swish, swish, swish,
All through the bush.

The tongue on the Numbat goes lick, lick, lick
Lick, lick, lick,
Lick, lick, lick,
The tongue on the Numbat goes lick, lick, lick
All through the bush.

The tiny baby Numbats go snuggle, snuggle, snuggle,
Snuggle, snuggle, snuggle,
Snuggle, snuggle, snuggle,
The tiny baby Numbats go snuggle, snuggle, snuggle,
In their mother's pouch.

Sung to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It':

I can make a difference, so can you,
There are lots of little things that we can do,
Doesn't matter if you're small,
Boys or girls or short or tall,
I can make a difference, so can you.

When you're walking in the bush stay on the tracks,
Don't drop rubbish in the bush or dump your cats,
Walk your dog but use a lead,
Make the driver watch his speed,
I can make a difference, so can you.

In the bush be sure your campfire is put out,
Help to build a fence to keep the foxes out,
Bring your cat inside at night,
If we do these things just right,
I can make a difference, so can you.

Sticky Numbat Tongues (Resource 13 and 14)

Using the Numbat from resource 13, construct a long Numbat tongue (nearly the length of the page) from materials such as red string, pipecleaners, paper, streamers etc. Cut out the termites on resource 14 and glue them onto the tongue. Estimate how many termites will fit on the tongue before pasting them on.

Numbats Worth Their Weight

An adult Numbat weighs about 500 grams. This is the weight of a full margarine container. Explore this by using bucket scales or kitchen scales to find classroom items which weigh more or less than a Numbat. For an extra challenge see if you can find an item which weighs 500 grams. Estimate the weight of the objects prior to measuring and record the measurements so they can be shared afterwards.

Predator Snap (Resource 15)

Print the predator snap cards, cut them out, colour them in and play a game of Snap! Each time an introduced predator appears the same time on each deck, the first person who shouts “Snap!” and places a hand on the pile claims the pair. They then remove the predator and continue. The object of the game is to reduce the number of introduced predators in order to keep the Numbat population safe. The winner is the one with the most predator cards.

Western Australian Animals Memory Game (Resource 16)

Cut out the cards from resource 16, colour them in and in small groups play the Memory game matching the name and description of the animal to the correct image.

Animal Nets (Resource 17)

Choose an Australian animal and on each face of the net write a fact about it. Create the net and share with other classmates.

More or Less (Resource 18)

Order animals from the most numerous to the least numerous. Discuss where these animals come from. There is enough space to draw pictures of the animals beside their name and population size. Please note that population numbers are estimates only.

Numbat and Fox Game

Using the game ‘Cat and Mouse’ as a basis, play a game of ‘Numbat and Fox’.

Animal Movement Game (Resource 19)

Play a game of “Nelly Numbat Says” using animal movements or activities. For example, “Nelly Numbat says...hop like a kangaroo” or “Nelly Numbat says...slither like a snake.” Cut out and construct the Numbat headband on resource 19 for the leader to wear.

All About the Numbat Cloze Activity (Resource 20)

Fill in the missing word using the selection at the bottom of the page.

Fundraising

Why not fundraise for Project Numbat? There are many different activities you can do including cake stalls, free dress days, quizzes and competitions, car washes, barbecues, festival days... Brainstorm different ideas in groups and see what works best for you and your school. If there is anything you'd like assistance with, simply contact Project Numbat at info@numbat.org.au.