

The Darebin Creek Education Program (DCEP) seeks to engage schools and the community in valuing and protecting their local waterways. We run creek education activities that are locally based, hands-on and engaging. Our creek education excursions and incursions are free thanks to funding from your local council. Contact us to arrange a visit to your school or an excursion to your local creek or river, or to the Darebin Parklands in Alphington. The DCEP is run by Darebin Creek Management Committee.

## What is that Waterbug? (Prep-6)

Students investigate waterbugs (freshwater macroinvertebrates) that live in the Darebin Creek. They use spoons to catch waterbugs from creek water in trays, and identify bugs using supplied charts. The type and number of bugs identified will give the students clues about the health of the wetland or creek. A very popular activity!

## Water testing (3 - 6)

Students become real life water scientists by investigating the health of water from the creek. They get their own samples of water straight from the creek and conduct a number of different tests including temperature, pH, salinity and turbidity using a scientific testing kit. Students discuss their results and the effects of water pollution.



## The Catchment Story (Prep - 6)

Students dress up and role-play people living along the Darebin Creek. Characters add different pollutants to "The Darebin Creek" and we discover that if a lot of people add a little bit of pollution, we get an unhealthy creek. A memorable activity and a great introduction to the topics we cover.

## Fascinating Frogs (Prep - 6)

Tune in to the sounds of a noisy wetland and join the excitement of listening to and identifying the frogs of Melbourne. Using large pictures and pre-recorded frog breeding calls, students learn about the frogs that live in their local creeks and wetlands.

Note: we don't bring live frogs.

In 2019 thirty-six school and community groups, including over 2,400 students, took part in our free education program. This is what they said: The program was just fantastic, we've even had parents come in and say their children can't stop talking about water bugs! We would love to visit again next year. Teacher, Northcote Primary.  
It's been a pleasure working with DCMC. It's wonderful to have a real local connection to our students learning and has assisted their engagement. We look forward to calling upon DCMC again!  
Teacher, St Raphael's School, Preston

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## DCEP Goes Online!

NEW! A necessity during COVID-19 lockdowns, we are now offering ongoing online presentations on a number of topics. Teacher to host and provide link, using school's preferred platform. Topics include: Frogs, Waterbugs, Threats to the Creek, Citizen Science, Platypus, Eels and Rakali.