

ECOLINC BWVP ONLINE – NEW LEARNING OBJECTS RELEASED

The Ecolinc Biodiversity of the Western Volcanic Plains Flora and Fauna Field Guide app and website were officially launched in August 2013. Version 1.1 of the app has since been released containing some updated nomenclature and a school/organization identification field for submitting sightings. Version 1.2 of the app, which will enable approved sightings to be exported to the Atlas of Living Australia website, and sightings to be saved if beyond an Internet connection, is currently under development.

Two new BWVP learning objects have recently been released on the BWVP website. Quadrats Online was launched in September at a teacher professional learning day held at Ecolinc and the Mt Rothwell Biodiversity Interpretation Centre. Quadrats Online enables students to survey both virtual and actual plant quadrats and submit details, including a photograph, of their own quadrats via the learning object. All submitted quadrat data will be mapped and displayed on the BWVP website, enabling a widespread view of quadrat data across the Western Volcanic Plains.

Grassland Food Webs is the latest BWVP learning object, released in November. This learning object enables students to construct food chains and food webs using selected grassland species and also investigates the introduction of a predator. Four levels of difficulty are provided.

Student and teacher resources are available for all BWVP learning objects and can be downloaded from the BWVP website to compliment each learning object.

<http://bwvp.ecolinc.vic.edu.au>

Additional BWVP learning objects currently under development include Managing Grassland Ecosystems, Talk with the Experts, Virtual Tour to Mt Rothwell and an interactive Quiz.



Podolepis jaceoides flowering in a local grassland (Photo: Gary Clark)

ECOLINC 2014 CURRICULUM PROGRAMS

The 2014 Ecolinc Curriculum brochure is now available. All Ecolinc programs feature engaging 'hands-on' activities for students of all year levels incorporating the use of the latest technologies including iPad activities.

Details of all Ecolinc onsite, offsite and online programs can be found on the Ecolinc website. All programs are linked to the Australian Curriculum and VCE SAC outcomes.

The DEECD continues to provide support for government rural and high SFO schools to access onsite and offsite outreach programs. Please contact Ecolinc to confirm your eligibility, or for further information.

Bookings for 2014 can now be made. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

CONTACT

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ECOLINC/UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE PARTNERSHIP

Ecolinc is pleased to announce a collaboration with the University of Melbourne to further develop and expand the existing BWVP Flora and Fauna Field Guide app to include an expanded range of grasslands across south-eastern Australia. The new grasslands app is expected to be completed in 2014.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

THURSDAY 28 & FRIDAY 29
NOVEMBER 2013

STAVCON – La Trobe University

Ecolinc will provide teacher professional learning sessions featuring the BWVP online outreach program at STAVCON.

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER 2013

VCE Science

Refresh your knowledge and skills of VCE Biology, Chemistry and Environmental Science SAC programs by participating in Ecolinc's VCE teacher professional learning day. All new Ecolinc VCE programs will be highlighted.

COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION
FORM ON THE ECOLINC WEBSITE
OR REGISTER ONLINE.

