



enviroed4all
environmental education for everyone

Business Name = enviroed4all
Registered to Jeanie Clark, B.A., Dip. Ed, B App Sc, B. Ed.
Environmental educator
365 Rattray Rd, Warracknabeal 3393
PO Box 237 Warracknabeal 3393
Email = enviroed4all@skymesh.com.au
Ph 0535941178
From 13 July 2011
ABN 15 472 932 440

May 22 = International Biodiversity Day. 2014 = International Year of Family Farming.

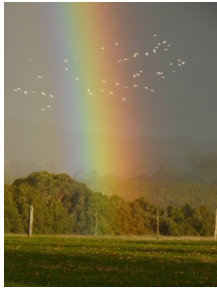


Let's celebrate May 22 - International Day of Biodiversity- with family farms!

Discovering Biodiversity and Farmlands.

On-line resources from Warracknabeal environmental educator Jeanie Clark's websites

A – use the latest family farm snapshots for anyone



The **latest** addition to the **family farms snapshot** collection at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/> is “**with trees came the birds, Langi Banool**”. - the trees&birds-Otways.pdf on this webpage.

It shows what putting back the trees can do for aesthetics and biodiversity – especially the range of birds.

How many species of birds would you expect on a grazing and timber farm?

Compare it with the list on page 5-6.

How many different food plants can you think of growing? Compare it with the list

grown on Langi Banool on page 3-4

And enjoy the beautiful photos of the farm throughout this snapshot from southern Victoria.

For more on biodiversity on farms, on my websites see

- an overview to species groups and photos of other birds and creatures that might be found on farms at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/texels-warracknabeal/care/>
- Biodiversity on farms as a focus at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/biodiversity-on-our-farm/> and subsections there for
 - Black Boxes,
 - European Honey Bees,
 - broadacre crops
 - and weeds.

B – Use farm experience to compare with others– for schools in farm communities.

To prepare for this children will need to do the following at home – or you could ask for them to do it from memory

make a list, or make drawings, or take series of photos to identify all the living things in a particular space.

Classroom discussion uses maths & Science & Sustainability

- How many different species of living things did you find?
 - How do the different farm lists compare? When they share, do they realize there is some they missed out?
 - Put the lists together to get a fuller picture of the diversity of living things on your farms.
- What living thing groups can you sort them into? Eg first level (second) – plants (trees, grasses etc) , animals (2 legs, 4 legs) , and a third level ... it depends on what you have taught in Science already and the level of complexity you want to go to.
 - How are these living things linked on a farmland?
 - You might like to compare this to the list on <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/texels-warracknabeal/care/> or <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/treesbirds-Otways.pdf> .

- To link with the International Year of Family Farming, group your living things by those that 'become our foods' and 'others'. The IYFF slogan is '*feeding the World, Caring for the Earth*'. What things are done, or not done, on your farmland to care for the list of other things?
 - What else could you do to look after the non-food living things on your farmlands?

If you would like to send a list you make to me, I will put it onto my website for the IYFF, to help raise awareness of the awesome Caring for the Earth that happens as a part of farming.

AusVELS curriculum links

Science - Biol level 3 grouping living things, Biol level 4 dependence of living things on each other and environment
 Inquiry levels 1-6 all have different ways to collect and analyse data and communicate ideas
 Use and influence of Science – Levels 1-6 all have growing depth of the ways people use science in daily lives
 Sustainability links –
 OI.2 All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival.
 OI.7 Actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments.

C. Use the snapshots to explore biodiversity on farmlands – for schools of any background

1 **What is biodiversity?** –photo resources at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/biodiversity-on-our-farm/>,

2 **How do we identify a tree?** eg **Black Box** - **features** with photo resources at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/biodiversity-on-our-farm/black-boxes/>

3 What **living things** are linked on a farmland?

Eg 1 **European Honey Bees** – photo resource at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/biodiversity-on-our-farm/european-honey-bees/>

eg 2 What **weed** is that? –photo resources about a weed's features, living things using it, and how it came to Australia as a puzzle, <http://enviroed4all.com.au/biodiversity-on-our-farm/weeds/>

eg3 **groups of living things** on a Wimmera farm with photos at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/texels-warracknabeal/care/>

eg4 There are more examples of **living things (domestic and native)** on family farms in the pdfs at <http://familyfarms.enviroed4all.com.au/family-farm-snapshots/>

4 Some **picture books** that could be read on this topic, with some suggestions for their use, are in the *Read4Nature* section at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/read4nature-2/> .

My favourite picture books for this purpose are :

Waddle Giggle Gargle – note farmland on hills, and *Living in Harmony with Nature* solution at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/read4nature-2/picture-book-reviews/bush-book/waddle/>

Year on the Farm – note pictures show month by month changes at <http://enviroed4all.com.au/read4nature-2/picture-book-reviews/farm-books/year-on-farm/>

My Little Things poetry and drawings to learn about creatures (new, not yet on website)

There are links to many more books (including those reviewed by Jeparit PS in 2012) on these webpages: <http://enviroed4all.com.au/read4nature-2/jeparit-marc/> & <http://enviroed4all.com.au/read4nature-2/ia-wrlc/>

Cost – My materials are freely available on-line, but please let me know that you have used them and how they went - **and** if there is anything that is needed to improve them.

Thanks
 Jeanie

Jeanie Clark , environmental educator, enviroed4all, Warracknabeal
 B.A., B. App. Sc., Dip. Ed., B. Ed. ,
 Email- enviroed4all@gmail.com