

FLEMINGTON FOOD FOREST - TEACHER'S NOTES

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Lesson 4 – Plant needs

Objective:

This lesson explores requirements trees need to survive and thrive.

Activities

1. Brainstorm with the group, the basic needs humans have for survival and then compare them with that of trees. Air, water, nutrients (food), sunlight, shelter (strong winds, hot sun, frost).
2. Maintaining the theme of relating trees to humans explain how stress can suppress your immune system so you are more likely to get sick with a cold. Ask the students to think of how they feel if they get dehydrated and compare it to a tree in drought. Ask them to suggest other ways that trees might get stressed which could lead to them getting diseases e.g. leaves eaten by pests, ring barked by a whipper snipper, frost damage, vandalism, etc.

Extra challenge

- a. Explain photosynthesis and discuss why plants may be important to humans noting that humans breathe in oxygen and out carbon dioxide.

<http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-photosynthesis/>

<http://photosynthesiseducation.com/photosynthesis-for-kids/>

<http://photosynthesisforkids.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1Ymc311XS8>