

Adaptations and changing environments

Rationale

This YEAR 5 UNIT looks at two of the key adaptations of micro-bats - the ability to fly and use echolocation to find food. It also examines how humans have changed natural environments and that a key to protecting micro-bats is through conservation efforts such as installation of artificial bat houses.

This unit is divided into three core lessons, some with multiple activities. The aim is that this unit will take up to nine hours of class time.

Lesson 2.1 Flying mammals

Students are introduced to the term Adaptation and look at how micro-bats have adapted over time to develop specialised features that help them survive. In this lesson, students focus on one adaptation – flying.

Lesson 2.2 Echolocation

Students learn about micro-bats most defining adaptation – the ability to navigate and find their prey using echolocation. This will be achieved through using videos and conducting fun experiments.

Lesson 2.3 Bat houses

Students will learn about the impacts humans have had on micro-bat habitat and the importance of looking after entire ecosystems. Students will research and design a diorama of a bat box before constructing their own bat houses.

Curriculum outcomes

Activity	2.1	2.2	2.3
Science Understanding			
Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment ACSSU043	✓	✓	
Geography			
The influence of people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, on the environmental characteristics of Australian places ACHASSK112			✓
The environmental and human influences on the location and characteristics of a place and the management of spaces within them ACHASSK113			✓
Design and Technologies			
Critique needs or opportunities for designing, and investigate materials, components, tools, equipment and processes to achieve intended designed solutions ACTDEP024	✓		
Generate, develop and communicate design ideas and processes for audiences using appropriate technical terms and graphical representation techniques ACTDEP025	✓		
Select appropriate materials, components, tools, equipment and techniques and apply safe procedures to make designed solutions ACTDEP026	✓		
Develop project plans that include consideration of resources when making designed solutions individually and collaboratively ACTDEP028	✓		
Cross-curriculum priority - Sustainability			
OI.2 All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival.			✓