

The Urrbrae Wetland

Research at the Wetlands

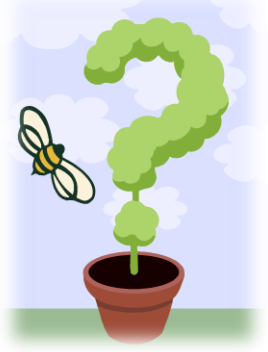
The Research Project

The research project offers you an excellent opportunity to learn more about something that interests you but it also allows you to construct and experience your own learning opportunities outside of a formal classroom setting and what better place to do that than in the tranquil surroundings of the Urrbrae Wetland!

Tips on picking a topic

- Pick something you find really interesting
- Think outside the square and be creative
- Don't just opt for a traditional research project like you are used to
- Have a very clear idea on what you want to achieve but make sure it's doable in the time

Most of you would have experienced the wetlands in the junior school and would know all about its ability to reduce flooding and improve water quality. You might want to know more about this so why not develop a question about the wetlands and then come down and find the answers. On the other hand, it's not just about flooding and cleaning water, the wetlands can offer you endless questions to investigate and research across all subject areas. Below is a list of possible questions you could look into but there are many, many more and I guarantee if you tell me your favorite subject, I can come up with something that will work!



- Are there links between different biotic and abiotic factors? e.g water temperature and biodiversity?, pH, nitrate & phosphate levels? Etc
- Can you make a 3D model of the bottom of the wetland to show how sedimentation has changed it?
- What sorts of birds are present at the wetlands?
- Could you run a program like Urrbrae trails at the wetlands? What would it be?
- What's at the bottom of the wetland?
- What is biological drawing and how is it done?
- What makes for good nature photography?
- What is the easiest way to teach kids how to row?
- Where do the ants go?
- What are the differences between the islands and the mainland?
- What stories can the wetlands tell?
- How did the aboriginals use the plants that are found at the wetlands?
- What makes a good interpretive sign and how could we use this at the wetlands? What should you make the signs out of?

I taught the Research Project in 2010 so I am familiar with its requirements and I am happy to mentor students in 2011. If you think the wetlands could hold the key to finding the perfect research question for you or you just want to talk about some different options send me an email and we'll see what we can come up with.



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