

**Lowveld National Botanical Garden  
 Environmental Education Centre**

**Biodiversity Learning Programmes**

<b>PROGRAMME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
Senses and seasons	Activities to encourage the use of senses, a variety of themes can be explored, E.g. seasons, colours, plants, textures.	R
Sensory Exploration of plant parts	A look at different water bodies and the animals that live in them and their role in the environment.	1
Importance of water and water organisms	A look at life in a pond and other water-related activities	2
Sustainable use of resources	Activity that encourage learners to protect the environment and help them to understand the importance of recycling.	3
Water ecosystems	A look at life in a pond and other water-related activities	4
Ecosystems and inter-relationships	Visit the savannah biome for a field investigation.  Do classification of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. Carry out investigations and construct a food chain and food web.	4
Rocks, soil and life cycles	Looking at different types of rocks and how they are formed. Conservation of biotic and abiotic components of local ecosystems as well as the interdependence of living organisms and soil types.	5
Indigenous plant uses	A practical look at different type of plants used for medicinal purpose and how indigenous systems helped the modern way of using medicinal plant	6
Biodiversity reproduction and classification	Identify and classify the living organisms. Learners are grouped and assigned to look for certain groups of organisms. Some look for plants, insects and birds which will help them with the classification of biodiversity.	7
Ecosystems and inter-relationships	Learning about biotic and abiotic factors by identifying the abiotic aspect of the ecosystem; describing how the abiotic factors of the ecosystem affects living things. Selection and marking off an ecosystem by identifying, counting and describe the plants and animals (biotic factors in the ecosystem) and investigating human interference.	8

Global warming and responses	Look at the challenges and issues related to climate change and global warming.	9
Biomes	A practical look at biomes around SA and examine their adaptation in the different regions and learners will be grouped and assigned to visit the Forest, Savannah and Succulent biomes found in the Lowveld National Botanical Garden.	10
Plant evolution	A practical look at plant classifications or kingdoms and their role in the environment. Learners are exposed to different types of plants from fungi's to vascular plants.	11

**We also offer special programmes and celebrate Environmental calendar days.  
NB: The Centre is open Monday to Friday from 7h30 till 16h00**