



Buds n Blooms

INTERGENERATIONAL GARDEN PLAY

Buds n Blooms Intergenerational Nature Play Group provides a community led, highly enriched, sensory and outdoor learning and play environment for all ages. This is a space to connect with nature and community alike, and to enjoy and be inspired by nature.

The Piney Lakes Education and Environment Centre (PLEEC) program aims to ensure that children and seniors have an opportunity to connect and engage with the environment in a garden based setting, led by our highly skilled gardening and environmental teaching facilitators.

Some of the activities participants may enjoy at Buds n Blooms include: planting and tending to our edible garden, nature art, feeding chickens and collecting their eggs, making food from harvested produce, playing and building in our nature/wild play space, and much more.

Intergenerational Gardening Group Benefits

- Getting outside into nature and the garden
- Engaging in intergenerational interactions
- Engaging all senses
- A nurturing and supportive environment
- Making connections within the community
- Learning about our environment and where food comes from
- Learning about healthy eating
- Developing a sense of place and connection to the land

What happens at Buds n Blooms?

You will be welcomed when you arrive at Buds n Blooms by the Facilitator and/or assistant facilitator. We begin the official session with a special welcome around the circle; as well a brief overview of what wonderful workshop and activities you and your child/children/elder will be experiencing over the morning.

Regardless of what workshop is planned, we will spend time in the garden, and encourage you to pick from the PLEEC Buds n Blooms garden bed. We will have a harvest basket which you can take from at the end of each session, this produce will be picked fresh from the garden throughout the session. We will feed the worm and turn the compost after morning tea, and make a 'garden tea' with herbs from the garden for all to enjoy.

Attendees have the option of joining in on the group activities, watering the PLEEC BnB garden, planting seeds, or simply embracing in some wild play in the garden. Parents/Carers are encouraged to follow their child's/elder's lead.



At Buds n Blooms, we will learn about the environment, the garden and its creatures in a very natural way through flexible sessions. Our planned activities will be adjusted according to the weather.

At morning tea time, everyone is encouraged to bring their own snack, and there will be tea/coffee provided. We will be led by the six Noongar seasons and the growing seasons, bringing rhyme and song to our activities and play. Playgroup will then end with a closing circle/song of farewell till next time.

General Safety

We've conducted a 'Risk Assessment' identifying potential safety hazards and risks, and ask all participants to familiarise yourself with this document prior to attendance. Our Buds n Blooms Facilitator will discuss any important safety concerns and information with you at the beginning of each session.

Please remember, it is your responsibility at all times to ensure that you are close to your child/elder, and able to support them and intervene if/when needed.

Some plants at PLEEC are not edible. It's best not to pick or eat any plants, unless invited to by a knowledgeable Garden Volunteer, or the BnB Facilitator.

PLEEC has Public Liability Insurance.

What is the role of the Buds n Blooms Facilitator?

Our Buds n Blooms Facilitator is present to support and guide, offering ideas for gardening and nature play and art activities for your child/elder to enjoy. Parents/Carers are still responsible for their child/elder at all times, and it is your responsibility to decide what type of activities you feel comfortable with your child/elder partaking in.

Our Playgroup Leader holds a current First Aid Certificate & Working with Children Check.

What should we bring to Buds n Blooms?

Sessions will run outdoors in all weather. Buds n Blooms will have access to the PLEEC undercover area and the Wet Lab facility if there is rain/cold weather.

We suggest bringing change of clothes, gumboots, wet weather gear such as waterproof pants and raincoats in all seasons. Ensure to bring hats, sunscreen & insect repellent. There is access to water onsite. We ask you to bring some morning tea for yourselves and only fruit/vegetables if you wish to share. And we will sometimes make something from the garden for all to enjoy.

Tea and coffee is available free of charge.

What age group is Buds n Blooms suitable for?

All ages from 0-100

Our activities and workshops are structured and directed towards ages 0-7, but remain age inclusive for all to participate in and enjoy.



When and Where does Buds n Blooms take place?

Buds n Blooms at PLEEC is a term program, operating on a fortnightly roster that alternates with PLEEC Story Time. The program takes place on a Tuesday from 9.30-11.30am, gathering at the Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre, Leach Hwy, Winthrop.

Please enter the facility via the rear driveway entrance, and sign in on arrival.

To read more about PLEEC and what we're all about and how to get involved, visit the website at <https://www.melvillecity.com.au/waste-and-environment/piney-lakes>

How do I get involved?

Buds n Blooms has an open doors policy. Bookings are not essential, but we request that you do book to enable us to plan effectively.

Please sign up to the eventbrite link here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/preview?eid=160483830457/>

We do require you to complete a registration form for your family, which can be done here

---> <https://forms.gle/GyjVgnwBqw8MBSEp7>

For any other enquiries please email budsnbloomshhcg@gmail.com

Venue Benefit Risk Assessment

Activity Buds n Blooms at PLEEC	Location Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre, Leach Hwy, Winthrop
Types of activity Gardening, digging, feeding worms, composting, picking fruit/vegetables/herbs, walking, running, exploring, building, walking barefoot, making and playing with mud, playing in the dirt, playing with sticks, painting with mud, water play, loose parts play, exploration of environs, wild play, playing in garden cubby, nature crabs and other self-directed nature-based activities.	
Benefits of these activities	
Activity	Developmental Benefit
Gardening	Exploring how things grow; where food comes from; the elements; the composition of soil; engaging all senses
Playing imaginative games using the resources nature provides	Open ended learning allows children to explore at their own pace and with their own challenges
Observing changes in nature	Making observations, predicting patterns and outcomes
Counting found objects, categorising found objects, finding patterns in nature	Exploring mathematical concepts, visual discrimination
Arranging items to make an installation	Using natural materials creatively; creating with an emphasis on the "journey of doing" rather than the outcome
Life Drawing	Creative; observation of flora, fauna and natural surroundings

Walking on logs and rocks, nature play, wild play	Gross motor co-ordination; body awareness in space and movement; understanding risk and considering actions
Play involving effects of water on our environment e.g. puddles, mud play	Awareness of effects of weather on environment; science: changes; properties of mud, soil

Hazard Identification & Assessment *June 2021 (to be reviewed and updated January 2022)*

Potential Hazard	Precautions / Control Measures	Who / When	Risk Assessment a Ner precau(ons
Sticks/leaves/dirt and ground cover	Inform children/carers of the hazard to allow self-evaluation Remove where appropriate	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Moderate
Weather elements	Sun – keep hydrated, wear sunscreen and protective clothing, seek shelter Rain – wear appropriate clothing, seek shelter if the rain is too strong Extreme cold – wear appropriate clothing. Buds n Blooms goes ahead rain or shine.	Facilitator and carers / ongoing	Low
Garden Beds	The Buds n Blooms garden beds are made from tin and will be filled with compost and soil products. Garden edges can be sharp - please be mindful of these edges and alert children of their sharpness.	Facilitator and carers / ongoing	Low
Insects and arachnids	Direct children and their carers to keep an eye out for insects and spiders. If discovered, wildlife can be observed, and understood. Children will be informed that they should refrain from touching spiders or insects that they find, unless they are considered to be safe	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Low
Falling tree branches	Facilitator will survey the area before each session and assess whether there is an immediate risk of falling tree branches. The Hilton Harvest Committee will be informed if there is any suspicion of risk	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Moderate

Child wandering off in the garden and adjoining Bush areas	Whilst there is plenty of clear space in the PLEEC Community Garden area, we are part of a larger bushland area and there is a lot of space to wander off. Carers will be advised to keep their own children within their sight (and vice versa). Facilitator will provide an extra pair of eyes when possible	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Low
Ponds and Bird baths	There are numerous locations at PLEEC where there are water holding vessels, such as ponds and bird baths. Although these are shallow, there is potential for children to fall in. Please be aware of your children around these areas.	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Moderate
Trees and Ramp railing	Climbing will not be discouraged, however, any child climbing trees or the ramp railing must be supervised by a parent/carer. Any injuries to self or damage will be the responsibility of the individual/s.	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Low
Bushfire	Facilitator will check the current warnings when required	DFES, Facilitator & carers / Bushfire season	Low
Vehicles driving in the compound area and car park	This is possible during arrival and departure from Buds n Blooms, please supervise children at all times	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Low
Slippery surfaces	The PLEEC ramp to the Community Garden area is steep and slippery. Similarly, the pavement in the undercover area can grow slippery algae in the cooler/wet months. Facilitator will remind the attendees of this, especially on wet days. Please be mindful of footing at all times.	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	High
Slips, trips and falls on branches and uneven surfaces.	The bushland and garden areas have uneven surfaces and trip hazards. Please be mindful of footing at all times.	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	High

Snakes	<p>Inform children and carers that snakes live in this environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep in close contact with children at all times • Direct children and carers not to approach a snake. "Stand still, remain calm and wait until the snake moves out of the way" 	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Moderate
Trailers and CoM Nursery Facility	<p>The nearby trailers and CoM Nursery Facility are out-of-bounds areas.</p> <p>These areas have numerous hazards, and should not be accessed.</p> <p>Any damage caused to these facilities will be the responsibility of the individuals causing damage.</p>	Facilitator, children and carers / ongoing	Low

PLEEC Buds n Blooms Registration Form 2021

Online version -----> <https://forms.gle/GyjVgnwBqw8MBSEp7>

SECTION 1 - Your Details *

First Name _____ Surname _____

Email Address _____

Phone No (mob) _____

Address (Suburb) _____

Age group (please circle)

18-24

25-35

35-50

50-75

75+

Emergency Contact – Name _____

Phone No (mob) _____

OPTIONAL Second Parent/Carer Details

Please fill out for the parent/carers who will attend playgroup, and who wishes to be the contact person for the Playgroup.

Should this role be shared a second parent/carers may be added.

Name _____ Surname _____

Email Address _____

Phone No (mob) _____

Are there other attendees in your care? * (please circle)

YES (continue onto section 2) **NO** (go to section 3)

SECTION 2 – Other Attendees Details

Name _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

2nd Attendees Name _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

3rd Attendees Name _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

4th Attendees Name _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

SECTION 3 – Important information and Consent

Things we may need to be aware of

Do you have any cultural or family needs to be respected whilst attending the Buds n Blooms sessions?

Are there any allergies, medical or special needs our Buds n Blooms facilitators need to be aware of?

Venue Benefit Risk Assessment – June 2021 document read and understood (please circle) * YES

NO

Media Consent

Buds n Blooms may take pictures of activities being undertaken by the playgroup for use in media related publications.

Do you consent to yourself and others in your care being included in photographs and film? *

(Please circle)

YES NO Maybe (speak to BnB facilitator)

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____ 2021

What to expect at Buds n Blooms...

Arrival and greeting (9.30am)

Welcome circle (9.40am)

Commence activity (9.45am)

Morning tea time (10.30am)

Feed worms and compost (11:00)

Commence pack away / Farewell families (11.15am)

* times are indicative only