

The guided field trip

Learning outcomes

- Students will be able to measure the health of their local waterways using scientific equipment.
- Students will be able to assess the impact of various pollutants on their local stream.

Teachers' notes

The field trip will be tailor-made for your class. It is a hands-on day where the students explore their local environment, testing the health of two streams. One stream will be almost pristine (usually based in one of Greater Wellington's Regional Parks), while the other may be polluted. The students will become scientists for the day, exploring two streams using the stream report card (**BLM12**). The health of the streams can be measured using biological and sensory 'indicators'. (Have a look at pages 28 and 29 to see what tools we use).

Sample field trip itinerary

9.15am:	Bus picks up the class from school and transports them to a Regional Park.
9.45am:	Action Crew introduce the aims and ground rules for the day.
10am:	Half of the students test the health of the stream whilst the other half goes on a bush walk to learn about the links between water and the rest of the environment.
11am:	Morning tea (hot drinks and cookies provided for adults)
11.20am:	The two groups swap over. One half of the class goes on the bush walk whilst the other half completes the stream testing.
12.45pm:	Lunch (more hot drinks and cookies for the adults)
1.15pm	Bus transports the class to a stream near their school.
1.45pm:	The students test the second stream and report on the comparison between the two streams. If the stream is polluted, they search for clues as to what caused the pollution and what effect it may have.
2.30pm:	Bus takes the class back to school.