

## APOEC Lesson Plan

# NATURE ART

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Supervision Ratio (*Adults:Students*): 1:8

Approximate Session Duration: 1hr

**Nature Art is a great activity that allows students to be creative using natural resources they find around them to create a piece of artwork.**

This activity can be run during a hike to break up the journey or as an activity by itself. The location will be dependent on the theme so it can either be by the river (ie. The Bealey River by JC's track) with a focus on Rock Art or in the bush where students use leaves, sticks and other objects from the natural environment. It could also be run as a wilderness solo to allow individual reflection time.

### **Focuses of the activity could include:**

- Creating a nature gift to another team member with the artwork focusing on their positive attributes
- Creating a piece that represents their experience on camp
- Create the tallest balancing rock tower (calm activity)
- Or it can just be a peaceful time in between activities where students can unwind and take in the scenery.

### **POTENTIAL OBJECTIVES**

- Creative interpretation of natural environment through building structures or creating gifts
- Creative processing and teamwork through achieving a collective goal
- Interaction with the natural environment using balance and co-ordination
- Focused reflection time

### **ADULT BRIEFING**

APOEC staff will run the Lead Adult through this session on the morning of programme based on the chosen activity objectives. This will include activity location, duration and any resources required.

They will then brief the assisting adults on the following points:

- The purpose and structure of the session
- Their roles and responsibilities
- The key safety factors and group management (ie. not throwing rocks, or have a large tower collapse on someone, monitoring groups around the waterways if running it by a river etc.)
- Who has first aid kits, cell phones and radios (if required)
- Any individuals that may require special attention
- Expected weather and how you will deal with it
- Briefing as per Wilderness Solo if running a solo

## **STUDENT BRIEFINGS**

Take students to the site and discuss the desired outcome:

### **BUILDING A ROCK SCULPTURE**

To build an artistic structure out of rocks and present it to the group with a story as to what it represents based on your chosen theme.

### **BUILDING A NATURE SCULPTURE**

To create a nature sculpture using materials from nature (without destroying it – Leave No Trace) based on your chosen theme (i.e. a reflection on your camp experience).

### **CREATING A NATURE GIFT**

To create a nature gift using materials from nature (without destroying it – Leave No Trace) based on your chosen theme (i.e. a reflection on the positive attributes of another team member)

### **KEY POINTS FOR ALL SESSIONS**

- Time limit
- Boundaries (groups must stay away from the river)
- Structure guidelines (i.e. maximum size, use of materials etc.)
- Leave No Trace Principles (do not destroy the environment for this activity)
- Safety points (i.e. no rock throwing)
- Presenting the creations to their peers at the end

#### **For Creating a Nature Gift also brief them on:**

- Examples - show them examples of Nature Sculptures and discuss interpretations to help give guidance.
- Who they are creating a gift for (can pick names out of a hat)

## **SESSION**

- Take the group to a chosen location
- Brief the students as per focus above
- Designate them an area to build
- Adult helpers will be floating around the groups helping out and making sure no one has left the site
- Adult helpers are also there to keep everyone engaged and if on solo, ensure participants are not distracting each other
- Ensure you leave time for presentations at the end

## **DEBRIEFS**

### **ROCK ART/NATURE SCULPTURES**

- What does your artwork represent? What is the story behind it?
- What does your creativity tell you about your time here?

### **NATURE GIFTS**

- How does your gift represent the person you created it for?

### **ALL**

- Was it beneficial to have a relaxed time on camp and reflect on your experience?
- What natural areas do you have around where you live to do these sorts of activities?

## **PACK DOWN**

- Follow Leave No Trace Principles
- If the session is locally (and off track), structures could be left up for the duration of camp for participants to see the effects of the weather too