

VIRTUAL INCURSION DETAILS



YEARS 3-4

Tools and Technology Over Time

VCDSTC025, VCDSTC027, VCDSCD028, VCDSCD029, VCDSCD030, VCDSCD031, VCDTCD025

This incursion explores the tools and technologies utilised in modern and traditional food and fibre production. Throughout the session, students will have the opportunity to hear first-hand from Victorian grains producer, Hugh Macague, about his collection of vintage headers and investigate changes in agricultural practices over time to develop an understanding of the ways innovations in technology have improved productivity, efficiency, safety, and sustainability on farms. Students will explore the ways robots are being utilised to solve agricultural concerns before applying their problem-solving skills to design their own robot to solve a concern in agriculture.



Marvellous Mushrooms

VCSSU057, VCSSU058, VCDSTC025, VCDSTC027, VCDSCD028, VCDSCD029, VCDSCS030, VCDSCD031

This incursion explores the features and needs of mushrooms, sustainable practices in mushroom production, and the journey from paddock to plate. Throughout the session, students will have the opportunity to hear first-hand from Victorian mushroom producer, Georgia from Bulla Park Organic Mushroom farm, before developing their understanding of the life cycle of mushrooms; the ideal conditions mushrooms need to grow; and the observable features of mushrooms. Students will have the opportunity to create a spore print using hands-on materials, and develop an understanding of the way spore prints can be used to identify different types of fungi. Teachers will be provided with two pre-recorded lessons to complete with their class following the live session, including growing mushrooms as a class and designing and creating a prototype of sustainable packaging used for mushroom distribution.



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Vegetable Production

VCSSU057, VCSSU058, VCDSTC025

This incursion explores large scale vegetable production in Victoria and the journey vegetables make from paddock to plate. Students will have the opportunity to hear from Farmer Catherine of Velisha farms, who will explain how different vegetables are grown on her farm and share some of the challenges of being a vegetable producer. Students will complete a range of activities that support key concepts discussed in the video, including an ordering task sequencing and describing the journey from paddock to plate and an exploration into the life cycle of a vegetable plant. Students will finish the session by creating an Arcimboldo inspired horticulture portrait using real vegetables. Teachers will be provided with two pre-recorded lessons to complete with their class prior to or following the live session. These will include: a vegetable dissection task exploring the features of plants, and an exploration into the impacts of temperature on seed germination.



Trees and Me – Sustainable Forestry Exploration

VCSSU058, VCDSTC025, VCSSU057

This incursion explores the concepts of basic forestry, including forest biodiversity and timber resource production. Students will learn about how forests provide essential habitat for living organisms in the environment. During the session, students will hear first-hand from a Victorian Forester about the features of forests, including the importance for biodiversity as well as timber production. Students will work collaboratively to create a 'Forest Food Chain Pyramid' that explores the role of different organisms in a forest system (producers, consumers, decomposers). Students will then have the opportunity to get outdoors, using their senses to observe and record the external features of gum trees and develop an understanding of the stages of growth of a gum tree throughout its life cycle. Teachers will be provided with two pre-recorded hands-on sustainability design challenges (making paper using recycled materials and designing a sustainable toy using materials from trees) for students to complete prior to the live session.

