

REMNANTS GAME



This game provides students with an insight into how the fragmentation of bush can affect biodiversity. Students will learn about habitat loss, overpopulation and breeding problems.

What will you need?

Large sheets of newspaper
Something that plays music - stereo, cassette player etc
At least 16 students

What to do?

1. Find an open space and spread the sheets of newspaper on the ground. They represent trees. Each square sheet can only support four animals, as long as the sheet is in good condition.
2. Music plays. Students imagine they're nocturnal animals or creatures roaming the night.



3. When the music stops, the sun comes up and students need to rush to find a newspaper to stand on.
4. Trees are being cleared for housing developments, roads and shopping centres. Begin to remove newspaper sheets to represent this.
5. Which students aren't standing on a sheet? They represent animals which died because they couldn't get to safe place in time so they leave the game.
6. Continue through the cycle of day and night. As the game continues, the sheets become tatty and torn. These represent over populated areas where there are too many animals in one small part of the bush.
7. Remove some animals. The sheets can now only support two animals.
8. Music plays on. When the music stops, which two animals are left on the sheet? Are they male and female? If not, they won't be able to breed and they will die.

DISCUSSION

Discuss how people impact on the bushland and what we need to do to keep Australia's wildlife alive.