

Fungi, Spores and Micro-organisms

Topic: Rehabilitation

Background Information

The Jarrah Forest is renowned for its diverse flora, therefore restoring botanical richness in the new forests on the mined areas is a difficult, but critical objective for Alcoa. Rehabilitation techniques include returning the naturally seed-rich topsoil, applied seed mix and planting of recalcitrant species. Species such as fungi, spores and micro-organisms return to the Jarrah Forest naturally over time.

What You Need To Do

What Do You Mean?

Give a written or oral explanation of the following –

- (a) Fungi
- (b) Spores
- (c) Micro-organisms.

Identify and classify the fungi, spores and micro-organisms that exist in the Jarrah Forest.

Extension/Alternatives

What adaptations are necessary for these plants to survive in the lateritic soil conditions of the Jarrah Forest (eg. nitrogen fixing, insectivorous plants)?

How do these plants support other plant and animal species in the Jarrah Forest?

The idea for this activity was based on a similar activity developed by the Armadale Primary School in Western Australia as part of an educational program based on Jarrah dieback. For alternative activities relating to dieback in the Jarrah Forest refer <http://www.dwg.org.au/>

Curriculum Links

Society and Environment: Investigation, Communication & Participation, Natural and Social Systems,

Science: Life and Living

Values

Environmental Responsibility

Conservation of the environment:

Sustainable development:

Diversity of species

Links

<http://www.dwg.org.au/>