



Maintaining a Balance and Search for Better Health



Plants for Senior Science



Evolution and Adaptation of Australian Plants

The Community Education Unit at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney offer lessons for Year 11 and 12 Biology and Science specifically addressing syllabus outcomes.

10% saving on these lessons if booked for Term 4 2010

- **Maintaining A Balance and Search for Better Health**

This lesson addresses plant-related key learning areas in 9.2 and 9.4 of the Stage 6 Biology Syllabus. Students will identify specific Australian plants and investigate their adaptations to water, temperature and salinity variations. They will also gather first hand information of evidence of pathogens and insect pests and discuss control methods for managing and preventing plant diseases. These can also be separate lessons.

- **Evolution and Adaptation of Australian Plants**

This lesson focuses on Australian native plants while addressing the outcomes of the Stage 6 Biology Syllabus, 8.5 Evolution of Australian Biota. The activities are student focused and hands on, involving observation of actual plant fossils and examination of plant species growing in the Gardens. Students will examine evolutionary relationships between extinct and extant Australian species, identify evidence of changing environments in Australia over millions of years and describe some mechanisms found in Australian flora for pollination. This can also be a full day activity when combined with The Australian Museum and Taronga Zoo at our Evolution of Australian Biota Study Day.

- **Plants for Senior Science**

This lesson is based on the plant section of the Stage 6 Senior Science Syllabus. The students will be involved in propagating Australian native seeds, especially those that require pre-treatment, visiting our Tropical Centre and 'behind the scenes' places such as the Nursery. They will develop an understanding of the factors that threaten natural environments and how to conserve these environments. The Wollemi Pine will be used as a specific example in the understanding of propagation and conservation.