



## The Blacktown Fishing Bat

*A Geographical Inquiry and eco mystery all rolled into one.*

Blacktown Council needs a team of Geographical Investigators!

In the 1960s, there was a healthy population of Fishing Bats at the site now known as Blacktown Showground. However, since the recent restoration of the wetland at Blacktown Showground, there's hope the bats will return! Students become experts on the intriguing and endangered Fishing Bats and use Geographical Skills and Tools to assess the site for its potential to support a population of Fishing Bats once again. In doing so, students will develop deep knowledge and understanding about the interconnectedness of all aspects of the environment, and how people interact with it. *What can Council and local residents do to help the Fishing Bats return?*

### **Geographical Inquiry Questions:**

- *How do people and environments influence one another?*
- *How do people influence places and the management of spaces within them?*

### **On the day students will participate in;**

**Food:** Investigate food sources for Fishing Bats. Students will dip net for bugs in the wetland. Is there enough food for the Fishing Bat?

**Shelter:** Students search for roosting sites for bats. Are there any dark and gloomy hidey holes for bats to rest up during the day?

**Threats:** Investigate the surrounding bushland and park to identify possible threats to the Fishing Bat. Search for and identify feral invaders and conduct a healthy habitat assessment.

**People:** Students learn about traditional Darug use of the site and identify traditional uses for plants and animals.

**Syllabus Links:** *Geography – Stage 3 Factors That Shape Places (GE3-1, 2, 3, 4)*

**Free excursion at  
Blacktown Showground**

Eligible to all schools in Blacktown LGA.  
Conditions apply.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRES: INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION INTO CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNING**