VCE Biology Unit 2, Area of Study 2

Field Study – Investigating Australian Ecosystems

Based on a visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne or similar.

Answers should be written on this sheet but may extend on to the back if needed.

1. Explain the term community. Give an example.
2. What is the most common way of naming communities?
3. Give an example of mutualism in plants. Explain how this form of symbiosis is demonstrated.
4. Give an example of parasitism in plants. Explain how this form of symbiosis is demonstrated.
5. Describe two adaptations that plants have to survive fire.
6. List some of the adaptations plants exhibit that help them to cope with water stress.
7. List some adaptations that plants possess to cope with hot and arid conditions.
8. Explain the term succession. Describe how succession occurs after a fire.
9. Many saltmarsh plants (e.g. Beaded glasswort) are described as succulent plants:
10. What are succulent plants?
    1. Suggest how this adaptation might help their survival in the saltmarsh environment.
11. List and explain two abiotic factors that mangrove plants have to overcome.
12. Quadrats and transects are sampling techniques used in field studies of ecosystems:
13. What is the difference between the two techniques?
14. What parts of an ecosystem would be most accurately sampled using these techniques?
15. Other techniques are used to sample certain organisms in an aquatic ecosystem. Name one technique and suggest why it is necessary.