

Activities Supervised by Billabong Staff Primary Students

Equine Empowerment & Animal Handling

Choose one or more of our horse based activities to empower your students with self-confidence.

Our horse grooming and horse riding activities are a great way to bestow confidence, self-worth and new skills on your students. Naturally intimidating to many, horses are large & powerful. This creates a natural opportunity for some to overcome fear & develop confidence. Working alongside a horse, in spite of those fears, create confidence and provides wonderful insight when dealing with other intimidating & challenging situations in life.

By participating in a safe and effective environment, students learn new skills, overcome fears or phobias and break down peer group barriers. Children thrive off the human-animal bond that forms, discovering that horses are friendly, gentle and accepting. A great activity to get the majority of students to step outside their comfort zone, even those who are uncomfortable around horses can have a meaningful experience.

Horse Grooming

A fantastic activity for all ages. Prior to handling the horses students will be given a demonstration on how to safely lead and manage their horse, where to groom, parts of the horse etc. Students will then be allocated a horse between two people to work with for the lesson.

Horse Trail Ride

This activity is a great one for taking students out of their comfort zones and for many of them encouraging them to face fears & try something new. Students will be instructed & assisted in mounting & dismounting from a horse safely, how to ride a horse including correct position for sitting on a horse, how to steer & stop a horse.

The trail will follow the tracks around the bush & farmland with longer rides following the Goulburn & Murray Rivers. The trail ride will be conducted at a level suitable to all participants.

Horse Riding Lesson

Students will be instructed & assisted in mounting & dismounting from a horse safely, how to ride a horse including correct position for sitting on a horse, how to steer & stop a horse. This is a more intense instructive environment conducted in one of our enclosed arenas.

Low Ropes

Improve interpersonal development, communication, co-operation & team work skills as students navigate the 21 obstacles.

The Low Ropes Course provides an opportunity for individual and group challenges, requiring the application of both individual and team skills. They can be mentally challenging and promote group support, increased physical strength, co-ordination and agility. Trust, encouragement and support are promoted throughout this activity. Students work towards achieving goals within a set time frame.

Commando Course

Coordination & use of locomotor skills are essential for students to make their way through a series of challenging obstacles.

The Commando Course is set up so that a number of students can participate at one time. The 2 identical parallel lanes, each with a number of different obstacles, allowing students to begin their turn while others are still on the course. Races can be organised after a few individual practices on the course, taking the challenges of the course to a whole new level. Our extended course requires students to work as a team to conquer some of the obstacles. Communication and co-operation will definitely enhance this activity.

Archery

Students use hand eye co-ordination to hit a target or pop a balloon!

Archery is a specialised activity that allows students to shoot an arrow from a bow into a target on a wall or hay bale. It aims to provide participants with a new recreational experience that will develop psychomotor skills and increase self-confidence. Billabong offers either an indoor or outdoor archery range with a variety of targets to aim at. A billabong staff member will give students a safety demonstration including how to load, aim and release your arrow from the bow correctly. Then see how the children thrive on the excitement of having their own turn. Games and competitions can be organised with a number of scoring systems possible with the targets used. This activity is great for self esteem as even the least athletic can be the champion archer.

Pedal Boats

Enjoy a peaceful paddle or race your friends across the dam.

The Pedal Boats are one of our most popular and fun activities. It caters for both sporting and non-sporting students, as they can make the activity as physical and challenging as they prefer. It is a great way to promote team work and for the students to learn a little about boat and water safety. The construction of the pedal boats promotes stability in the water. Life jackets are provided and must be worn by all participants. Students also discover that not all modes of transport react immediately to direct steering. Wind, pedal power & even weight distribution will have different effects.

Initiative Games

Watch as students think outside the box and use team strategies to create optimum outcomes.

Initiative games offer a series of fun & clearly defined tasks for students to carry out in groups. Each situation is designed so the group must use co-operation and some physical or mental effort to gain the optimum outcome. Participants engage in the problem and take advantage of the combined mental and physical strengths of the team. Students will feel rewarded by their innovative thinking and cooperation.

Aussie Frisbee Golf

Think it's easy? Think again! This challenging course takes you on a trip around Australia.

Ultimate Frisbee Golf is a fun and educational activity that moves children through different towns and cities of Australia on their journey to get the best score possible. The aim is to hit each post with the Frisbee in the least number of throws. A range of colourful cut outs makes for great photo opportunities along the way.

Bouldering

Test your student's endurance as they climb along the longest bouldering wall in Australia.

Bouldering is a specialised activity that is presented and supervised by a Billabong staff member. Billabong has the longest wall in Australia with 30 metres of climbing. The aim is for students to climb from one end to the other using one of 3 different routes. Routes are colour coded with beginner climbers using both coloured rocks, intermediate climbers using only yellow rocks and advanced climbers using only green rocks. Students will be given time at the beginning of the lesson to see how far they can get along the wall. After the free climb the supervising Billabong staff member will facilitate a number of games and races for the students. Students work in pairs and teams throughout this activity playing games such as Twister & tag team races. Team spirit, motivation & encouragement are a great part of the bouldering games.

Mini Golf

A fun and challenging small group activity.

The Mini Golf course is located indoors in the main reception area. The students work together in teams to navigate the course, there are 18 holes, each with a different theme and some with sensor activated sounds. Mini Golf is designed to offer good fun and a little bit of a challenge. It can also assist to increase self confidence as little physical fitness is required to excel.

Trivia Walk

A wonderful introductory lesson & a great way to test your student's observational skills.

The Trivia Walk is an enjoyable activity which allows the students to get familiar with the Ranch and its staff, buildings and animals. There are set questions given to each group and prizes available for the winning team. When students get stuck on a question they really have to put their minds to work as our staff can only give an answer if the students come up with an alternate question to ask. Communication, co-operation & team work will reveal the winning combination.

Roping

Give students the opportunity to learn a real cowboy skill.

Roping provides participants with a new and different recreation experience, which is challenging and can assist to increase hand-eye co-ordination & burn off excess energy. Participants will be instructed on the origin & fundamentals of roping. They will then participate in a hands on roping lesson, followed by a fun game of 'Rancher' which involves the whole group.

Introduction to Orienteering and Orienteering Courses

Test your student's navigational skills.

Introduction to orienteering gives students a chance to gain the skills needed to navigate their way through the orienteering courses. It covers compass work and allows students to really get their bearings on the ranch.

Orienteering focuses on the use of set directions and compasses to navigate the designated courses. Students set out in teams to complete the different courses and gain great satisfaction from orienteering successfully in the bushland environment. This fun, energy burning activity can allow the students to learn some important life skills and a sense of responsibility with different team members having certain roles.

Bush First Aid D.R.S.A.B.C.D what does it mean?

Bush First Aid has been designed to give students some basic knowledge of the skills required in a First Aid situation. The activity touches on basics such as items required to survive in the bush through to the fundamentals of D.R.S.A.B.C.D and what to do in first aid situations such as snake and spider bites. They will learn where and how to correctly check for a pulse and how to correctly put a patient into the 'Recovery Position'. Our Bush First Aid instructors are Qualified Level 2 First Aiders.

Bungee Trampolines

High Flying Fun

The bungee trampolines are a favourite for students of all ages. Billabong staff will fit a harness to the student and connect them to the bungee. Students of all fitness levels can enjoy the excitement of flying high while being safely connected. It caters for both sporting and non-sporting students, as they can make the activity as physical and challenging as they prefer.

Camel Rides

Ships of the Desert

Take a ride on these beautiful animals. An experience not to be missed & you don't have to travel to Central Australia to participate.

These animals have a huge history with this country as explorers used them to traverse the sparse country in years gone by. They also share their Australian history with Echuca as they were beasts of burden carrying wool bales and supplies.

Self-Guided Activities

Swimming

Cool off after a big day or wake up with a dip in the pool. An undercover swimming pool is provided by Billabong Ranch. Swimming can be added into the itinerary as a way for students to relax and cool off. In summer some schools choose to substitute beach volleyball with a swim instead.

Beach Volleyball

Enjoy a small piece of the beach way out in the country. Billabong ranch has a beach volleyball court that is available for your use. Volleyball is a self guided activity and can be conducted in a number of ways depending on your preference. Teachers can also allow the students to use the outdoor ten pin bowling & slide area.

Evening Activities

Night Walk

Hate being cooped up after dark? Why not take a stroll.

The night walk is a great way to view the sights and sounds of the Ranch, surrounding farmland and bushland at night. There is also the possibility of viewing some nocturnal creatures in their natural habitats. The students also get the chance to take one or two of our Farmyard critters along for the walk. A clear night will also reveal stars that city students may not be able to view at home. The night walk is the perfect energy burning activity prior to bed time.

Campfire Evening

Relax and enjoy the warmth of a campfire evening.

The campfire evening is a great opportunity for groups to sit together and have a chat, a sing along, recall the events of the day or just relax! It can encourage students to socialise outside of their normal peer groups. So if your students or staff are musically talented please feel free to bring along your instruments. There is an optional Whip Cracking or Fire Twirling display available and toasting Marshmallows is always a favourite.

Red Faces

Conduct your own talent night in the hall.

Red faces is a talent night that can be held on one of your camp evenings. You can conduct the night as you prefer with students performing in groups or individually. Practise time can be added into the itinerary to allow students to really get creative with their ideas.

Movie Night

Watch your favourite movie on the big screen.

Teachers can choose to use the projector to watch a movie one night or even as an additional activity after the night walk or campfire evening.

Demonstrations

Working Horse Demonstration

Witness some true blue cattle work first hand.

The working horse demonstration is an introduction to the fundamentals of stock work. Students will witness some steady precision work in the working horse arena as well as high speed stock work in the main arena.

Working Dog Demonstration

Be awe struck by the closeness of dog and owner.

Students will have the complex rules of sheep dog trials explained followed by a brief DVD. Then head to the paddock & watch as the border collies demonstrate their ability to work sheep. Ask questions and discuss the basics in training and maintaining working dogs with the owner