



**Ballarat Botanikids Presents:**

**Great Ballarat Botanical Gardens Family Adventure Trail**

Name

**School Holiday Special Walk**

**Age suitability :6-12yrs**

***Caramel Slice***

Bake this classic yummy slice to take with you on your walk  
Its so easy but so delicious.

For gluten free replace flour with GF flour works very well .

***Recipe:***

Base - 1 cup p flour, 1/2 cup brown sugar, 1/2 cup desiccated coconut, 125g butter  
(melted )

mix together and press down flat in 28×18cm tray.

Bake for 15 min or golden brown on 180oC.

Take out to cool while making caramel.

Caramel- 125g butter melt over medium heat add 1/2 cup brown sugar whisk constantly til bubbles appear, add can of condensed milk and whisk again for a bit. Don't leave it can easily burn

Pour caramel over cooked base and cook for 12 min in oven on 160oC.

Once cooked let it rest and put in fridge for an hour.

Chocolate- block of dairy milk cooking choc and tablespoon vegetable oil, microwave until melted stirring in between. Once done add over top of caramel, back in



fridge for an hour.To cut take out of fridge 10min or so earlier to let it soften slightly.

***Make this together as a family the day before you go on the adventure trail .... For your picnic treat!***

**Important: Before you begin think about the below list :**



(Optional : Pick a little bunch of flowers or even just a sprig of rosemary from your garden to leave at the first spot on the walk which is the POW memorial



***Also it would be good to take***

Water, fruit and your holiday treat caramel slice for a picnic or snack break

Notebook, pencil

Use of Camera and magnifying glass on phone is

useful (adults )

***Adults if you like to check ahead you may like to check websites and site maps for details :***

<https://walkingmaps.com.au/walk/5878>

<https://www.btm.org.au/>. [Tramway Museum]

<https://www.powmemorialballarat.com.au/>. [Check out education resources especially for your serious minded kids ]

<https://fbbg.org.au/friends-group/educating-friends> Lots of worksheets and ideas here

***Start your walk now for from POW Memorial***

It's at the very start of the Southern part of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens (corner of Carlton St and Wendouree Pde )

Walk through the beautiful memorial and it's where we are quiet and respectful.

See many names of people who were very brave during very difficult times in our war history.

Leave your flowers or rosemary if you respect for their courage.

you prepared any to show



Now head out of the Memorial and towards the

head north along the path

*Tramway Museum*

***Adults: check the cost of entry and hours of opening but entry does cover the cost to a tram ride Webpage above.***



This Museum has so much for you to see and do so take the time to explore play and learn.

Should take you at least an hour

Now come out of the Museum and head into the Gardens

Note toilets close by [just thought its worth a mention at this stage!]

***Proceed into the Gardens.***

You'll pass a wire fence on the left look in to see various ponds and usually netting over them



This is the **Fish Hatchery** where literally many thousands of fish have been bred to distribute to farmers , landowners and local councils to stock with fish, rivers lakes and dams

Well worth a visit on another day perhaps. See their website for details

Continue walking on main path into

the Gardens pass a now disused glasshouse

***Notice the*** beautiful trees especially ***a big oak*** a good one to take a rest under and perhaps have a drink and a snack Hope you have brought a rug.

Now you are refreshed :

Continue walking along the main path still heading North until you come to the **Prime Ministers Avenue**

**[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime\\_Ministers\\_Avenue#:~](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Ministers_Avenue#:~)**

These are the sculpted busts of all the Prime Ministers we have had in Australia to the present day.

Its good to remind ourselves here that Australia is a democracy and as such we should be grateful we have the freedom to vote for our governments.

These Prime Ministers have led those governments ever since we became a nation in our own right.

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***Activities:***

Just for fun find the PM that was in power when your parents [or teachers] were your age.

Now try to work out which PMs were in power during your grandparents childhood?  
Find the only female PM  
Write these PMs names in your notebook to investigate their story when you get home if you want to know more about them

***Want to know more? Note the Prime Ministers information on the FBBG website too***

Keep an eye out for a big gum tree near the large round fountain on your left  
Take a little detour and give that tree we call 'Bluey' a great big hug!  
The tree is called Bluey because it's leaves can be a bluey green  
This tree is so special in the Gardens, read it's label, take a photo and learn all about it and other beautiful trees on

***Want to know more : Significant Trees Walk - FBBG website - Friends of Bal-larat Botanical Gardens***

Keep walking until you get to the end of the PMs Avenue [Which is actually the start!]

***The big beautiful Turkey Oak Tree spreading its branches over the path.***

There are no turkeys in the branches so are you wondering why it's called a Turkey Oak?

See if you can find out when you get home or have a few guesses. Its a bit tricky.

On the left enter the lovely space of the Conservatory the big glass house to see the wonderful displays of seasonal plants showcased. Check to see it is open as the displays are changed each season and sometimes the Conservatory has to close for cleaning and maintenance

These displays are part of the Botanical Gardens collections of plants and are world class in their quality, varieties and propagation standards.

*Wonder what propagation means ? Look it up*

***This is a bit important :***

Botanical Gardens are places for visitors to enjoy a variety of plants in beautiful settings but also a place to research and share information about how plants grow, are nurtured and can be sustained over time in this region of the world.

Find your favourite colour plant displayed

Try finding different coloured leaves as well as flowers



Read the labels and write them down in your notebook to learn more about them if you wish

Creating beautiful displays of various plants requires a great deal of work, science and of course support.

***This is really for you to consider***

In the Conservatory there is a donation hub as you leave the Conservatory on your left as part of the Friends of the Gardens display where you can choose to donate \$ using your card to the Ballarat Botanical Gardens Foundation who work to support the Friends of the Gardens and special projects within the Gardens. Find out more

As you come out of the Conservatory take the path on the right and walk to the heritage Statue House and see the beautiful marble statues .

Statue House Ballarat Gardens



You'll feel like you are in a different world

Here you will see world class amazing marble statues carved and created as part of very generous donations to the Gardens by kind people who made their fortune as part of the gold rush in Ballarat in the 19th Century !

After you have had a good look at each statute and worked out your favourite one go outside through the north facing door and check out the time on the garden sun dial.

Now proceed to the raised fish ponds.

Time to count the fish in the pond ? How many did you see?

Keep going along the path with the fish pond on your left and over a wooden slatted pathway past the new Fernery building

This is just very new and was built to copy the huge Fernery that was there many years ago Explore the new ferns and displays.

Now before you walk past the Fernery building notice the white sculpted water feature

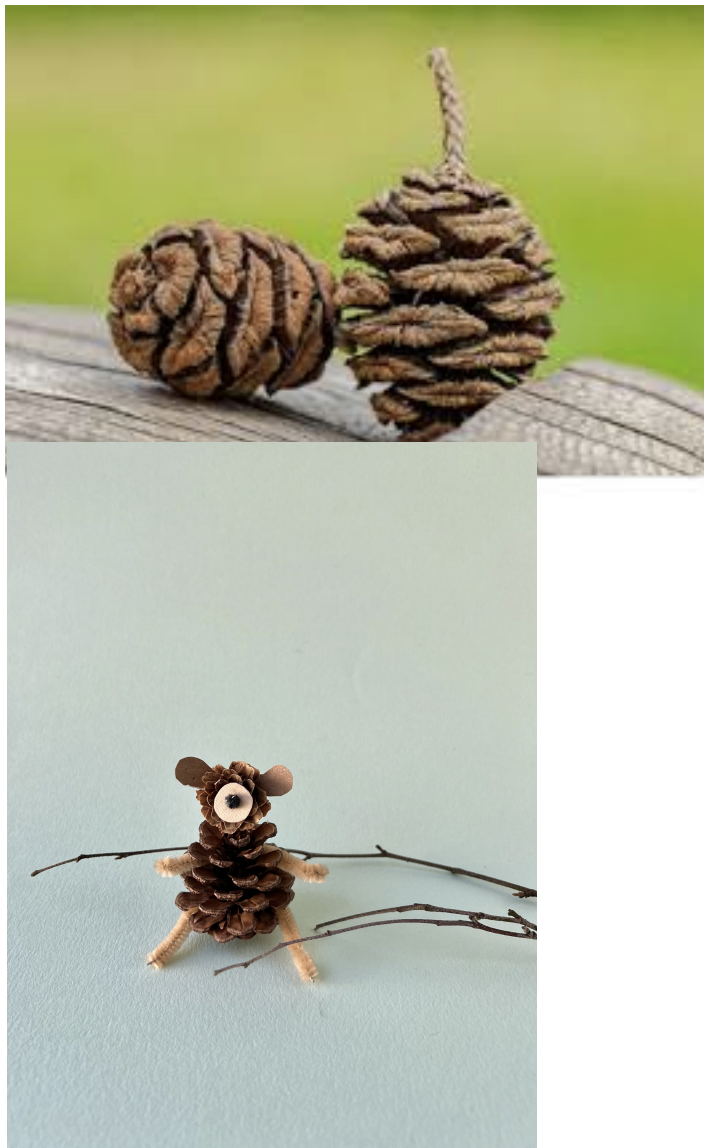
This is called the Claxton Fountain See if you can spot as many animals as you can carved within the decorations ? How many did you see and what were they?

Now walk on the north pathway towards the toilets

Keep walking along the windy path until you see a gate

That will lead you out of the Gardens and further along to the left you'll see the little Gatekeepers Cottage





***That is your final stop***

A good place to rest, take a drink at the taps or open the gates at the front of the Cottage and find a smooth stone for the front path to take home

Talk about your adventures and have a snack on the deck behind the Cottage or on the verandah

Water taps are drinkable water

This Cottage is called the

Gatekeepers Cottage and is the home base of Ballarat Botanikids

This group help children and visitors to the Gardens learn and enjoy about the different plants and the history of the area.

Adults may wish to organise the Cottage to open for your visit contact Gatekeepers Cottage convenor 'Julie' 041911934 for a set time and appointment.

Just nearby the Cottage are giant trees look up and see the giant trunks reaching up high

Find some cones on the ground to make weird animals with craft glue at home

Time to go home and make your crazy animals with your cones sticks and leaves !!!

Or find out more facts by investigating the web links

Hope you enjoyed your Botanikids Adventure and the Caramel Slice was yummy in your picnic !!

Hope you made your crazy animals!

Julie Bradby

Convenor Ballarat Botanikids ,

President, Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens

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The Friends of the Ballarat Botanical Gardens respectively acknowledge the original custodians of the land on which these Botanical Gardens are situated