Forestry Education Centre

On Tuesday, we went to the Forestry Education Centre in Melville Street in Hobart. We went there to learn more about forests.

We went there by bus from Mt Nelson Primary School. When we got there we were greeted by Darcy and Sarah. Sue also came with Bu Ingrid. Five minutes later, Tarn’s dad Andrew came. We first learnt about what made a forest. What made a forest were insects, fungi, animals, trees, moss, lichen and birds. Next we went outside to build insect traps. I was hopeless. Then Aaron J and I went outside to identify trees. It was fabulous. Also we looked at what in the forest was the most common. It was the bugs. The least was the mammals. Then we went inside to look through microscopes. I got freaked out when I looked at a wasp because I am freaked out by wasps, bees and mostly of all, Bumblebees. Then I identified what bug ate which eucalyptus leaf. It was really cool. I also learnt that the most abundant tree in Tasmania is the eucalyptus tree. Also there is a Huon Pine on Mt Read that is over a thousand years old. Then we also did a carbon journey into plants, the sea, the atmosphere, rocks and animals. It was great fun. I got stuck on the rocks and atmosphere sections for absolutely heaps of turns. We also learnt that the three most common types of forests in Tasmania are dry temperate rainforest, dry eucalyptus forests and wet eucalyptus forests. Eucalyptus trees have oil glands in them that make them burn more easily. That seems pretty strange but Eucalyptus trees can’t spread there seeds unless a fire comes along. Only the oldest trees survive because they have a bigger canopy so the actual main tree wouldn’t be damaged as badly. Even if most of the trees die, the seeds start a new generation of new trees. If any of the trees do survive, they will sprout epicormic shoots. The trees we had to look for and identify included dogwood and sassafras. We also have other types of forests in Tasmania. It was a great trip.

Aaron, Andrew and myself.



In the end, the trip was a success and I learnt a lot. It was also a fun time learning about all the plants and animals. I hope we go next year.