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Field activities should be conducted in the summer months (i.e. February, March and April) when dung beetles are most active.

Using this module ••

From this module teachers can develop individualised units to demonstrate core learning outcomes in the key learning areas of Science and Studies of Society and Environment.

The activities are suitable for middle- to upper-primary and lower-secondary levels. While most are aimed at levels 3 and 4, some could be adapted easily for levels 2 and 5.

Rationale

The activities will:

- help students to understand the pivotal role of the dung beetle in the future health of Queensland's environment and beef industry
- encourage students to actively investigate the role of the dung beetle in natural resource management.

This module, which supports the NHT Queensland Dung Beetle Project, comprises:

- Background information for teachers and students
- Other supporting information and references
- Activities
- Resource sheets and background notes

Main ideas

This module introduces students to the important functions that dung beetles perform by rapidly returning animal manure to the soil, including:

- recycling nutrients
- promoting pasture growth
- improving the quality of run-off from pastures
- reducing fly breeding habitat.