

JUNGLE LEARNING POD

Program Guide

Program Overview

Jungle Learning Pod is designed for curious minds aged 9–14, combining the power of STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics — with literacy, art, permaculture, and nature-based learning. This unique program delivers real-world education that inspires independent learners and critical thinkers, encouraging kids to explore, create, and problem-solve in ways that spark a lifelong love of learning. By blending academics with hands-on projects and a deep connection to the natural world, Jungle Learning Pod helps children build the confidence, creativity, and skills they need to thrive — now and in the future.



Real world education to create independent learners and critical thinkers.



About Me

Your Learning Pod Facilitator



Hi, I'm Matt, a passionate educator dedicated to creating engaging learning experiences that spark curiosity and build confidence in young minds. I hold a PhD in Science and Technology, a Master of Science with Honours, a Bachelor of Earth Sciences, and a Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching. With over 15 years of teaching experience and a strong industry background, I bring both academic depth and real-world relevance to the classroom.



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+6421358334

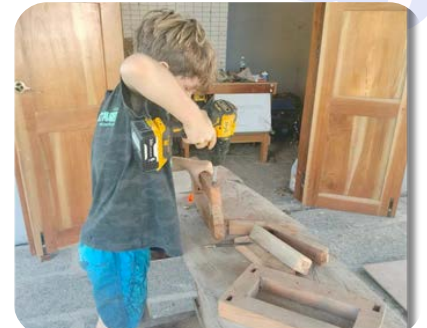


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As both an educator and a parent, I understand the importance of helping children feel supported, inspired, and empowered. My approach is hands-on, inquiry-driven, and student-centered, encouraging learners to think critically, solve problems creatively, and connect lessons to the real world.

I've taught STEM subjects from junior to senior levels, guided students to success in national competitions, and led real-world projects such as sustainable energy installations and innovative design builds. I've also mentored early-career teachers and facilitated professional development workshops on topics like differentiated learning and boys' education.



Before teaching, I worked in scientific and technical roles managing teams and leading quality assurance initiatives, experiences that taught me the value of communication, planning, and collaboration — all of which shape my teaching practice.

What excites me most about the learning pod model is its flexibility to adapt to each child's pace, strengths and interests while nurturing core STEM skills. My goal is simple: to help every child become a confident, independent learner who enjoys the process and feels proud of their progress.

Mission and vision

My vision for the Jungle Learning Pod is to create a dynamic and supportive space where children feel safe, and are curious and motivated to explore learning. I want each student to develop not only strong STEM foundations but also the confidence, resilience, and problem-solving skills that prepare them for life. At the Jungle Learning Pod, children will be encouraged to ask questions, think critically, and grow into independent learners who see knowledge as an adventure.



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Curriculum Philosophy

The Jungle Learning Pod curriculum is guided by a blend of challenging and meaningful learning, creativity, and real-world application. I believe in an inquiry-based, student-centered approach that encourages children to explore, investigate, and create. While core skills in literacy and numeracy are taught explicitly and reinforced daily, much of the wider curriculum is delivered through authentic projects that connect learning to real-world contexts. Collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity are woven into every lesson. Most importantly, I want children to enjoy the process of learning, developing not only knowledge but also curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong love for discovery.

Activity Examples

Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sketching• Formal Drawing• Modeling
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction Skills - Tools & Machines• Project management• Group & Independent Projects
Electronics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soldering• Circuits
Robotics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programming• Scratch Coding
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earth Sciences, Science Experiments• Biology, including microscope use• Physics, Including rockets
Art	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Painting & sketching on a variety of media, including canvas• Montages
Permaculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organic growing• Composting• Making organic, environmentally-friendly pesticides & Fertilisers
Hydroponics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Theory & Construction



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Daily Schedule Example

Up to 3 Days per Week – 4 Hours per Day

Activity	Duration	Description
Welcome & Connection	25 minutes	Morning circle, mindfulness, and setting intentions for the day.
Core Learning Block	60 minutes	Introduced activity and focused skill – e.g., sketching, measuring, design skills, and science activities tailored to student levels.
Movement & Recharge	35 minutes	Outdoor play, movement, and healthy snacks.
Inquiry & Projects	90 minutes	Hands-on, project-based learning in STEM, design, and creative arts. Students learn by solving problems, experimenting, building, and testing ideas.
Reflection & Wrap-Up	30 minutes	Sharing progress, peer feedback, and goal-setting for the next session.



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Investment & Times

Final details on costs and times are still being finalised. However, depending on demand, I will be running a trial in the second half of September to give families a chance to experience Jungle Pod (\$20 dollars per day per child). The official launch is set for Tuesday, 4th November.



Let's Chat

DM MATT



[+6421358334](https://wa.me/6421358334)

