



EDUCATION

Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater (H-14)

The Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater features plenty of ag-ucational activities for children, including the Field to Fork interactive rural journey.

It's vital the next generation understands that everything starts with agriculture, from the food they eat to the clothes they wear.

Ekka is Queensland's largest classroom, with more than 30,000 children inspired, educated and entertained each year over the 10 days of show.

FIELD TO FORK

Kids will once again be taken on a rural journey, as they discover how food gets from the field to their fork. In order of the agricultural cycle - composting, soil analysis, growing and planting, harvesting and processing - they'll take part in the following activities.

■ Composting

This activity highlights the importance of compost in soil health. Kids will learn methods for at home composting, as they take part in fun interactive activities including lifting flaps to find composting fun facts and pulling out draws to see the different layers of a compost bin. The kids will also see a live wormery, before weighing themselves to find out just how much they would have to eat if they were a worm. Worms eat up to half their body weight each day and for a 30kg kid that's equivalent to around 18 loaves of bread!

■ Growing and Planting

Kids will learn how to identify different types of fruit and vegetables. They'll get their hands dirty as they dig through the Farmers Patch, finding five different types of vegetables including potatoes and carrots. Raised garden bed kits from Vegepod will also be used to teach kids about growing and planting. They'll learn how to water, protect, contain and harvest edible plants in an urban environment, all through organic means - and they'll even get to plant seeds themselves. Bee

Yourself will then tell the children all about how native stingless bees are great pollinators for plants.

■ Harvesting

Kids will be given 15 minutes to carry out farming related tasks on a PS4 game, such as harvesting, looking after farm animals, selling fresh produce and investing in farming vehicles and tools.

■ Processing

Kids will learn about the grain to flour process through the Grain Chain. They'll touch and grind wheat, oats and barley, before taking an interactive grains quiz. This activity will teach the kids what's involved in turning grains into consumable commercial products.

■ Cooking

Kids will be inspired as they learn to make a delicious and healthy corn and vegetable fritter at the Get Kids Cooking activity - perfect for their school lunchbox! In this step by step cooking class, they'll get hands-on as they measure, mix, grate, chop and bake, before getting to enjoy their delicious fritter.

All Field to Fork activities run from 9am to 6pm.

seqwater

When: 9am to 6pm

Kids will H2-GO to seqwater's stand to get a lesson in all things water. Children will learn to appreciate the value of water; understand how water works and where it comes from; learn how to conserve water through everyday sustainable practices; and find out why seqwater has to plan for the future by exploring alternative water sources. Their stand will include the following activities.

■ Augmented sandpits

Two augmented sandpits are seqwater's main attractions. Under a projector, the seemingly normal sandboxes become virtual topographical maps, with a sensor detecting changes in the elevation of sand in real time, allowing kids to create their own hills, valleys and lakes and simulate rainfall. The virtual reality sandboxes teach kids the catchment story (conserve), the drought story (understand) and the seqwater grid (plan).

■ Interactive Projections

Standing in front of a projection screen with sensor-based technology, children will have the ability to control water related outcomes. This activity helps kids to appreciate the value of water and shows them what will happen if they don't conserve water.

■ Free Rivers

Kids will learn all about the water cycle through an AR experience on an iPad. Viewing a river system with pop up information boxes, they'll see how rain gets from cloud to river. This activity is designed to help children understand where water comes from.

■ Desalinated Water

Children will get to taste desalinated water, which is salt water with the mineral components extracted. They'll learn that in the future new water sources may be needed, including desalination plants (plan).

■ Green Screen

Standing in front of a green screen, children will pick a water-related background to feature in. Once the camera flashes, they'll receive a photo to display in their room, to remind them what they learnt at the seqwater stand at Ekka.



Queensland Beekeepers Association

When: 9am to 6pm

Kids will 'bee' amazed as they learn about the types of honey, including the different uses for it, at the Queensland Beekeepers Association stand.

There will also be honey extraction demonstrations throughout the day, with the experts showing the kids how honey is stored by bees and how it's collected by the beekeeper.

The kids will also get hands-on at 12.30pm each day, using beeswax to make candles and creams.

Reef Think Tank

When: 9am to 6pm

Kids will dive into learning all about the Great Barrier Reef during the International Year of the Reef.

Run by the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and Department of Environment and Science, children will find out what makes the Great Barrier Reef one of the seven natural wonders of the world, what the biggest challenges facing the Reef are today and why they should care.

They'll learn the science and on-ground conservation actions helping to keep the Reef great; investigate the actions on land that affect the Great Barrier Reef to uncover the surprising connections between catchments and coral; and explore how they can help rid the Reef of plastics and pollutants to ensure there is a Great Barrier Reef for future generations.

AROUND THE GROUNDS

Ekka Learning: A Dam Good Trail presented by seqwater

When: Daily

Where: Throughout the Showgrounds

Kids will be inspired as they follow the Ekka learning trail each step of the way.

There are 10 exciting trail points this year - more than ever before - with the kids given a letter at each checkpoint to spell a special code word.

Once they finish the trail and have the word, they can enter online to win seqwater merchandise.

- Trail Point 1: Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater - meet you at

the dam

- Trail Point 2: Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater - meet a fish
- Trail Point 3: Government area - meet the Get Ready team
- Trail Point 4: The Old Museum - meet a scarecrow
- Trail Point 5: Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion - meet the food
- Trail Point 6: Horse Breeds Expo - meet a horse
- Trail Point 7: Dog Pavilion - meet a show dog
- Trail Point 8: The CRT Pavilion - meet a cow
- Trail Point 9: The CRT Pavilion - meet a chook
- Trail Point 10: Woodchop Arena - meet a woodchopper

Race Around Ekka presented by Activate Entertainment

When: 13 & 14 August

Where: Throughout the Showgrounds

Students from grades 7 to 12 will have the chance to become budding film makers as they race around Ekka - planning, scripting, directing, shooting, editing and producing TV commercials and documentaries.

The competition is divided into three classes (Class 1 - years 7 and

8; Class 2 - years 9 and 10; and Class 3 - years 11 and 12), with students in Classes 1 and 2 creating a 30 second ad highlighting the agricultural aspects of the show and students in Class 3 making a 90 second documentary on Ekka's competition exhibitors.

First place winners will receive a half-day short film and television production with Visual Effects Workshop and the winning videos will feature on the Ekka's YouTube channel.

Show Camp

When: Daily

Where: Throughout the Showgrounds

Providing the scope on all things Ekka, 20 year six students will be given the chance to become journalists at Show Camp.

Now in its 90th year, the camp is a full immersive experience, allowing students to live at the show and cover all aspects of the Ekka from agriculture to entertainment.

Students will develop their news writing, researching, interviewing, photography, video and podcasting skills, while producing up to 40 stories to be published in the 27th edition of the Ekka Courier.

Read the Ekka Courier on the Show Camp website at www.urbaneec.eq.edu.au/show-camp