

# EDUCATION

## NEW! Strawberry Sundae Lane presented by BOQ

**WHERE: Agricultural Education Hall**

New in 2025, Strawberry Sundae Lane presented by Bank of Queensland (BOQ) is an exciting educational activation that brings one of the Show's most iconic treats—the strawberry sundae—to life in an engaging and interactive way.

A beloved tradition since the 1950s, the strawberry sundae is more than just a Show favourite—it's a celebration of Queensland produce and farming. Behind every scoop lies a story of agriculture, and at Strawberry Sundae Lane you can explore the journey from field to fair.

Through hands-on activities, children will discover how strawberries are grown, how milk becomes ice cream, how sugarcane is turned into refined sugar, and how wheat is harvested and turned into crunchy cones.

There are more than 10 interactive learning elements over 16 metres at Strawberry Sundae Lane, including:

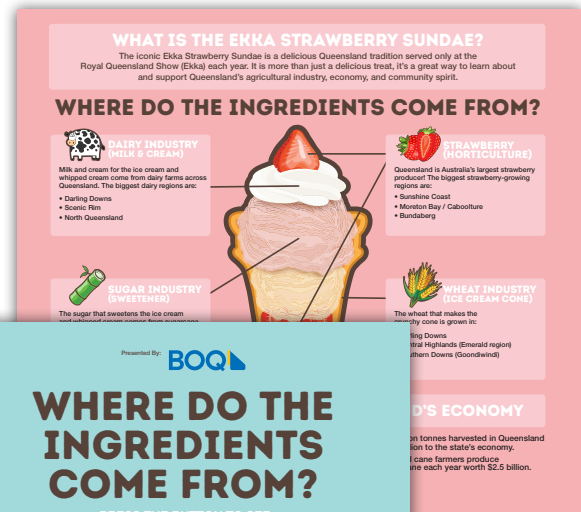
- **Picking prop strawberries to learn about ripeness and reducing food waste**
- **Engaging in two-player strawberry trivia to test your knowledge**
- **Examining strawberries under a microscope to learn about the tiny details**

- **Operating a vintage-style water pump to see water recycling in action**
- **Turning a handle to observe sugarcane processing**
- **Milling wheat manually to understand grain processing into ice cream cones**
- **Listening to farmers talk about food production through video**
- **Watching a video showing the ice cream making process**
- **Illuminating a map of Queensland to discover local farming regions**

There are plenty of fun photo opportunities along the way, plus kids can enjoy a taste of the famous strawberry ice cream and try a juicy, fresh strawberry for themselves. Thanks to the Queensland Strawberry Growers Association who've purchased 30,000 strawberries directly from farmers, with support from Berries Australia and the Department of Primary Industries. Children will also receive a strawberry seed card (while stocks last), thanks to BOQ, so they can grow their own strawberries at home.

Strawberry Lane is more than just a sweet stop - it's a place where kids can discover how everyday ingredients get from Queensland farms to Ekka hands, making food education fun. How berry exciting!

Post a selfie with #BOQEKkaStrawberries for your chance to win one of a \$100 Visa eGift cards, thanks to BOQ!



## WHERE DO THE INGREDIENTS COME FROM?

PRESS THE BUTTON TO SEE

- WHEAT
- SUGAR
- MILK
- STRAWBERRY

### ***NEW! Wool Workshop presented by Toy Farm***

**WHEN:** 9.30am, 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm daily

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Experience the wonders of wool from sheep to yarn at the new Wool Workshop presented by Toy Farm.

Kids will get hands-on as they explore the wool-making journey, from meeting the sheep to spinning wool and weaving.

They'll sort fleece, try carding and spinning, plus learn the basics of weaving on a hand loom.

Children will finish by braiding wool into a colourful bracelet to take home.

After the activity, they can visit a Toy Farm stand for a free charm for their bracelet!

Each session accommodates 50 children, with this fun and educational activity designed to spark creativity and connect the next generation with Queensland's wool industry - one strand at a time.

### ***NEW! Cluck and Collect***

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Children are invited to roll up their sleeves and become little farmers in the new Cluck and Collect, a hands-on egg-collecting adventure.

Children will reach beneath imitation hens to collect eggs, then sort them for delivery to the market, supermarket or home - learning along the way that eggs don't just magically appear on shelves.

This fun, interactive experience teaches kids the journey eggs take from farm to table, highlighting the care involved in egg production and the important role of Australian farmers.

Don't miss Cluck and Collect, where kids will crack open the incredible story behind one of their favourite foods!

### ***Get Kids Cooking! Presented by Australian Eggs***

**WHEN:** 10am, 11am, 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, & 5pm daily

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Crack into the fun at 'Get Kids Cooking! Presented by Australian Eggs' - an eggs-traordinary interactive experience where young chefs discover the power of eggs in a healthy, balanced diet.

Back by popular demand and bigger than ever, this much-loved activation has expanded from 30 to 50 participants per session in 2025, giving even more kids the chance to roll up their sleeves and get hands-on in the kitchen.

At the interactive cooking stations, children will create a simple and tasty open sandwich, mixing and experimenting with different ingredients to craft a meal that's uniquely theirs.

Throughout the session, kids will also learn about the nutritional benefits of eggs, including their protein content and essential vitamins and minerals.

Kitchen safety and hygiene are a key focus too, with kids taught proper handwashing techniques and safe food handling practices.

More than just a fun activity, Kids Get Cooking inspires healthy eating habits and builds confidence in the kitchen.



### *Harvest to Home presented by Manildra*

**WHEN:** 9.30am, 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 4.30pm, 5.30pm daily

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Ever wondered how a grain of wheat becomes the cookie in your lunchbox? Kids can follow the journey of grain from harvest to home in this fun and educational hands-on experience.

Due to popular demand, capacity has increased this year from 30 to 50 children per session, giving more young foodies the chance to learn about grain in a fun and interactive way.

Harvest to Home will see children roll up their sleeves and take part in every step of the process - they'll mill grains into flour, sift to remove impurities, knead dough to explore baking textures, and then get creative shaping their own cookie and decorating it.

Not to be missed, Harvest to Home turns grain education into something truly hands-on and delicious.

### *NEW! Giant Pineapple Display by National Pineapple Association*

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

A beloved Queensland icon is making a comeback at the Ekka with the recreation of the Giant Pineapple — a 3-metre-high structure built from 200–300 real pineapples!

Led by Chris Doyle, grandson of the original giant pineapple builder, the display celebrates the heritage of Queensland horticulture while drawing attention to the economic challenges and declining consumption facing the pineapple industry.

The display will be complemented by the Tropical Pines food trailer, serving up fresh-cut, juiced and dried pineapple - with around 10 tonnes to be sampled during the Show!

Inspired by the impressive fruit displays of 1906 and 1909, this installation blends history, flavour and industry awareness in one unforgettable showcase.

### *Australian Bananas Stand*

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

The Australian Bananas stand is serving up a fresh and flavourful experience that's as educational as it is delicious.

Enjoy free samples including banana slices, yoghurt bowls, and refreshing smoothies, while chatting with real Australian banana growers who'll be on hand to share their knowledge and answer your questions.

The stand will also feature an engaging educational video starring Anna Banana, and fun interactive activities for kids. Learn where bananas are grown, how they're farmed, and why they're one of Australia's favourite fruits.

### *Queensland Beekeepers' Association Stand*

**WHEN:** Live Bee Displays at 10:30am, 11:30am, 1:30pm & 2:30pm daily, 'How To' Demonstrations at 12pm & 3pm daily

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Step into the fascinating world of bees at the Queensland Beekeepers' Association Stand.

Kids will discover why bees are called Australia's littlest livestock and learn just how important these tiny creatures are to our environment and food.

They can also get up close to real bees during daily live displays and watch honey extracted straight from the frame.

Plus, there are 'how to' demonstrations on making mead and beeswax hand cream, along with the chance to taste award-winning honeys from across Queensland.

It's a buzzing adventure full of hands-on learning, sweet discoveries and a deeper understanding of one of nature's most important workers.

### *Meat & Livestock Australia Stand*

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Meat & Livestock Australia's (MLA) Australian Good Meat Paddock to Plate virtual reality experience will take Ekka visitors on an immersive 360-degree tour of Australian beef and lamb production.

Journeying from paddock to plate, they'll learn about the world-leading Australian production systems that stand behind our safe, nutritious and delicious Aussie red meat.

Visitors will also have the chance to chat with Ambassadors working in the red meat industry.

### *QIMR Berghofer Stand*

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Kids will explore how agriculture, rural life and horticulture have played a powerful role in shaping 80 years of medical breakthroughs at QIMR Berghofer.

See mozzies up close under digital microscopes, learn how cyclones impact disease outbreaks and discover how medical research is making a difference right across Queensland.

Plus, children will meet real scientists and uncover exciting career paths in agriculture, science and medicine.

### *Canegrowers Sugarcane Stand*

**WHERE:** Agricultural Education Hall

Kids will discover the power of one plant with many uses!

Sugarcane is more than just sugar – it's electricity, ethanol, mulch, animal feed and even a future fuel for aviation.

At the Canegrowers Sugarcane Stand children will step inside a 360° VR paddock-to-packet experience, get hands-on with real sugarcane and chat to a grower or researcher, smell molasses, see the different types of sugar, and explore diverse cane-based products.

Plus they'll receive a free Canegrowers calico bag, sugar samples and 32-page Ekka special magazine packed with industry stories and career info.



## BotBuilders Robotics

**WHERE: Agricultural Education Hall**

Dive into the world of robotics at BotBuilders Robotics, where technology comes to life in fun and exciting ways.

Children will learn about the engineering process and the intricacies of robotics while having fun engaging with hands-on

STEM and robotics activities, such as target shooting with paper plane launchers and creating artistic coasters with LEGO robotics spinning disks.

Children can also see robots drive and move around and learn about their functions and purpose. And if they're lucky, they might even get the chance to test drive a robot themselves!



## Ekka Learning Trail

**WHERE: Agricultural Education Hall**

The Ekka Learning Trail is a self-guided adventure designed to immerse students in the world of agriculture and food production.

Armed with a special Learning Trail Passport Booklet, students are encouraged to explore the Agricultural Education Hall and collect stamps from 11 interactive trail points.

Each stop offers a unique, hands-on experience from milling grain and sorting wool to discover where their food and clothes come from, to learning what it takes to be a little backyard farmer.

The trail is packed with opportunities to see, touch and learn, helping kids connect classroom learning with real-world agriculture in a fun and engaging way.

Learning Trail Passport Booklets can be collected from any Information Booth at the Ekka.

### Learning Trail Points:

- Cotton Australia
- Pineapple Display by National Pineapple Association
- Australian Bananas stand
- Harvest to Home presented by Manildra & NBIA
- Get Kids Cooking! Presented by Australian Eggs
- Bees – Apiculture
- Meat & Livestock Australia Stand
- Strawberry Sundae Lane presented by BOQ
- Canegrowers Sugarcane
- Wool Workshop presented by Toy Farm
- Little Backyard Farmers presented by Somerville House

## ***NEW - Wings of Wonder***

### **Flower And Garden Precinct**

Get ready to flutter into creativity at the new Wings of Wonder, a collaborative art installation where kids can fold, design and decorate their own piece of a butterfly wing using colourful origami.

Once complete, their creation becomes part of a giant butterfly mural - growing bigger and brighter each day of the Ekka.

Once their piece is added, kids can pose in front of the completed wings for a magical photo moment, capturing the memory of contributing to something beautiful and shared.

It's a hands-on way to engage children in art, nature and collaboration - one fold at a time.

## ***4B Garden***

### **Flower And Garden Precinct**

Discover the fascinating world of birds, bees, butterflies and bugs (the 4Bs) in the vibrant 4B Garden.

Explore how to create your own backyard haven that attracts these amazing creatures.

Stretching over 14 metres, the self-guided garden highlights the best flowers and plants to grow if you want to welcome buzzing bees, fluttering butterflies, friendly birds and helpful bugs into your outdoor space.

Children can also enjoy a variety of sensory activities designed to engage their senses and deepen their connection with nature.



## ***Little Backyard Farmers presented by Somerville House***

### **WHERE: Flower And Garden Precinct**

Step into the world of urban farming at Little Backyard Farmers presented by Somerville House, a hands-on, educational experience designed to teach kids about growing their own food and caring for the environment.

The interactive activity features six engaging stations that explore the importance of sustainability, composting, planting, and nurturing plants - all in a fun way.

Children will search for hidden eggs among hay and prop chickens in the Chicken Coop, where they'll learn about life cycles and the basics of hen-keeping.

From there, they'll explore the vibrant Flowers and Bees garden, collecting pollen discs and adding them to a giant beehive, discovering the role bees play in pollination and plant growth.

At the Planting Station, kids will dig into garden beds to plant seeds and learn how to care for young vegetables. There is also a Composting Station where kids will learn about worms.

Next, it's time to pick some produce in the Harvesting Zone, where children gather fresh props like lettuce, potatoes and carrots while learning how long different fruits and vegetables take to grow.

In the Fruit Orchard, children will water apple and orange trees and pick a piece of fruit for their basket. They'll also test their knowledge by identifying whether certain foods are technically fruits or vegetables.

From garden bed to basket, Little Backyard Farmers encourages kids to get their hands dirty while gaining a deeper understanding of where their food comes from.



### ***Norco Grass to Glass Experience***

**WHEN:** open 9am to 5pm daily (on the ground floor)

**WHERE:** Large Animal Pavilion

Follow the full dairy journey - from lush paddocks to high-tech processing.

Watch Norco farm and factory tours and discover how your favourite milk makes it to your fridge.

Don't forget to grab your free sample at the end!

### ***Show Camp***

**WHERE:** Large Animal Pavilion

Twenty grade six students will have the exciting opportunity to become young journalists at Show Camp, a unique partnership between Education Queensland and the Ekka.

During the program, students will immerse themselves in Queensland's largest event, capturing the sights, sounds and stories that make the Ekka so special - with many staying overnight onsite to experience the full Show atmosphere.

Participants will develop valuable skills in news writing, researching, interviewing, photography, video production and

podcasting. Their work will culminate in the production of up to 40 stories, published in the Ekka Courier.

The students' classroom will be based on level 3 of the Large Animal Pavilion, providing a vibrant hub for creativity and learning throughout the event.

### ***NEW! Creative Demonstrations***

**WHEN:** 10.45am, 11.45am, 12.45pm, 1.45pm, 2.45pm, 3.45pm & 4.45pm daily

**WHERE:** Channel 7 Pavilion

Perfect for both kids and adults, these live creative demonstrations offer an educational look at a wide range of artistic techniques.

Watch talented artists bring their work to life - from wire sculptures and wood carving to mosaics, plasticine and clay modelling, and even the inspiring practice of foot and mouth painting.

Whether you're a budding young artist or simply curious about how things are made, you'll learn about the tools, materials and creative thinking behind each art form.

## ***Flower Crown Making presented by Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers***

### **Flower And Garden Precinct**

Let creativity bloom at Flower Crown Making presented by Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers, a hands-on nature craft activity where kids can design and make their very own flower crown using fresh flowers and craft materials.

This fun activity encourages children to express their creativity as they arrange colours, patterns and textures to create a beautiful floral masterpiece to wear.

Perfect for little hands and big imaginations, Flower Crowns is a lovely way for kids to connect with nature and take home a handmade creation.

