

H5 Avian Influenza – Years 3 and 4



Lesson Plan

Learning Intentions

We are learning to understand what H5 avian influenza is and how people can help protect wildlife through good biosecurity practices.

Success Criteria

We will be successful when...

...explain that H5 avian influenza is a disease that can affect some birds.

...describe simple ways people can help protect birds and wildlife.

...identify what to do if I find a sick or dead wild bird.

Australian Curriculum Links

Learning Area
Science
Biological Science

Content Descriptions

AC9S3U01 Compare characteristics of living and non-living things and examine differences between the life cycles of plants and animals.

AC9S4U01 Explain the roles and interactions of consumers, producers, and decomposers within a habitat and how food chains represent feeding relationships. Students can explore how healthy bird populations contribute to ecosystems and why protecting wildlife is important.

Science as a human endeavour

Students learn that science is used by governments, wildlife organisations, veterinarians and researchers to understand problems and develop solutions that protect environments and living things.

Science Inquiry

Students:

- Pose questions about wildlife health.
- Interpret information from observations and images.
- Communicate findings using scientific language.
- Consider how evidence helps scientists make decisions

Cross-Curriculum Priorities

Sustainability



H5 Avian Influenza – Years 3 and 4

H5 avian influenza is a disease that can make birds and some other animals very sick. It has been detected in wild birds in Australia and Tasmania.

H5 avian influenza can spread between birds and, in some cases, to other animals. Wildlife carers and scientists are monitoring the disease to help protect native wildlife. By learning about avian influenza, we can all help reduce its spread.

You can help protect animals at home. Keep pet birds away from wild birds and places where wild birds gather. Provide clean food and fresh water for pets. Do not let pets go near sick or dead animals and their droppings.



Figure 1- Critically Endangered Swift Parrots

We Want You to Be Safe



AVOID

Don't touch sick or injured birds



RECORD

Write down the date, time, location and species



REPORT

Call the Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888



You can also help keep yourself safe. Never touch a sick or dead bird or other animal. Tell a trusted adult if you find one. Wash your hands with soap and water after spending time outdoors, especially if you have been near birds or animals. The risk to people is low, but it is important to be careful.

If you find a sick, injured, or dead bird or other animal, do not touch it. Ask an adult to record the location, take a photo from a safe distance, and report it to the **Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888**. Reporting sick animals helps experts respond quickly and protect wildlife.



Lesson Plan

Tuning In

Display photos of:

- Ducks
- Birds
- Backyard chickens

Discuss:

- What do these animals have in common?
- Why are birds important?
- How do we help animals stay healthy?

Introduce:

"Today we're learning about how people help keep birds healthy and safe."

Show the HZAA Community Biosecurity webpage and explain that it provides trusted information to help protect Tasmania's wildlife - <https://www.hzaa.com.au/conservation/community-biosecurity/>

Modelling - I do

Introduce the new vocabulary:

Detected – When something is found or noticed.

The smoke alarm **detected** smoke in the kitchen.

The scientist **detected** a new species of frog.

Droppings - Animal waste left on the ground.

The birds left their **droppings** on the roof.

There were smelly dog's **droppings** in the yard.

Avian: Comes from the Latin word *avis*, which means birds.

The **avian** expert showed us how to identify different birds.

The park is home to many **avian** species, including cockatoos.

Distribute the text and read using your chosen strategy.

Guided Practice - We do

Check for understanding by answering quiz questions

What is H5 avian influenza?

- A. A type of plant disease
- B. A disease that can affect birds

C. A type of bird food

D. A bird nest





What does "avian" mean?

- A. Water
- B. Forest
- C. Bird
- D. Disease

If you find a sick or dead wild bird, what should you do first?

- A. Pick it up
- B. Take it home

- C. Avoid touching it
- D. Put it in the bin

In the "Avoid, Record, Report" process, what does "Record" mean?

- A. Catch the bird
- B. Take note of what you see and where you found it
- C. Move the bird
- D. Clean the area

Independent Practice - You do

Design an eye-catching poster that teaches your family how to help keep wildlife safe from H5 avian influenza.

Make sure your poster answers these questions:

- What should you do if you see a sick bird in your local park?
- Who do you report sick or dead birds to?
- How can we help protect wildlife and our pets from diseases?

Use pictures, headings, and short facts to share important information.

Emergency Disease Hotline - Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

Plenary

Share your poster with a friend and explain to them what they should do if they find sick or injured wildlife.

Key Message: *We are prepared for H5 Avian Influenza in Tasmania.*

All you need to do to stay safe is...

Avoid

Record

Report – 1800 675 888

For further information:

Australian Government - <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/campaigns/birdflu>

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania - <https://nre.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/poultry-and-pigeons/bird-flu>

Behind the News – Video - <https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/bird-flu/106937876>

Kids News - <https://www.kidsnews.com.au/explainers/eight-ways-australia-can-help-in-the-fight-against-bird-flu/news-story/11fa4aac2b36192130da00a97fda372d>

