

## Core Skills Analysis

### Science

- Explored interactive exhibits at Questacon that likely enhanced understanding of scientific principles and encouraged curiosity about physical phenomena.
- Learned about Australian flora and fauna at the Australian Botanic Garden and National Arboretum, developing knowledge of plant biology and environmental science.
- Observed manufacturing processes and the role of minting currency at the Royal Australian Mint, linking science to real-world applications in metallurgy and economics.
- Experiencing diverse ecosystems and cultivated gardens at Cockington Green Garden, furthering appreciation of botany and landscape design.

### History and Cultural Studies

- Visited prominent cultural sites in Canberra, developing a sense of place and understanding of national identity.
- Engaged with the history behind coin production at the Royal Australian Mint, connecting historical context to modern currency.
- Explored the significance of design and architecture in attractions like Cockington Green Garden and the National Arboretum, fostering awareness of cultural heritage and artistic expression.

### Geography and Environmental Studies

- Gained knowledge about the native and imported plants in the Australian Botanic Garden and National Arboretum, illustrating concepts of biodiversity and conservation.
- Experienced Canberra's diverse landscapes, reinforcing geographic awareness and environmental stewardship.
- Understood how human activities, such as garden cultivation and minting, interact with natural environments.

### Tips

To deepen the learning from these visits, parents and educators can encourage follow-up projects that integrate observation and creativity. For example, children might create a scrapbook or digital presentation documenting highlights and new facts from each attraction. Conducting simple science experiments inspired by Questacon exhibits at home reinforces scientific inquiry. A planting activity using seeds or cuttings linked to the botanic gardens can cultivate a hands-on understanding of plant growth and ecology. Additionally, discussing the history and function of currency enhances financial literacy and historical awareness. Incorporating map work of Canberra's landmarks helps develop geographic skills while reinforcing place-based learning.

### Book Recommendations

- [Canberra: Australia's Capital City](#) by Mick O'Hare: An engaging introduction to Canberra's history, landmarks, and cultural significance, suitable for young readers.
- [The Magic School Bus: Inside the Human Body](#) by Joanna Cole: A fun and educational book connecting to science exploration themes seen at Questacon.
- [Our Australian Girl: Evie and the Park Keeper](#) by Claire Saxby: A story emphasizing nature and environmental conservation, linking nicely to visits to botanical gardens and arboreta.

### Learning Standards

- Science Understanding - ACSSU017, ACSSU043 (Year 3-4 - Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences related to light, forces and living things)

- Geography - ACHASSK081, ACHASSK089 (Year 3-4 - Natural environments and place identity)
- History - ACHASSK078 (Year 3 - Historical knowledge related to the past and community)

### **Try This Next**

- Create a photo journal or digital slideshow highlighting scientific concepts, plants, or historical facts learned at each site.
- Develop simple experiments or crafts inspired by Questacon science exhibits that children can replicate at home.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

The child's engagement in diverse locations suggests curiosity and enthusiasm for discovery. Navigating different environments likely fostered independence, observational skills, and adaptability. The variety of experiences offers opportunities for reflection, boosting confidence and appreciation for science, nature, and cultural heritage.