**Media Release template - Use your school or organisation’s letterhead. Yellow indicates where to personalise.**

**Media Release**

**School or organisation name receives Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grant**

 School or organisation name is one of 128 schools and youth organisations to receive a 2019 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grant, supported by the Victorian Government’s Victorian Landcare Program.

Funded by the Department of Environment, Land Water & Planning, Victoria, these grants are run by Landcare Australia, as part of its Junior Landcare program.

WRITE A PARAGRAPH SUMMARISING YOUR PROJECT – THE BELOW PARAGRPAH **IS AN EXAMPLE** TO BE REPLACED WITH YOUR OWN INFORMATION:

Their grant of $..... will be used for a Hive Biodiversity Project with the aim of drastically increasing the school’s biodiversity by planting a range of native plant species which will in turn provide food species and habitat for native insects and birds. The outdoor environment will also provide an opportunity for birds and insects using nest boxes, bug houses and log piles.

YOU CAN INCLUDE YOUR OWN QUOTE HERE. THIS IS AN EXAMPLE: “We are delighted to receive a Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grant and are eager to start our project. Our students will learn about improving our soil, increase biodiversity through native planting and apply land care principles to promote ongoing support for native wildlife,” said name and title of principal, teacher, someone from your organisation

The Victorian Government is funding these grants to provide Victorian schools, kindergartens and community youth groups and organisations an opportunity to participate in on-ground projects and activities that provide both environmental and educational outcomes, as well as health and social benefits.

For more information about these grants, visit:

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/victorian-junior-landcare-biodiversity-grants/>

For more information about the Victorian Government’s plan: *Protecting Victoria’s Environment – Biodiversity 2037,* visit <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity/biodiversity-plan>

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**For interviews or high resolution photos, contact:** Add: Contact details for someone at your organisation—name, email and phone

**About Junior Landcare, and the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**

Launched in 1998, Junior Landcare is an awareness raising and funding program that encourages young people to play an active role in ensuring the safe future of their environment. The Victorian Government’s Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) provides support to Landcare Australia’s Victorian operations to assist Landcare Australia in developing partnerships with the corporate sector. DELWP has provided more than $800,000 to fund over 235 projects since the Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants were launched in 2018.