

Student 6: High Not Achieved

NZQA Intended for teacher use only

My action was Possum trapping. This is when you put a trap next to a tree and put some bait on it. I added a lure made of flour and aniseed which makes a big smell and attracts the possums. There are lots of different kinds of baits you can use to catch possums. The possums are drawn to the trap because of the smell, then they eat the bait off the tree and when they put their claws on the trap to get the bait off it, the trap releases and clamps down on their foot. Then I knock the possum on the head which kills them instantly, then I pluck the possum fur (which I can sell), then I reset the trap. ①



My issue was the impact possums have on the environment and native trees as possums like to eat and live in these trees. Possums eat all the new shoots on the tree and this damages them and stops them from reproducing. This really damages the trees in the winter because they have no protection against the frost, rain and the cold which can kill the native trees. This is why I choose my action to trap possums and help the native trees recover and reproduce, and to try do my bit in helping the environment by reducing possum numbers. ②

To complete this action I borrowed 30 traps and bait from a friend. ①