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MTWTFS-

## Kids celebrate Big Day Out fun

## Martin Philip

IT was on for young and bold yesterday as thousands of children took over Brisbane's Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens for the annual Kid's Big Day Out.

About children skipped, ran and laughed their way into the gardens, enjoying a fancy dress competition for

creature.

For intrepid young adventurers there was a chance to explore the new rainforest Hide and Seek Children's Trail, acquire some circus skills with the Flipside Circus, examine live bats and check out the Gecko Wildlife display.

Emily Walsham, from Brisbane's Moorooka on

the wildest-dressed rainforest southside, tagged along with her daughters Ellie, 2, and Lisa, 5 months.

"They had a great time," Ms Walsham said. "Their favourite was probably looking at the bats."

Brisbane City Council spokeswoman Margo McMannus said the Kid's Big Day out was a resounding success. "It's been a really

really successful day and a big day for kids, and one of the ideas behind it was launching stage one of the new children's trail," she said.

"All the car parks were full, every activity was chock-abloc full of kids — it was an amazing turnout."

The free event also featured live music, story telling, face painting and kite making.







LAUGHTER ... face painting, curiosity, fancy dress and more. Among the 3000 children in the gardens were Caitlin Forbes, left, twins Lucy and Spencer McLeod, above, and right, Ellie Walsham. Pictures: Annette Dew

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