



# ENVIRONMENTAL ART PROJECT 2022

## BACKYARD BIODIVERSITY

The Environmental Art Project presented by Mundaring Arts Centre Inc. provides an annual opportunity for primary school children to creatively engage with local and global environmental issues, whilst developing their own positive message about protecting the earth. The following information provides an overview of this year's theme and topics and resources to explore.

### INTRODUCTION



The 2022 theme of Backyard Biodiversity challenges teachers, students and parents to look closely at nature and discover, observe and monitor the animals that live in our local area.

Have you ever wondered about the animals that live in your neighbourhood? What are they? Where do they come from? Where do they go? What do they need to survive?

The Perth Hills, Swan Valley and surrounding areas are home to a wide variety of birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, amphibians, fish, plants and other organisms. It is easy to miss seeing the animals that live amongst us. They are good at hiding in leaf litter, water or amongst the plants. Some are nocturnal meaning they are active at night.

Watch the video above by wildlife expert Simon Cherriman and Shire of Mundaring by clicking the image or visiting [youtu.be/fz6XKawvIQI](https://youtu.be/fz6XKawvIQI) to meet some of the animals that live in the Perth Hills. Find out how you can provide water for wildlife or improve habitat to encourage them into your school or backyard.

## IMPORTANT DETAILS

All artworks must be created on A4 paper (portrait).

All entries will be showcased in a virtual exhibition. Up to 26 winning entries will be chosen and transformed into public outcomes in the Mundaring and Midland town centres.

Winning students will receive a voucher for art supplies. Schools of winning students will receive a monetary prize for the purchase of environmental education resources.

Highly commended and a People's Choice Award book prizes are also awarded.

## KEY DATES

**Wednesday 26 October** | Entries Close 5pm

Deliver in person or via post to Mundaring Arts Centre, 7190 Great Eastern Hwy, Mundaring 6073

**Monday 7 November** | Entrants notified of results

**Friday 11 November onwards**

Virtual exhibition of all entries displayed on Midland Junction and Mundaring Arts Centre websites

**Friday 11 November – Sunday 11 December**

Exhibition of winning artworks will be displayed at Midland Junction and Mundaring Arts Centres

**Thursday 8 December** | Award Ceremony at Mundaring Rose Garden

**TBC** | Award Ceremony at Midland Junction Arts Centre

## EDUCATION RESOURCE PACK CONTENTS

Key Topics to Investigate:

- Western Australia's Globally Unique Biodiversity
- Relationships Between Plants and Animals
- The Six Seasons and Connection to Country
- Water Sources

Creating A Biodiverse Backyard at Home or School

Activities To Explore at Home or In the Classroom

Excursions & Incursions

Artwork Inspiration

Recommended Books

Curriculum Links

For more information contact Education Program Manager, Jess Boyce  
edpm@mundaringartscentre.com.au | 9250 8062

Mundaring Arts Centre Inc. acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we operate, the Whadjuk people, as well as other First Australians connected with this land. We pay our respects to elders both past and present.



7190 GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY MUNDARING WA 6073  
T: 08 9295 3991 | INFO@MUNDARINGARTSCENTRE.COM.AU  
OPEN TUE TO FRI 10AM – 5PM, SAT TO SUN 11AM – 3PM  
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
MUNDARINGARTSCENTRE.COM.AU

## Midland Junction Arts Centre

MANAGED BY MUNDARING ARTS CENTRE INC | SUPPORTED BY CITY OF SWAN

276 GREAT EASTERN HIGHWAY MIDLAND WA 6056  
T: 08 9250 8062 | INFO@MIDLANDJUNCTIONARTSCENTRE.COM.AU  
OPEN WED TO FRI 10AM – 5PM, SAT 11AM – 3PM  
CLOSED PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
MIDLANDJUNCTIONARTSCENTRE.COM.AU



## KEY TOPICS TO INVESTIGATE

There are four key topics to investigate as part of Backyard Biodiversity. These are Western Australia's Globally Unique Biodiversity, Relationships Between Plants & Animals, The Six Seasons and Connection to Country, and Water Sources. An overview of each of these, as well as links to relevant resources, can be found in the coming pages.

### LOWER PRIMARY FOCUS (YEARS 1 – 3)

Animals live in different habitats according to what they need to survive. Discuss their basic survival needs such as water, food and shelter. Investigate the habitats in the backyard/school yard and learn about the different animals that live there and how their survival needs are met. Students are encouraged to carefully explore school grounds and local natural bush areas to experience the wonder of spotting the often-unnoticed creatures that live there.

### UPPER PRIMARY FOCUS (YEARS 4 – 6)

Upper primary school students should investigate the meaning of the term biodiversity and explore the local natural environment. Discover the animals that live in your backyard or school grounds and investigate what they need to survive.

- Investigate different habitats and ecosystems – streams and creeks, bushland reserves and forest, a patch of vegetation in your school grounds.
- What creatures live there? What are their features that enable them to survive in this habitat?



2021 Environmental Art Project entry by Rose O'Brien

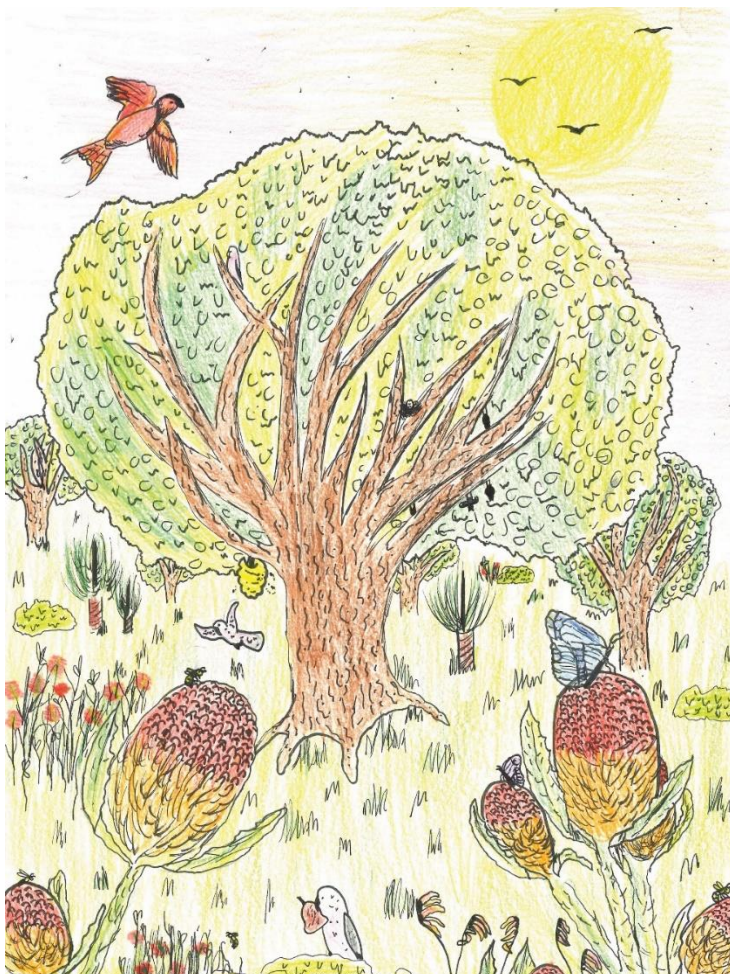
## WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S GLOBALLY UNIQUE BIODIVERSITY

Western Australia (WA) has a globally unique biodiversity. We have plants and animals here which are not found anywhere else on Earth, so we have a responsibility to look after them. Rich biodiversity makes strong food webs and ecosystems, which support healthy humans too.

**QUESTION:** What is the definition of biodiversity?

**ACTIVITY:** Find out how many organisms live in one area with quadrats and transects

- Biodiversity hotspot in WA explained [australiangeographic.com.au/news/2014/02/western-australia-biodiversity-hotspot/](http://australiangeographic.com.au/news/2014/02/western-australia-biodiversity-hotspot/)
- Information about WA Biodiversity Science Institute [wabsi.org.au/our-work/programs/biodiversity-information-management/](http://wabsi.org.au/our-work/programs/biodiversity-information-management/)
- A 100-year Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Western Australia [cbd.int/doc/nbsap/sbsap/au-sbsap-western-australia-en.pdf](http://cbd.int/doc/nbsap/sbsap/au-sbsap-western-australia-en.pdf)
- Why WA's wildflowers are unique – Wildflower Society of Western Australia [wildflowersocietywa.org.au/know/why-was-wildflowers-are-unique/](http://wildflowersocietywa.org.au/know/why-was-wildflowers-are-unique/)
- Education Resources – Atlas of Living Australia [ala.org.au/education-resources/](http://ala.org.au/education-resources/)
- Quadrants and Transect Sampling - Cool Australia [prod-media.coolaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/06192825/Sampling-Instructions.pdf](http://prod-media.coolaustralia.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/06192825/Sampling-Instructions.pdf)



2019 Environmental Art Project entry by Ashleigh Wigmore

## RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Western Australia is home to 141 mammals, more than 400 reptile species, more than 1,600 fish species, hundreds of thousands of bugs and marine creatures and some of the most diverse and unique floras in the world, with over 210 plant families.<sup>1</sup> Of these species, 3 are urban-restricted, including the Western Swamp Tortoise, which means they live entirely within cities and towns. Only found in the wild in the Swan Valley, the Western Swamp is critically endangered, showing it's important that we care for the environment close to home.<sup>2</sup>

**QUESTION:** What are some of the things that plants, and animals provide for each other?

**ACTIVITY:** Investigate a native animal in your area and study where they live and what they need to survive. Things to look at might include what time of day the animals are active, and what changes can be seen in plants over the seasons.

- Western Australia Native Animals – Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/animals](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/animals)
- Western Australia Native Plants – Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/plants](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/plants)
- Busy In The Bush - Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/get-involved/n2n/schools/excursions/Busy-in-the-bushland\\_Web.pdf](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/get-involved/n2n/schools/excursions/Busy-in-the-bushland_Web.pdf)
- Our Plants - Kings Park [bgpa.wa.gov.au/about-us/information/our-plants](https://bgpa.wa.gov.au/about-us/information/our-plants)
- Meet the Tortoise - Friends of the Western Swamp Tortoise [westernswamptortoise.com.au/explore/meet-the-tortoise/](https://westernswamptortoise.com.au/explore/meet-the-tortoise/)
- BirdLife Australia [birdlife.org.au](https://birdlife.org.au)
- Insect of the Month from WA Insect Study Society Inc. [waiss.org/insect-of-the-month/](https://waiss.org/insect-of-the-month/)
- Life in the Bush - Karen Maree [youtube.com/channel/UCJLDxYqSrKWwzlu8j2iHGvA](https://youtube.com/channel/UCJLDxYqSrKWwzlu8j2iHGvA)
- Biodiversity in the backyard and beyond - Dept of Agriculture, Water and the Environment [environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/09e90a16-e2e1-4ef8-903b-d860bb313d01/files/backyard.pdf](https://environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/09e90a16-e2e1-4ef8-903b-d860bb313d01/files/backyard.pdf)
- Quenda Search Project - Mundaring Libraries [mundaring.wa.gov.au/leisure-recreation/libraries/quenda-protection-and-research.aspx](https://mundaring.wa.gov.au/leisure-recreation/libraries/quenda-protection-and-research.aspx)
- Quenda – Our Ecosystem Engineers – Nature Conservation [natureconservation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Quenda-Our-Ecosystem-Engineers.pdf](https://natureconservation.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Quenda-Our-Ecosystem-Engineers.pdf)
- How Quenda Poo Nurtures Gardens and Bushland – The Conversation [theconversation.com/how-this-little-marsupials-poo-nurtures-urban-gardens-and-bushland-and-how-you-can-help-protect-them-175064](https://theconversation.com/how-this-little-marsupials-poo-nurtures-urban-gardens-and-bushland-and-how-you-can-help-protect-them-175064)



Detail of 2021 Environmental Art Project entry by Shylah Barker

<sup>1</sup> Plants and animals - Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions [dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals)

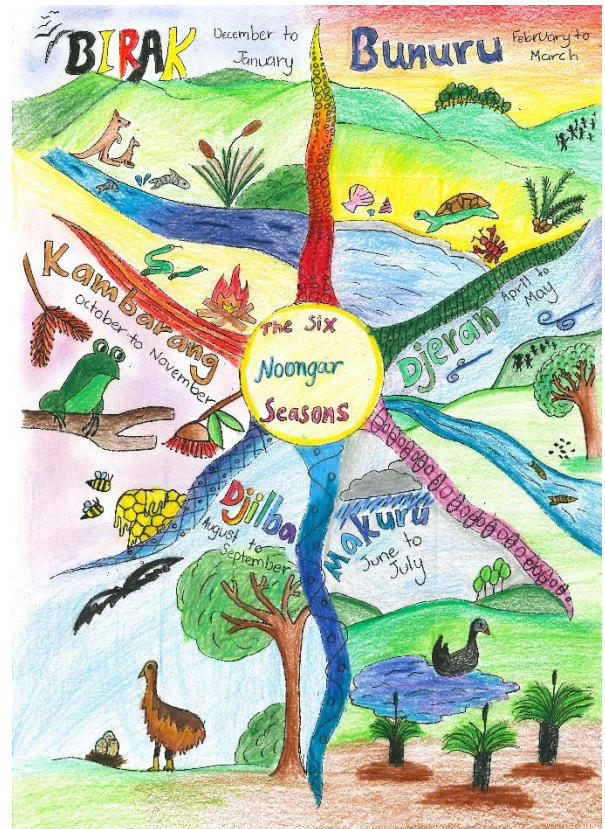
<sup>2</sup> The 39 endangered species in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and other Australian cities – The Conversation [theconversation.com/the-39-endangered-species-in-melbourne-sydney-adelaide-and-other-australian-cities-114741](https://theconversation.com/the-39-endangered-species-in-melbourne-sydney-adelaide-and-other-australian-cities-114741)

## THE SIX SEASONS AND CONNECTION TO COUNTRY

For more than 65,000 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been living in Australia and have developed a rich knowledge of the land, sea, sky and waterways. Before European colonisation, there were more than 250 Aboriginal language groups living in Australia, including the Noongar people of South West Western Australia. In Aboriginal culture, everyone has a responsibility to care for Country and the environment.

The concept of Country does not just mean the elements of the landscape, such as rivers, hills, and waterholes - Country includes all living things. It incorporates people, plants, and animals. It embraces the seasons, stories, and creation spirits. Country is spiritual in both a place of belonging, belief and core values.

Unlike the European calendar, there are six Noongar seasons, which are indicated by changes in local plants and animals. Traditionally Noongar people hunted and gathered foods accordingly, being guided by the signs in nature as to which animal and plant resources were plentiful.



2021 Environmental Art Project entry by Alexandra Williams

**QUESTION:** Why is understanding the changes in the six seasons important to biodiversity?

**ACTIVITY:** Plant a bush tucker garden.

- Six seasons interactive map [derbalnara.org.au/boodjar-six-seasons](http://derbalnara.org.au/boodjar-six-seasons)
- Nyoongar calendar - Bureau of Meteorology [bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/nyoongar.shtml](http://bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/nyoongar.shtml)
- How to tell the new season is starting, according to the Noongar people of WA [abc.net.au/news/2021-03-27/indigenous-season-indicators-wa/100029476](http://abc.net.au/news/2021-03-27/indigenous-season-indicators-wa/100029476)
- Spirituality - Kaartdijin Noongar - Noongar Knowledge, South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council [noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/](http://noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/)
- Bushtucker – SERCUL [sercul.org.au/our-projects/bushtucker/](http://sercul.org.au/our-projects/bushtucker/)

## WATER SOURCES

Fresh water is a vital life source for plants and animals and takes many forms: rain, rivers, lakes, dams, and ponds. In the Perth Hills and Swan Valley, we are lucky to have a number of large rivers, such as the Derbarl Yerrigan (Swan River) and Mandoon (Helena River).

The Waugal/Waargyl/Waaka/Woggal is a snake or rainbow serpent recognised by Noongar as the giver of life, maintaining all fresh water sources and who formed the Derbarl Yerrigan amongst other waterways.<sup>3</sup>

Adapting to a changing climate with different rainfall patterns is challenging but possible for humans, for example, how we design our homes, farms and cities. It is not quite so easy for our precious wildlife.

**QUESTION:** What kind of wildlife can benefit from a water source being available in your school or backyard?

**ACTIVITY:** Create a water source for wildlife



2021 Environmental Art Project entry by Zeike Girdlestone

- Is there enough water for plants and animals? – Cool Australia [coolaustralia.org/is-there-enough-water-for-plants-and-animal/](https://coolaustralia.org/is-there-enough-water-for-plants-and-animal/)
- Water for Wildlife – Junior Landcare [juniorlandcare.org.au/learning\\_activity/water-for-wildlife/](https://juniorlandcare.org.au/learning_activity/water-for-wildlife/)
- Fun with Frogs - South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare [sercul.org.au/for-educators/activities-and-projects](https://sercul.org.au/for-educators/activities-and-projects)

<sup>3</sup> Spirituality - Kaartdijin Noongar - Noongar Knowledge, South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council [noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/](https://noongarculture.org.au/spirituality/)

## CREATING A BIODIVERSE BACKYARD AT HOME OR SCHOOL

There are many small actions you can do to help create a biodiverse environment in your own backyard or at your school, such as creating insect hotels, nest boxes or birdbaths. Below are some activities for inspiration.

- Design a pond for wildlife – ReWild Perth  
[rewildperth.com.au/resource/design-a-native-pond-for-wildlife/](http://rewildperth.com.au/resource/design-a-native-pond-for-wildlife/)
- Creating a bird-friendly Garden - Perth Zoo  
[perthzoo.wa.gov.au/get-involved/do-your-part/bird-friendly-garden](http://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/get-involved/do-your-part/bird-friendly-garden)
- Build your own nest-box for wildlife - The Re-Cyc-Ology Project  
[drive.google.com/file/d/1dtLG2zw76gyOvViXOsOdASNC2ogND5Bo/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dtLG2zw76gyOvViXOsOdASNC2ogND5Bo/view)



Detail of 2019 Environmental Art Project entry by Camden Evans

### MAKE AN INSECT HOTEL

There are more than 1500 species of native bees in Australia and they play an important environmental role in pollinating plants. To encourage native bees into your garden, provide them with food and water as well as an insect hotel for shelter.

- Trees – Nature’s Hotels with Cathy Levett - EMRC Bush Skills 4 Youth (Recommended years 1-3)  
[emrc.org.au/Profiles/emrc/Assets/ClientData/Enviro\\_-\\_workshops/BS4Y/Trees\\_NH.pdf](http://emrc.org.au/Profiles/emrc/Assets/ClientData/Enviro_-_workshops/BS4Y/Trees_NH.pdf)
- Ecologist Explains How an Insect Hotel Will Benefit Your Backyard with Mandy Bamford - Scitech (Recommended years 4-6)  
[youtube.com/watch?v=Jzx\\_Jc5y8X0](https://youtube.com/watch?v=Jzx_Jc5y8X0)

### EXAMPLE OF A PRIMARY SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT PROJECT

Mardo Reserve Environment Project by Mundaring Primary School  
[mundaringps.wa.edu.au/page/66](http://mundaringps.wa.edu.au/page/66)



## ACTIVITIES TO EXPLORE AT HOME OR IN THE CLASSROOM

### CELEBRATE ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

- Biodiversity Month ideas from Department of Agriculture, Water, and the Environment [environment.gov.au/biodiversity/biodiversity-month](https://environment.gov.au/biodiversity/biodiversity-month)
- Introduction to Biodiversity Month from 2018 [livinglinks.com.au/biodiversity-month/](https://livinglinks.com.au/biodiversity-month/)
- An annual calendar of environmental events, Australian and International [environment.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/events](https://environment.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/events)
- Background about World environment day with activity ideas [twinkl.com.au/event/world-environment-day-australia-2022](https://twinkl.com.au/event/world-environment-day-australia-2022)
- National Tree Day 29 & 30 July [treeday.planetark.org/get-involved/schools](https://treeday.planetark.org/get-involved/schools)
- WA Tree Festival 9 April – 9 May [watreefestival.com.au/](https://watreefestival.com.au/)



2019 Environmental Art Project  
entry by Emily Buttsworth

### BIRDS IN SCHOOLS OR BIRDS IN BACKYARDS WITH BIRDLIFE

Engage students in the scientific process through investigation and monitoring of the birds and habitats surrounding the school or home.

[birdlife.org.au/projects/urban-birds/birds-in-schools-project](https://birdlife.org.au/projects/urban-birds/birds-in-schools-project)  
[birdsinyourbackyard.net/](https://birdsinyourbackyard.net/)

BirdLife's Aussie Bird Count (17–23 October 2022) is a great way to connect with the birds in your backyard. Just spend 20 minutes in your favourite outdoor space and report the birds you see during that period.

[aussiebirdcount.org.au/](https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/)

### NATURE PASSPORT

An app that encourages and motivates children to have fun engaging with their environment, wherever that may be—from backyards and city parks to beaches and other wild places.

[naturepassport.org](https://naturepassport.org)

### WILD PLANTS WITH WILDFLOWER SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Wild Plants is a complete curriculum, complete with teachers' notes, resources and activities for students to completely explore the world of Western Australian plants and plant communities.

[wildflowersocietywa.org.au/know/resources-for-teachers-and-parents/](https://wildflowersocietywa.org.au/know/resources-for-teachers-and-parents/)

### MORE

Find lots more free activity ideas from Nature Play, NatureLink Perth, Backyard Buddies and Western Australian Museum

[natureplaywa.org.au/](https://natureplaywa.org.au/)

[naturelinkperth.org/1370-2/](https://naturelinkperth.org/1370-2/)

[backyardbuddies.org.au/](https://backyardbuddies.org.au/)

[museum.wa.gov.au/explore/kids/kids-activity-sheets](https://museum.wa.gov.au/explore/kids/kids-activity-sheets)

## EXCURSIONS & INCURSIONS

### WILD LIFE - WA MUSEUM BOOLA BARDIP

Investigate WA's unique and interconnected biodiversity in the *Wild Life* exhibition, a vibrant, multi-sensory space filled with ancient fossils, rare specimens and live creatures.

[visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boolabardip/wild-life](https://visit.museum.wa.gov.au/boolabardip/wild-life)

### WHITEMAN PARK

Learn about conservation, native fauna, and ecosystems through interactive activities in bushland settings. Each program is designed around a topic for a particular year level.

[whitemanpark.com.au/education/environmental-programs](https://whitemanpark.com.au/education/environmental-programs)

[whitemanpark.com.au/wildlife/childrens-forest](https://whitemanpark.com.au/wildlife/childrens-forest)

### NEARER TO NATURE - PERTH HILLS DISCOVERY CENTRE

Excursions, camps and incursions across the Perth Metro Area and South West, including at the Perth Hills Discovery Centre.

[dpaw.wa.gov.au/get-involved/nearer-to-nature/schools](https://dpaw.wa.gov.au/get-involved/nearer-to-nature/schools)

### PERTH ZOO

Unique learning experiences that link to the Australian Curriculum by connecting students with nature and empowering them to take positive action for our environment.

[www.perthzoo.wa.gov.au/schools](https://www.perthzoo.wa.gov.au/schools)

### KINGS PARK

Kings Park education programs highlight the unique plants, people and places of Western Australia and the actions we can all take as a connected community to ensure a sustainable future.

[bgpa.wa.gov.au/kings-park/events/kings-park-education/programs](https://bgpa.wa.gov.au/kings-park/events/kings-park-education/programs)

### FRIENDS OF THE WESTERN SWAMP TORTOISE

The Western Swamp Tortoise is a fantastic local reptile for all levels of study and research. Friends of the Western Swap Tortoise can visit your school or group for a free tailored presentation.

[westernswamptortoise.com.au/get-involved/schools/](https://westernswamptortoise.com.au/get-involved/schools/)

### KANYANA WILDLIFE

The Rehabilitation Centre cares for sick, injured, orphaned, and displaced wildlife and breed and research threatened species. Visit their beautiful Jarrah forest location or they'll come to you.

[kanyanawildlife.org.au/for-schools/](https://kanyanawildlife.org.au/for-schools/)

### KAARAKIN BLACK COCKATOO CONSERVATION CENTRE

Learn about the black cockatoos who share your local environment, how to identify them, why they're endangered, what we can do to help them, and who ate that gumnut.

[blackcockatoorecovery.com/get-involved/kaarakin-school-education-experiences/](https://blackcockatoorecovery.com/get-involved/kaarakin-school-education-experiences/)

### THINKING GREEN AND NATURE KNOW HOW – CITY OF SWAN

Thinking Green and Nature know-how are free community sustainable living workshop series presented by the City of Swan at the City's libraries and other local venues.

[swan.wa.gov.au/Your-Services/Libraries/Library-programs-events/Thinking-Green](https://swan.wa.gov.au/Your-Services/Libraries/Library-programs-events/Thinking-Green)

### NATIVE ANIMAL RESCUE

Learn about our native wildlife that you encounter in your backyard or local park and how to support them in a natural way with education animals either at the rescue or in your school.

[nativeanimalrescue.org.au/education-and-displays/](https://nativeanimalrescue.org.au/education-and-displays/)

## ARTWORK INSPIRATION

### EXHIBITIONS

There are a number of upcoming exhibitions at Mundaring and Midland Junction Arts Centres that can provide inspiration for artworks that celebrate local flora and fauna.

To organise a free exhibition tour for your school or group, please contact Education Program Manager Jess Boyce 9250 8062 [edpm@mundaringartscentre.com.au](mailto:edpm@mundaringartscentre.com.au)

[Country Connections](#) (9 Apr – 19 Jun) at Mundaring Arts Centre sees local artists reflect and explore materials, themes and cultural relationships to and about the natural world.

[Upper Reach](#) by Antony Muia (7 May – 16 Jul) at Midland Junction Arts Centre is inspired by the unique flora and fauna found in Perth's eastern suburbs and hills.

[The Sum of Us](#) (24 Sep – 18 Dec) at Mundaring Arts Centre is a group show of botanical watercolour paintings, dedicated to showcasing some of the magnificent flora of Western Australia.

### PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL ART PROJECT WINNERS & RESOURCES

If you're new to the project and looking for examples of previous entries, you can find images of past projects on our websites.

[midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au/past-projects](http://midlandjunctionartscentre.com.au/past-projects)  
[mundaringartscentre.com.au/past-projects](http://mundaringartscentre.com.au/past-projects)

Plus, there are video resources with local artists from 2020 and 2021. The videos cover topic development, drawing and design skills (although the themes are a little different each year).

2021 Environmental Art Project | Caring for Country with Carol Foley  
[vimeo.com/showcase/8697650](https://vimeo.com/showcase/8697650)

2020 Environmental Art Project | Clean Energy with Mikaela Miller  
[vimeo.com/showcase/9365688](https://vimeo.com/showcase/9365688)

### FIGURATIVE FLORA PRINT – NGV

For upper primary (5-6) with access to basic printmaking equipment, students can explore depictions of native Australian flora in the prints of Australian printmaker and painter Margaret Preston to consider the symbolic qualities of Australian flora and create their own multi-layer print.  
[ngv.vic.gov.au/school\\_resource/figurative-flora-print-inspired-by-australian-printmaker-and-painter-margaret-preston/](http://ngv.vic.gov.au/school_resource/figurative-flora-print-inspired-by-australian-printmaker-and-painter-margaret-preston/)

### SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Keep an eye out for art workshops at both Mundaring and Midland Junction Arts Centres during the school holidays throughout the year. Workshops will explore the theme of Backyard Biodiversity through different mediums, including clay, textiles, printmaking, drawing and more.  
[macmjac.com.au/collections/workshops/kids](http://macmjac.com.au/collections/workshops/kids)

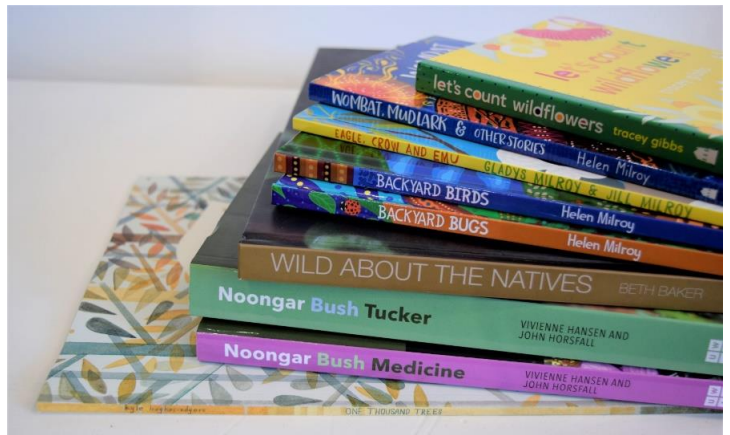


Photograph by Susie Blatchford

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The following books are a great resource for learning about aspects of Backyard Biodiversity or for artwork inspiration. Many have accompanying notes and activities for teachers linked below or available from the publisher.

Your school or local library may have a copy to borrow. Many of the below titles are also available in the [Mundaring and Midland Junction Arts Centre shop](#). Mention the Environmental Art Project in-store or use the code 'EAP' online for a 10% discount<sup>4</sup>.



### PICTURE BOOKS

*Backyard Bugs* by Helen Milroy. [Teachers notes](#)

*Backyard Birds* by Helen Milroy. [Teachers notes](#)

*Backyard Beasties* by Helen Milroy. [Teachers notes](#)

*A Walk in the Bush* by Gwyn Perkins. [Teachers notes](#)

*Ngalak Waakarl Ngardanginy: We're going on a Rainbow Serpent Hunt* by Charmaine Bennell

*Let's Count Wildflowers* by Tracey Gibbs. [Teachers notes](#)

*Last Tree in the City* by Peter Carnavas

*Benny Bungarra's Big Bush Clean-Up* by Sally Morgan and Ambelin Kwaymullina. [Teachers notes](#)

*Wild About the Natives* by Beth Baker

*One Thousand Trees* by Kyle Hughes-Odgers. [Teachers notes](#)

*Lion Is That You?* by Moira Court. [Teachers notes](#)

*The Tuart Dwellers* by Jan Ramage and Ellen Hickman

*The Last Tree* by Mark Wilson

*Uno's Garden* by Graeme Base

*Leaf Litter* by Rachel Tonkin

*The Bushwalk* by Sandra Kendell

### NOVELS & SHORT STORIES

*Bush and Beyond* by Jaylon Tucker, Cheryl Kickett-Tucker, Jessica Lister, and Tjalaminu Mia.

*Eagle, Crow and Emu* by Gladys Milroy and Jill Milroy. [Teaching notes](#)

*Urban Antics: Tales of an Urban Naturalist* by John Hunter

### NON-FICTION

*Young Dark Emu* by Bruce Pascoe. [Teachers notes](#)

*Noongar Bush Medicine* by Vivienne Hansen and John Horsfall

*Noongar Bush Tucker* by Vivienne Hansen and John Horsfall

*Djerap – Noongar Birds* edited by Maree Klesch

*Birds of the Perth Hills* by Talitha Huston

*Landscape: WA's Parks, Wildlife and Conservation Magazine* by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

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<sup>4</sup> Not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Must be entered/mentioned at time of purchase. Until 31 December 2022.

## CURRICULUM LINKS

The Environmental Art Project links to aspects of the Western Australian Curriculum for Years 1 – 6 in Science (Biological Sciences), Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography) and The Arts (Visual Arts). Relevant elements from the scope and sequence for each learning area are listed below.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Science   Biological Sciences					
Living things live in different places where their needs are met	Living things grow, change, and have offspring similar to themselves	Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features	Living things have life cycles. Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive	Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment	The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment
Humanities and Social Sciences   Geography					
Places have distinctive features	People are connected to many places	Places are both similar and different	The Earth's environment sustains all life	Factors that shape the environmental characteristics of places	A diverse and connected world
The natural, managed and constructed features of places, their location on a pictorial map, and how they may change over time	The ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples maintain connections to their Country/Place	The difference between climate and weather, and the main climatic zones of the world	The importance of environments to animals and people, and different views on how they can be protected	The way people alter the environmental characteristics of Australian places	
How weather and seasons vary between places, and the terms used to describe them			How Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' ways of living were adapted to available resources and their connection to Country/Place has influenced their views on the sustainable use of these resources before and after colonisation	The impact of bushfires or floods on environments and communities, and how people can respond	
			The natural resources provided by the environment and different views on how they can be used sustainably		

The Arts   Visual Arts					
Exploration of and experimentation with the visual art elements of shape, colour, line, space, and texture	Exploration of and experimentation with the visual art elements of shape, line, colour, space and texture and how these are used in the environment	Exploration of visual art elements, in conjunction with different materials, media and/or technologies, when creating artwork	Use of visual art elements and selection of materials, media and/or technologies to create specific artwork	Exploration of artwork from various artists and different approaches used to communicate ideas, beliefs, and opinions	Exploration of artwork inspired by observation or imagination from various artists and cultures that use materials and techniques to enhance the artist's belief or viewpoint
Exploration of different materials, media and/or technologies, when creating artwork	Experimentation with and use of materials, media and/or technologies when creating artwork	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, and texture to create artwork	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, texture, and value to create artwork	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, texture, and value to create artwork	Application of visual art elements and selection of materials, media and/or technologies, to communicate an idea, belief, or viewpoint
Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, and texture to create artwork	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, and texture to create artwork	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, and texture to create artwork	Presentation of a message to an audience and reflection of the visual art elements and materials used in artwork	Use of techniques, art processes, and experimentation with art forms, such as illustration	Development of artistic skills through experimentation with shape, colour, line, texture, and value to create artwork
Exploration of techniques and art processes, such as mixed media, colour mixing or drawing	Use of visual art elements and techniques to create 2D artwork, and to communicate ideas and messages to an audience	Presentation of an idea to an audience, and reflection of the visual art elements and materials used in artwork	Presentation and display of artwork with consideration of visual appeal/aesthetics	Presentation and reflection of ideas, feelings, and opinions in artwork, including consideration of audience and feedback	Presentation and reflection of ideas, feelings, beliefs, and viewpoints expressed in artwork, including consideration of audience and feedback
Use of visual art elements and techniques to create 2D artwork that communicates an idea to an audience	Presentation and display of artwork	Presentation and consideration of where and how artwork is displayed		Presentation and display of artwork to enhance visual appeal/aesthetics	Consideration of how to display artwork to enhance visual appeal/aesthetics and meaning
Display of artwork					