

Wildlife rescue activity book

Puzzles and activities for young wildlife rescuers





rehabilitate sick, injured and orphaned native animals.

- We rescue, rehabilitate and release sick, injured or orphaned wildlife as appropriate and in accordance with the Carer's Code of Practice requirements.
- We promote and support endangered wildlife.
- We encourage and support efforts to protect the natural environment and its inhabitants.
- We work with other animal rescue groups, vets, QPWS, Council and other environmental protection groups.
- We encourage the valuable participation of members of our community in all of our aims and activities.
- Through our school and community education project we give informative talks and displays to local schools and any other interested community organisations.
- We provide a 24 hour wildlife hotline service. This service is manned by our volunteers on a roster system and is a valuable community aid as well as being instrumental in animals receiving timely and appropriate care.

Australia is one of the most important countries in the world for biodiversity, it is home to more species than any other developed country.

Our wildlife is extremely precious; most cannot be found anywhere else in the world. It is very important that we conserve and protect our animals and their habitat.

Sadly, Australia is facing an extinction crisis. Since European settlement, Australia has the worst mammal extinction rate in the world. One out of three mammal extinctions in the last 400 years have occurred in Australia.

We can all play a part in helping to protect our wildlife – we can learn about our native animals, understand that each and every one plays an important role in our environment. We can help protect their habitat and food sources and – if you ever see a native animal who needs a helping hand – call the Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Hotline on 4947 3389 for advice on how to help.



Fauna Rescue Whitsundays Association Inc. PO Box 806 Cannonvale 4802

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Find the pairs of birds

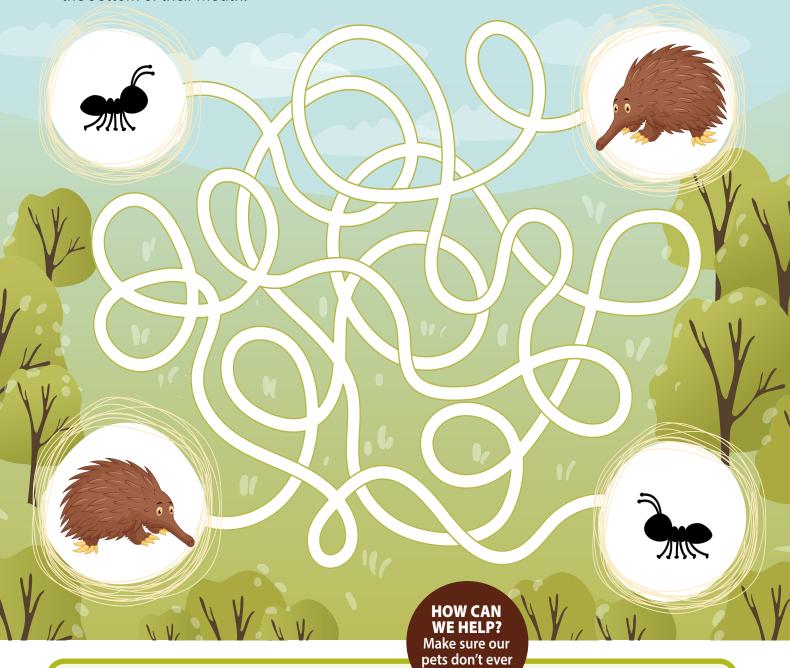


What do echidnas eat?



Help the two hungry echidnas find their favourite food – ants!

Let's make sure that echidnas in our backyard can safely look for their favourite anty meals! Without teeth to chew, echidnas grind their anty meal between their tongue and the bottom of their mouth.



This turns into that??



Echidnas lay eggs...



chase wildlife

babies are called 'puggles'...



which grow into an adult echidna!

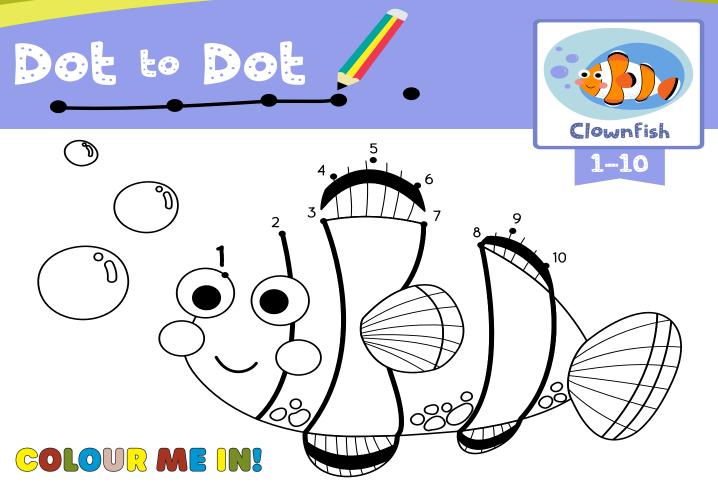


Which animal is this?

Colour-in the animal and trace the letters.





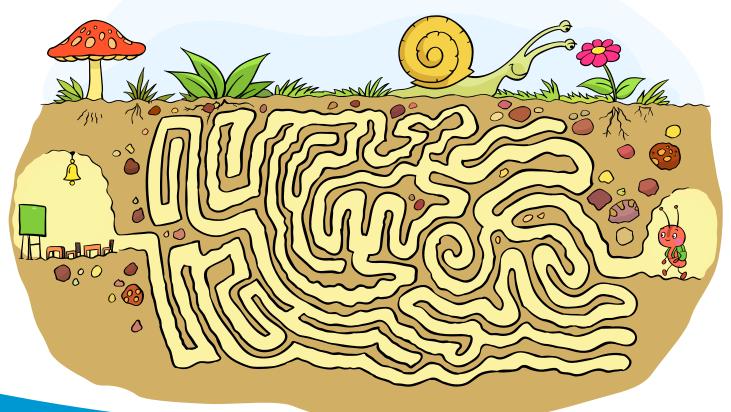


Lets keep our ocean clean as possible for all our sea friends!

Help little ant find his way to school

Ants are very important little creatures! They put air into the soil, allowing plants to grow better! Ants move seeds around and these seeds sprout and grow new plants. They also help with composting - they eat a lot of organic material and provide food for many things.







Find 12 differences

DID YOU KNOW?Wallabies can't hop
backwards?







Caring for Wally

Imagine being a tiny baby wallaby and taken from your mother's pouch and put into a strange world of humans with different smells and sounds.

That is exactly what happened to 'Wally' a wallaby joey. Wally's mum was hit by a car but luckily a passing motorist stopped to check the wallaby's pouch and discovered a frightened Wally inside.

The motorist knew to call her wildlife rescue group straight away so she called Fauna Rescue Whitsundays.

Wally was scared and thirsty but his new carer gave him special fluids as well as five meals a day of special wallaby milk.

Wally's new home was a cotton bag inside in a basket lined with sheepskin and covered in a blanket to keep it dark – as close as his carer could get to his mum's pouch.

So as not to frighten him, Wally was kept as far away

from the smells and sounds of the house as possible.

As he got older, each evening he was put on clean grass outside so he got used to eating it.

When it was nearly time for Wally to go to an outdoors enclosure it was important that he had the company of another wallaby of similar size and age.

When he was old enough, Wally and his friends were put in a 'soft release cage' a lot further away from humans which allowed them to smell wild wallabies and, in time, explore the bush.

Over time they came back to the cage less often and eventually learned to live happily in the wild.



help the little whale to find mum



Whales and other sea creatures can become tangled and injured in plastic and old fishing lines and nets.

When you are out on a boat, or at the beach, ask mum and dad to be very careful not to leave rubbish behind.

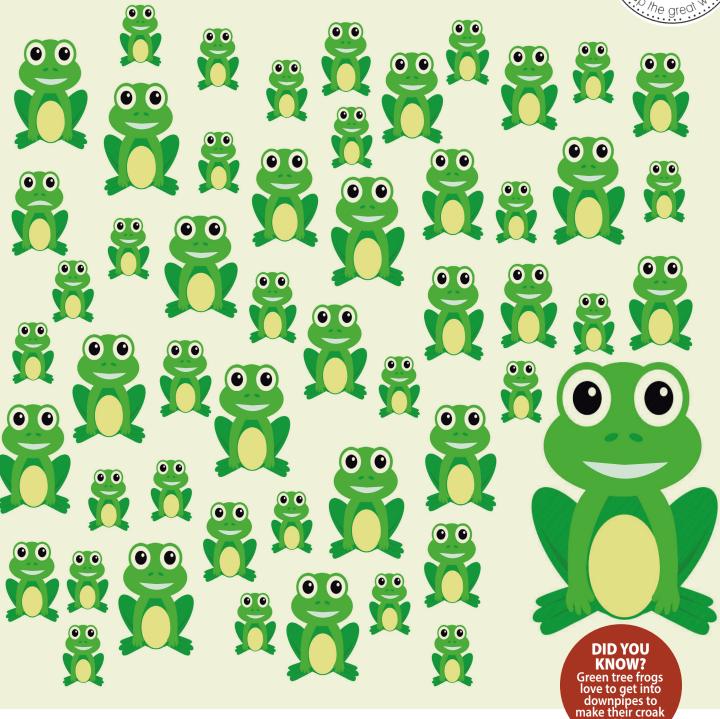




Help the lost baby frog find his mum

There is one lost baby frog who has a sad face. Find this lost frog and lead him safely to his mum by drawing a line to her.





Frogs help us in the garden!

We love green tree frogs! They are great garden helpers. They eat garden pests such as moths and other insects, as well as spiders, mice and other small animals.

We should know that our little garden helpers are very sensitive to chemicals. Chemicals on your hands and in the garden can cause them harm. You should never touch a frog, especially with dry hands as it feels like sandpaper to their skin.

We can help frogs by asking mum or dad not to use chemicals in the garden.



sound louder!

Where do these animals live?

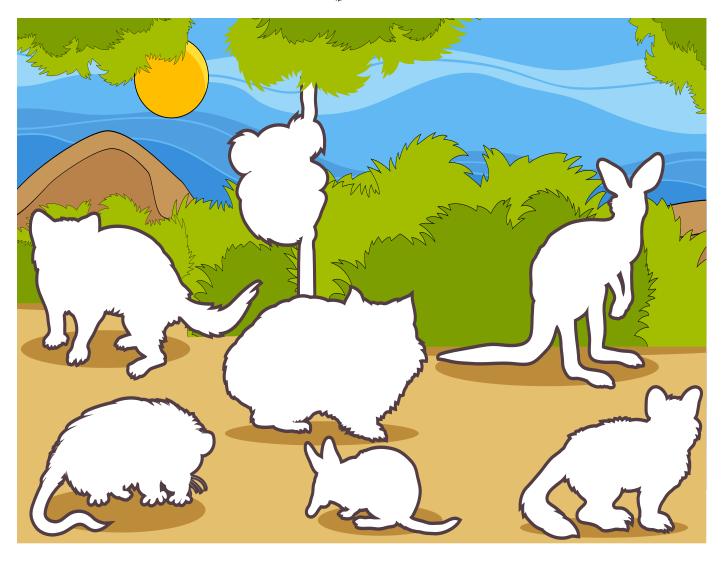


















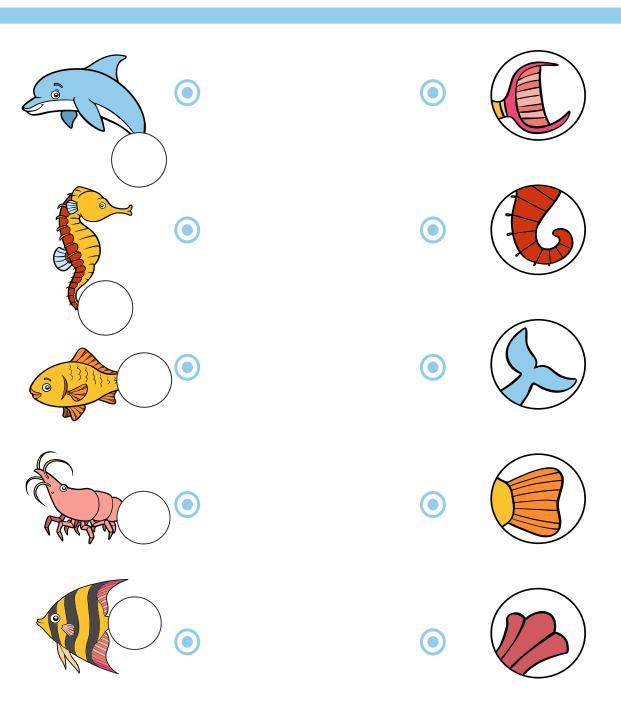




Find the tails!

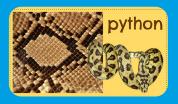
Uh oh! Our sea creatures have lost their tails! Whose tail belongs to who? Be a super sea life rescuer and put them back together by drawing a line connecting the sea creature to its correct tail.





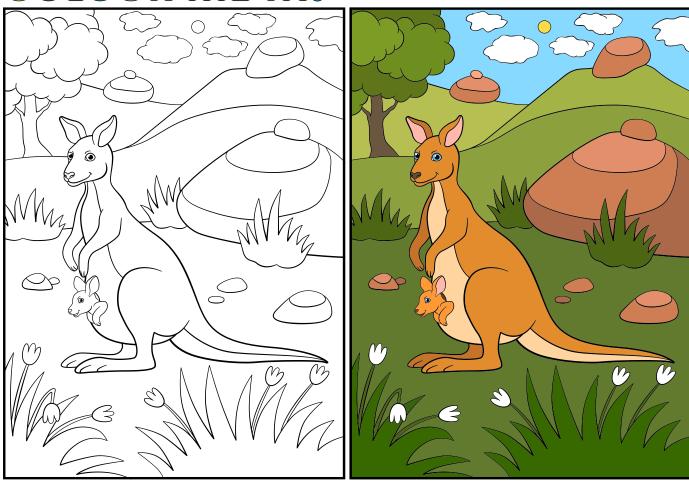




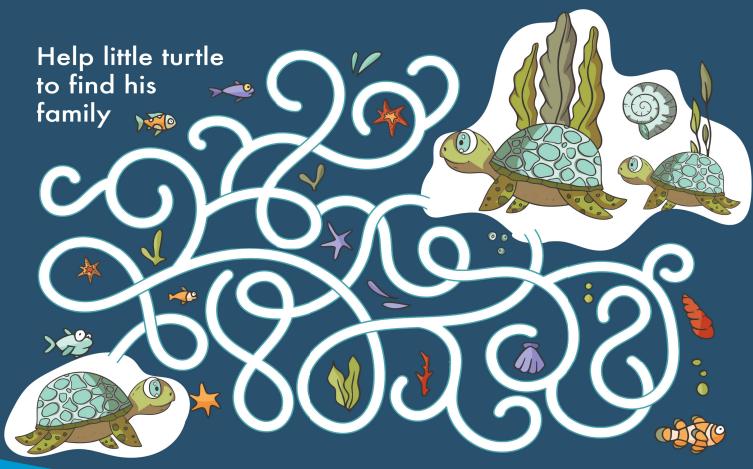




COLOUR ME IN!



You can be a wildlife warrior and care for our native animals!





Help mumma bird fly home to her babies

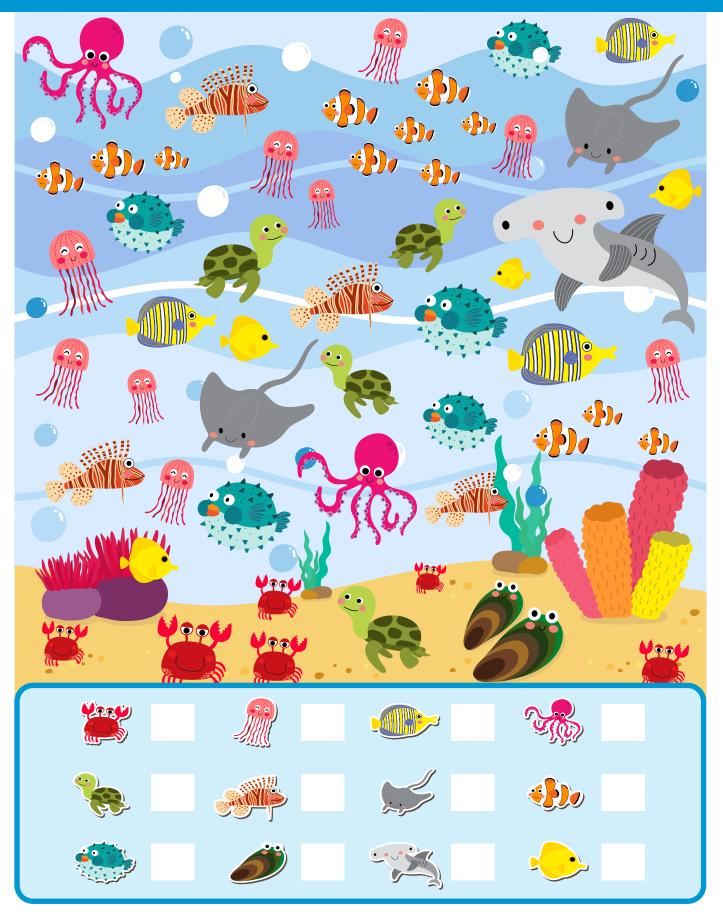
Next time you see a nest in a tree - stop and watch - you'll soon see mum or dad busily tending the nest. They may be still building it and preparing for their new babies. They may be feeding their babies and teaching them how to fly! Birds are excellent parents!

Birds are like you and me - their babies rely on caring adults to feed them and teach them things.



How Many?

Count the similar animals and write the number



Lets keep our oceans and beaches as clean as possible for all sea life!



Spot the difference

Put a circle around six differences in these two pictures!





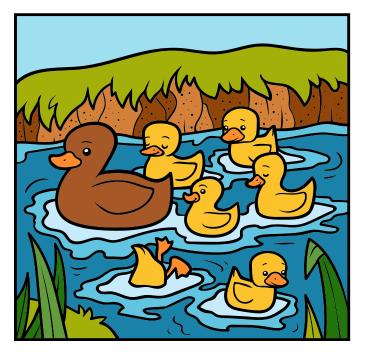


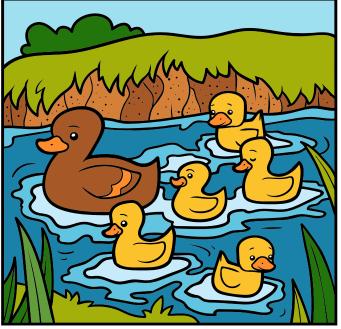
Spot the difference

Put a circle around eight differences in these two pictures!

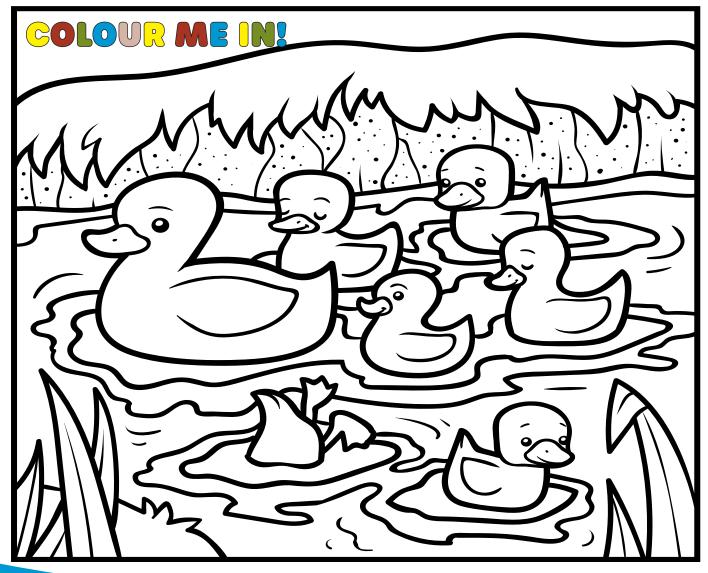
Mother ducks are proud parents! They teach their little families how to swim and find food.







There's





Read the words and trace the letters

This is an





This is a

This is a



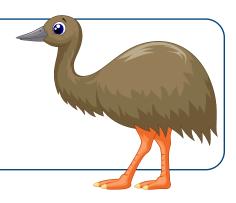


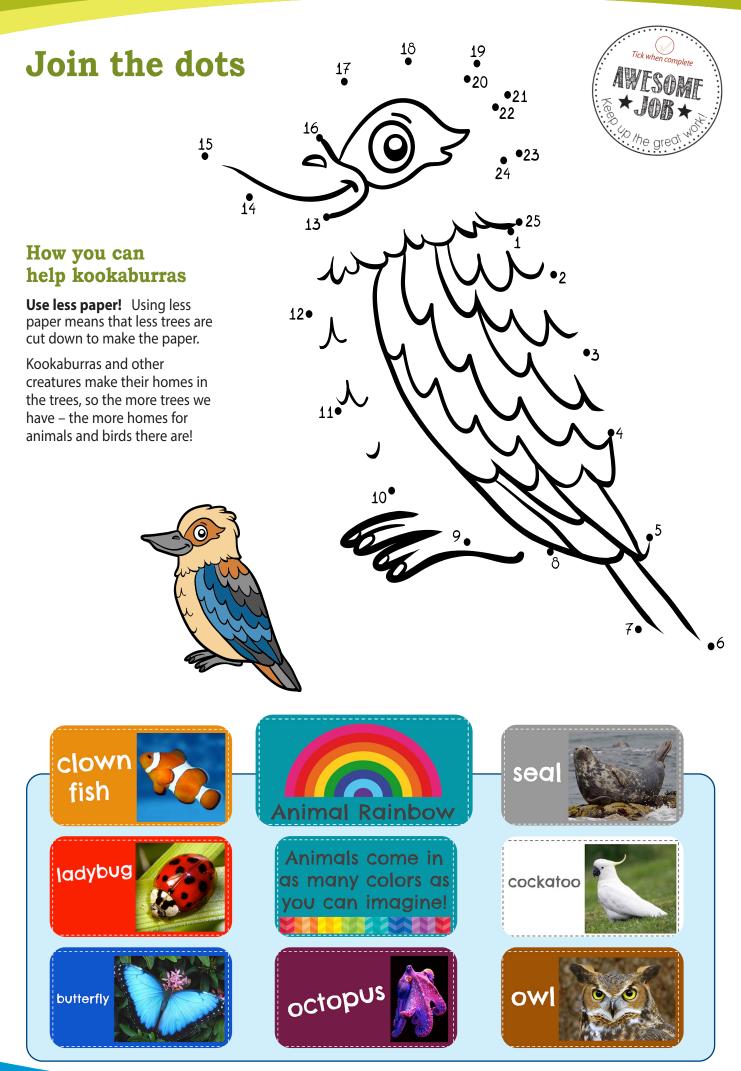
This is a



This is an









Build a bird watching fort

Wild creatures, including birds are naturally shy of humans. Making a fort will allow you to watch the birds in your garden without them even knowing you are there. We don't ever want to frighten them – let's just watch and see how truly wonderful they are!



What you need:

- · 3 canes
- String
- Scissors
- · Dark-green mesh or netting
- Leafy branches
- Binoculars
- Clothes pegs



Make the fort frame: tie the canes together with string to form a tent-like structure. Tie them tightly to prevent wobbling.



The Drape the mesh over the frame. Attach it Leto the frame with pegs so that it doesn't flap in the wind.



• Poke branches through the mesh to camouflage the fort. Cut some peepholes at eye level.



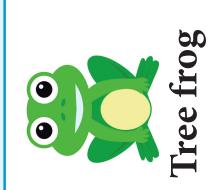
Take your binoculars inside and see who shows up! Make notes and sketches – it will help you learn more about our wonderful birds and animals.

Fun animal dice game

- 1. Take a photocopy of this page on thicker than average paper
- 2. Cut the template out
- 3. Bend all the tabs and lines to make construction easier
- 4. Glue it together to make the wildlife dice.









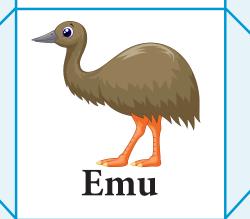


Dice game instructions:

- 1. Decide on whether you will imitate movement, sound or both.
- 2. Take turns throwing the dice.
- 3. Imitate the animal it falls on.



Echidna







Saving the Starfish



Hear the story of a small child, just like you, whose compassionate actions made a BIG difference.

nce upon a time, there was an old lady who used to go to the beach for long walks breathing in the fresh air and feeling the sand and water squelch between her toes. Early one morning, she was walking along the shore after a big cyclone had passed and she found the vast beach filled with little starfish as far as the eye could see, stretching in both directions.

Off in the distance, the old lady noticed a small kindy kid approaching. As the kid walked, they paused every so often occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The kindy kid came closer still and the old lady called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

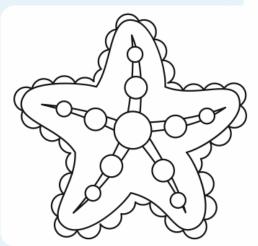
The kindy kid paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves," the kid replied. "When the sun gets high, they will die, unless I throw them back into the water."

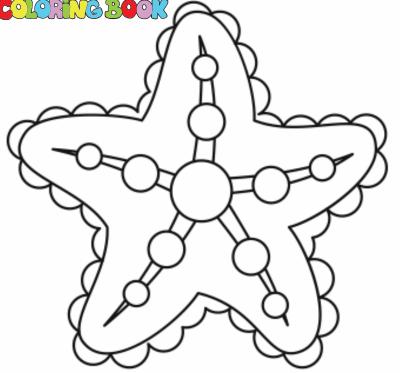
The old lady replied, "But there must be tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. I'm afraid you won't really be able to make much of a difference."

The kindy kid bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as they could into the ocean. Then they turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"

Activities:

- 1. Lie down on the floor, arms out, eyes closed just like a starfish. How would that starfish feel, laying there in the hot hot sun. How would the starfish feel, being picked up and flung back to the safety of the sea? Weeeee! After some reflection time swap it around. Imagine what it is like to be that kindy kid. Can one small kid make a difference? Can YOU make a difference? How?
- 2. Time to colour in a starfish. What are your happy colours? Use those to colour in the happy starfish. Add some sparkle. Add some stickers. Bring life to the starfish. This is what the kindy kid did after all.





Be an animal detective!

Kids get to take a closer look at their immediate environment and gain an understanding of the animals around us.

Activity:

Are there animals where you live, where you play? Let's step outside and take a look. Be a detective, open your eyes and look for animal clues.

Adults: guide the children or draw little clues for them to try and find:

- ☐ Chewed up leaves from insects
- ☐ Tracks (ants to larger animals)
- ☐ Buzzy sounds / Bird songs
- ☐ Spiderwebs
- ☐ Droppings (geckoes)
- ☐ Nests in trees, under trees, bowers
- ☐ Burrows (spiders to larger fauna)
- ☐ Termite nests or dead wood with insect homes
- ☐ Green ant nests
- ☐ Pools of water (pot plants) may have larvae
- ☐ Cocoons
- ☐ Eggs (lizard, birds, eggs)
- On the beach crab holes, hermit crabs, shells with animals in them, octopus and other such animals in rock pools



Nature Collage

Kids get to understand that things we find in our natural environment may be an important resource for animals. Everything is connected.

Animals make their homes out of natural materials. What natural materials are in our backyard / parks / beaches? What should we leave alone in case an animal needs them? (shells, fallen logs).

Activity:

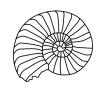
Kids use natural resources to decorate a native animal drawing in the book, and identify natural materials that animals need or use.

Take a stroll through the park, backyard, along the beach and collect leaves, dirt, sticks... Anything that can be used to glue onto a collage. Different colours and textures work well. There is no wrong or right this is just a different way of colouring in.

Be careful! Is what you are using helpful to animals? Should it be collected or left behind?















Who am I?

Kids get to identify key features of our local animals and learn about where they live, what they eat, how they stay safe. They have the opportunity to understand that animals have special needs for shelter, food and family - just like them!

Wallaby	
Where do I live?	
What do I eat?	***
What do I look like? What do I sound like?	
What are my threats?	
What can a kind kid do to help?	

Kookaburra	
Where do I live?	
What do I eat?	
What do I look like? What do I sound like?	
What are my threats?	
What can a <i>kind kid</i> do to help?	

Tadpole rescue

- Ask an a Cult to help with this
- What you need:
- Aquarium net
- Plastic container
- Magnifying glass

Tadpoles are the first life stage of frogs (and toads).

Mostly they are hatched from eggs (spawn) laid in spring.

Sometimes native frogs can find themselves in a spot of bother by being trapped in an unsafe place such as a shallow puddle which will dry up. You can help rescue them and put them in a safer place - a nearby pond or larger water source where they can easily climb out (if they can't get out they will drown). Visit them in their natural habitat to watch them grow and change into beautiful frogs!



If you spot some native frog tadpoles in danger, scoop them up with a mesh net or a small jar.



2 Have a plastic container with water from the same or similar water source that you found them in if possible (same temperature). Put rocks in for them to climb on if they have legs (they breath air when they have legs).



3 If they are breathing air and have legs – and only if you need to – pick them up gently with clean, wet hands (they have very sensitive skin).



Quickly and gently take them (in a clean ventilated container) to a nearby safe place. A safe place is a nearby clean water source, away from predators and chemicals with access for them to climb out of the water and sit on a rock or log.

How to tell the difference between cane toad tadpoles and native frog tadpoles

- Cane toad tadpoles are shiny black on top and have a plain dark bluish grey or black belly.
- The body is an oval shape, pointed at the snout and often broad across the gills.
- Toad tadpoles tend to form large, slow-moving groups. They do not come up to the surface to breathe like the tadpoles of native frogs.



Build a butterfly lunch bar

Butterflies feed on flowers, they suck up nectar with long, tube-like tongues.

Sometimes, when there is not enough flowers for them, you can help them with a nutritious snack to help them along their way!



Peel the banana and slice it into a bowl. Mash it up with a fork.



? Punch three holes in a paper plate, thread a piece of string through each one and tie with a knot. Hang the plate on a branch, spoon on some paste and wait for butterflies to land!

What you need:

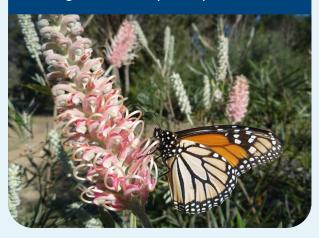
- · Ripe banana
- Mixing bowl
- Saucepan
- Wooden spoon
- 100g brown sugar
- · 250ml water
- Paper plate
- String



Put the banana, sugar and water into a ∠pot and gently simmer. When it becomes sticky, but is still a bit runny, turn off the heat and let it cool.

Plant a butterfly snack bar

You can attract butterflies into your own backyard or school by planting their favourite flowering plants! Amongst other native plants, butterflies think grevillias are yummy!

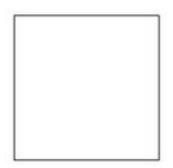


Origami fortune teller

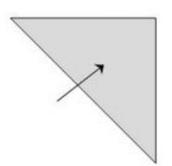
adult to help with this

Find out what animal you are!

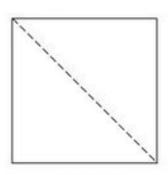
Ask mum or dad to help you with this one - here's the instructions for the folding puzzle on the next page. Ask an adult to photocopy the next page and cut it and fold as per these instructions below:



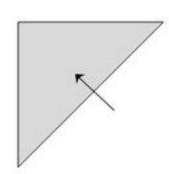
Take a square of paper.



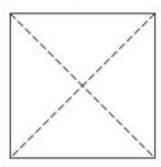
Fold it over like this.



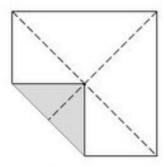
Unfold it.



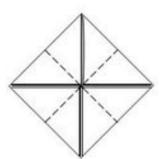
Now fold it the other way.



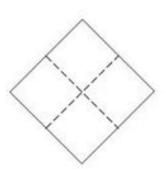
Unfold it and your paper should look like this.



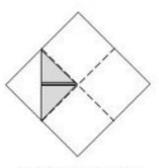
Fold all 4 corners to the center of the square so the points just touch it.



Your paper should look like this.



Flip your paper over so the folds you just made are turned down.



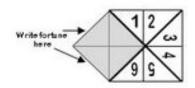
Fold the corners to the center again.



Your paper should look like this.



Write the numbers 1-8 as shown above. Two on each flap.



Add your 8 fortunes by lifting each flap and writing a fortune under each number.



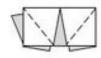
Flip your paper over and add a color or a different object you can spell to each section.



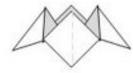
Figure

Figure

Fold it sideways like Figure 1 then unfold it. Now fold it up like Figure 2.



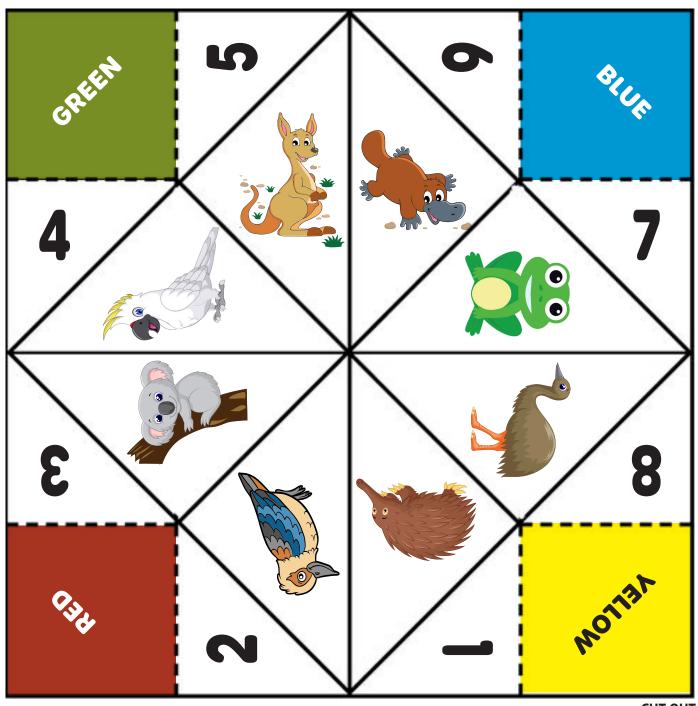
Put your fingers under the 4 open corners.



Here is how it looks finished and open.

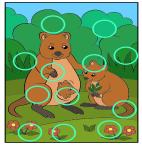


Adults: Photocopy page and cut and fold as per previous page instructions: Google 'cootie catcher' instructions on how to play! Ask the child to mimic the animal that they 'land on'.



CUT OUT

ANSWERS TO EARLIER PUZZLES:







Page 5

If you need assistance with injured or orphaned native wildlife call our hotline (07) 4947 3389

www.frw.org.au



