

NATURE QUEST

Head outside to your local park or reserve or even your backyard, and discover what plants and animals are living there.

You'll be surprised at what you find when you look closely!

The following activities will encourage you to:

- Observe any bird life, and see how many types you can find;
- See what insects there are, and where they like to live;
- Notice what's active in the morning compared to the afternoon; and
- Take photos or sketch things that interest you.

You can have a go at completing either Bird Bingo, Mini-beast Discovery or Nature Scavenger Hunt, or even complete all three.



BIRD BINGO

Find a quiet place to sit down in your backyard or local park and keep an eye and ear out for birds. Mark off each of these birds that call the Camden area home as you see or hear it.

Note: It best to birdwatch during the cooler parts of the day when the birds are most active - before 12 noon and after 3pm.



MAGPIE



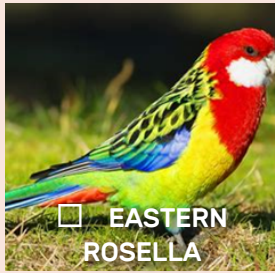
GALAH



NOISY MINER



RAINBOW LORIKEET



EASTERN ROSELLA



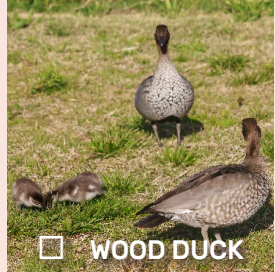
MAGPIE LARK (PEE WEE)



CORELLA



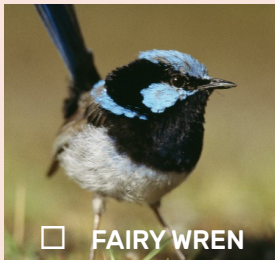
SWAMP HEN



WOOD DUCK



COCKATOO



FAIRY WREN



KOOKABURRA

MINI BEAST DISCOVERY

Did you know that insects are also known as mini beasts, and they are everywhere! Head outside to your local nature reserve or backyard and find a quiet spot near some trees or a garden bed to discover what mini beasts live there.

Remember to be gentle and quiet observers. Do not touch any insects – use a trowel, paintbrush or spoon to move an insect and consider wearing gloves.

Step 1

Gather all the materials you will need: magnifying glass, pen and notebook, paint brush or spoon, backpack to carry equipment (if you go to a local park) and plastic container to observe the mini beast up close.



Step 3

Look closely at a tree trunk. Keep an eye out for tree sap as many insects love this sweet treat.



Step 2

Look closely at the base of a tree. Use a trowel or spoon to gently move the topsoil, leaves and bark.



Step 4

Look closely at flowers to see if there are any flying mini beasts such as bees or butterflies.



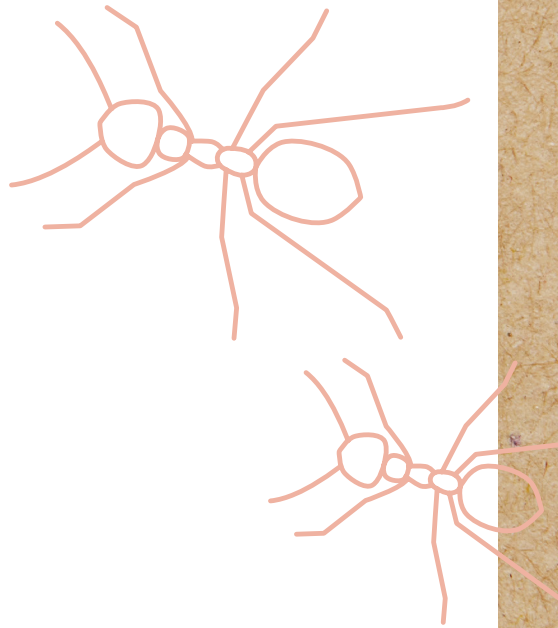
Step 5

Look closely on leaves to see if there are any mini beasts eating the leaf.



Step 6

Draw a picture or take a photo of the insect and try to identify what it may be. If you need some help identifying your insects check out 'What Bug is That?' by CSIRO at <http://anic.ento.csiro.au/insectfamilies/>. There are also apps available to help with identification that just need you to upload a photo. Record all the mini beasts you find and note where you found them and what behaviour they were displaying when you found them.



LOCATION	NAME OF MINI BEAST	DRAW OR SKETCH OF MINI BEAST

Something to think about...

Were you surprised by how many mini beasts you did/did not see?

What was the most common type of mini beast you saw?

Why did some areas have more mini beasts than others?

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Explore your local reserve or backyard and find the following items.

Take a photo or sketch the items that you find.

Please don't remove anything from the environment as we don't want to cause harm to plants, animals or their homes.

Something shiny

Something green

Something that has been eaten
by a bug

An interesting looking rock

Something with a strong smell

Something smooth

Something rough

Something soft

Something blue

Something man-made