

**Overview** – Perth Zoo is proudly situated on Noongar Whadjuk land and this experience introduces students to the six Noongar seasons of Birak, Bunuru, Djeran, Makuru, Djilba and Kambarang. Through story and role play, your Zoo presenter will take students on a journey to investigate the signs of each season as seen through the eyes of Koolbardi the Magpie. The changing seasons are represented by different weather but most importantly, changing flowers and animal behaviour. Students will participate in an interactive story, performing behaviours observed in animals during each of the seasons. They will learn Noongar animal names and other Noongar language relevant to the changing seasons and caring for the land.



Koolbardi  
Magpie

This program has been developed with the wonderful guidance and expertise of Justin Martin, Dujrandi Dreaming.

**Lesson Logistics** – This experience takes place in the Australian Bushwalk and requires at least a 1:5 ratio of adult supervision.

## Links to the Australian Curriculum

### Cross Curriculum Priority – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures

Organising ideas – Country/Place	
OI.2	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities maintain a special connection to and responsibility for Country/Place.
OI.3	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have holistic belief systems and are spiritually and intellectually connected to the land, sea, sky and waterways.

### Cross Curriculum Priority – Sustainability

Organising ideas – Systems	
OI.2	All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival.
Organising ideas – Futures	
OI.7	Actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments.

Science	Science Understanding Biological Science	Science as a Human Endeavour	Science Inquiry Skills
<b>Pre-Primary</b>	Living things have basic needs including food and water (ACSSU002).	Science involves exploring and observing the world using the senses (ACSHE013).	Respond to questions about familiar objects and events (ACSIS014).
<b>Year 1</b>	Living things live in different places where their needs are met (ACSSU211).	Science involves asking questions about, and describing changes in, objects and events (ACSHE021).	Respond to and pose questions, and make predictions about familiar objects and events (ACSIS024).
<b>Year 2</b>		Science involves asking questions about, and describing changes in, objects and events (ACSHE034).	Respond to and pose questions, and make predictions about familiar objects and events (ACSIS037).
<b>Year 3</b>		Science involves making predictions and describing patterns and relationships (ACSHE050).	
		Science knowledge helps people to understand the effect of their actions (ACSHE051).	



## Before Your Zoo Visit

In this 45 minute facilitated experience we will be organising your students into small groups each with a teacher/parent helper. Each group will become an animal that is represented in the story. Please organise your students the groups below before to your visit. They can learn the Noongar name for their animal and share their prior knowledge about each animal as a class.

The student groups (representing each animal) will depend on the number of teacher/parent helpers available. Teacher/parent helpers will assist help students with reading instructions and dressing up.

Please use the table below as a guide:

Animals/Student Groups	Six helpers	Five helpers	Four helpers	Three helpers
Yooran—Bobtail	☑	☑	☑	☑
Ngoolark—Carnaby's Cookatoo	☑	☑	☑	☑
Kwooyar—Motorbike Frog	☑	☑	☑	☑
Wetj—Emu	☑	☑	☑	No Wetj Grp
Yarkiny—Western Swamp Tortoise	☑	☑	No Yarkiny Grp	No Yarkiny Grp
Nyingarn—Echidna	☑	No Echidna Grp	No Echidna Grp	No Echidna Grp

*NB: Please see the next page for 'Animal Group Name Badges' which can be worn by your students on the day of the excursion.*

### Noongar Vocabulary Used in this Experience

During this experience, students will be introduced to relevant Noongar language. Below is a list of words and their English translations which can be practised before the visit. Please note that there are many variations of spelling for the same word within the Noongar language.

Noongar Word	English Translation	Noongar Word	English Translation
Noongar	The original people of the south-west of Western Australia	Whadjuk	The Noongar people of the Swan Coastal Plain (Perth)
Kaya	Hello	Wandju	Welcome
Barna	Animal/s	Koolbardi	Magpie
Gwabba	Beautiful	Nyingarn	Echinda
Boodja	Land	Wetj	Emu
Birak	Noongar Season (approx. Dec/Jan)	Ngoolak	Carnaby's Cockatoo
Bunuru	Noongar Season (approx. Feb/March)	Kwooyar	Motorbike Frog
Djeran	Noongar Season (approx. April/May)	Yarkiny	Western Swamp Tortoise
Makuru	Noongar Season (approx. June/July)	Yooran	Bobtail/Shingleback Skink
Djilba	Noongar Season (approx. Aug/Sept)		
Kambarang	Noongar Season (approx. Oct/Nov)		

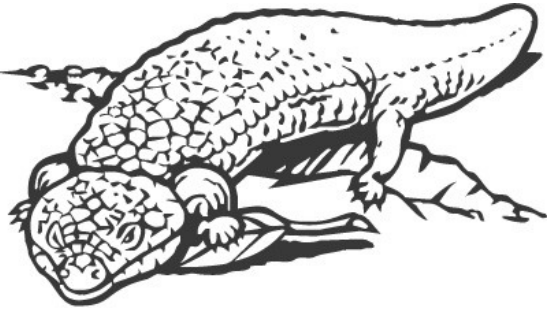


## Before Your Zoo Visit

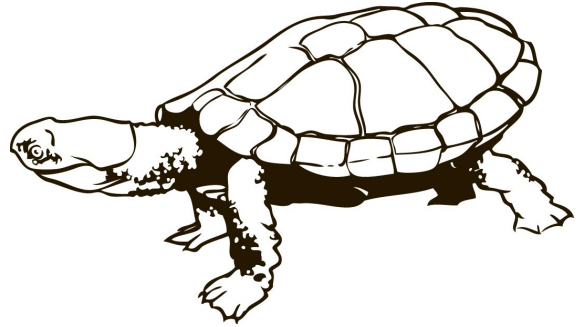
### Student Animal Group Name Badges:

Once you have worked out how many groups you will have (please refer to the table on the previous page), we encourage you to use the following labels for your students to wear on the day:

**Yooran - Bobtail**



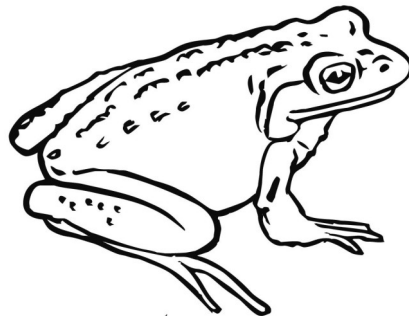
**Yarkiny— Western Swamp Tortoise**



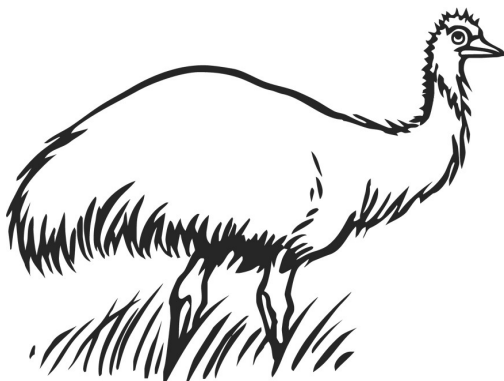
**Nyingarn - Echidna**



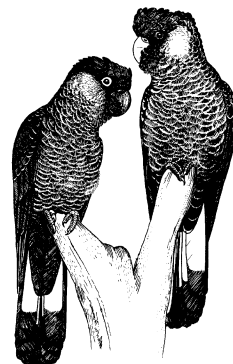
**Kwooyar— Motorbike Frog**



**Wetj— Emu**



**Ngoolak - Carnaby's Cockatoo**



# Before Your Zoo Visit

## Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country:

A Welcome to Country is by Indigenous Traditional Custodians to welcome visitors to their traditional land. It can only be done by Traditional Custodians of the land that you are on. The Zoo is situated on Noongar Whadjuk land, and if your Zoo presenter is a Noongar Whadjuk custodian, your class will receive a Welcome to Country.

If your Zoo presenter is not a Noongar Wadjuk custodian—they will lead an Acknowledgement of Country at the beginning of this experience. An Acknowledgement of Country is a statement that shows awareness of, and respect for, the Traditional Custodians of the land you are on and their long and continuing relationship with the land.

Your school may have its own Acknowledgement of Country which your students are familiar with. Below is the Zoo's Acknowledgement of Country for early childhood learners. We will encourage the students to join in on the day. Please feel free to practise this before your visit. We are also happy for you to use these words, adapted to acknowledge to Traditional Custodians of the land where your school is situated, outside of your Zoo visit.

## Acknowledgement of Country at Perth Zoo for PP-Year 3

### Words

We touch the land

We touch the sky

We touch our hearts

And this is why

The Noongar Whadjuk people care for this land

And we say thank you

### Action with hands

Touch the ground

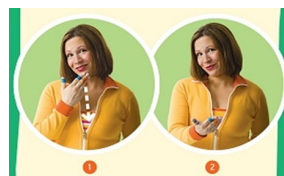
Reach up high

Touch your heart

Hands out open in front

Hug arms around yourself on 'care' and open your arms wide on 'land'

Sign language for 'Thank you'



Where we stand.

Lift and place your feet on the land.



## After Your Zoo Visit

Continue immersing and extending your students understanding of Noongar language and culture, and nurture their love of animals. When planning your extension activities, we encourage the following:

**Connections:** Connect with local indigenous families in your school and local areas. Create opportunities to share knowledge and activities within your school community.

**Story Telling** – Story telling is an integral part of Indigenous culture. Share stories through art, dance, books, and songs.

**Immersion:** Choose as many practical, hands-on experiences for your students as possible. Consider bush art experiences such as bark rubbings, exploring dot art, making bush musical instruments and plaster moulds of animal tracks.

The following resources provide a great place to find relevant information and activities:

### 1. The Noongar Boodja Language Centre

The Noongar Boodja Language Centre website provides a wealth of information and activities for PP—Year 3. In particular, there are activity packages based on different themes including animals, the ocean, birds, and the bush.

<https://noongarboodjar.com.au/education-and-training/>

### 2. Perth NMR

Perth NMR has a fantastic range of resources available to use in the class room. Please check out the Six Seasons Stories as told by Elder Neville Collard.

<https://www.perthnrm.com/resource/traditional-knowledge/>

In addition to resources specific to the six seasons, bush foods and history, there is also language activities such as 'Noongar Animal Picture Match' and 'Noongar Numbers'

<https://www.perthnrm.com/resource/educational/>

### 3. Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC) Resource

NACC has developed two education resources for schools with specific activities designed for PP, Year 1 and Year 2. There are two resources: Sharing Yamaji Knowledge and Sharing Noongar Knowledge and they include information on local Aboriginal groups, connection to Country, bush food, traditional ecological knowledge, caring for Country and changes to the environment post-colonisation.

<https://www.nacc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Sharing-Noongar-Knowledge-low-res.pdf>

4. The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council provides detailed curriculum links for History, English, Maths, Science and Geography.

<https://www.noongarculture.org.au/education/>

