

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

*Education Session and
Activity Profile Booklet*



This booklet has been prepared by the Wildflower Society of Western Australia Educational Sub-Committee (ESC) to showcase a range of nature-based activities and workshops

available for young people known to Society members and the wider community. We offer a fascinating and diverse range of fun, hands-on, practical themes that embrace new technologies and have been proven to engage young people in their natural environment. Thanks to securing funding from the Mary Bremner Bequest Grant we are excited to be working within Wildflower Society branches to offer our activities free of charge throughout the year.

The table below presents a summary of the following pages that detail each workshop and activity, so that Society members may determine what may be best suited to present to local young people. We encourage Branches to invite the ESC to deliver a workshop featuring two or more activities to make best use of these opportunities to engage with the local community and promote the Wildflower Society of Western Australia.



Activity	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Fabulous Fungi (p3) with Grant Thornett												
Plants and their Places (p4) with Andrew Price												
Plants and Peoples (p5) with Andrew Price												
Drawing and Painting the Bush Around You Workshop 1: Monoprinting(p6) with Jennifer Dudley												
Drawing and Painting the Bush Around You Workshop 2: Collography (p7) with Jennifer Dudley												
Leaf Litter Critters (p8) with Cathy Levett												
Build a Bug Hotel (p9) with Faye Arcaro												
Scribbling Bark Stories (p10) with Amanda Spooner												
Naming Nature (p11) with Amanda Spooner												
Fantastic Fruits (p12) with Bronwyn Keighery												

Cathy Levett is an Environmental Education Officer in a local government organisation with a passion for connecting children with the natural environment and opening their eyes to the wonders that are there to be discovered. She takes young people into their local nature reserves to learn about nature and encourage thinking about environmental issues.



Andrew Price is an educator with a passion for helping young people discover more about their natural world. He owns and operates his own educational business 'Kwongan Kids' and works with schools linking local ecology to the Western Australian Curriculum and creating educational spaces in Schools that celebrate our unique biodiversity.

Bronwen Keighery took her first bush walk at age 10 and still enjoys sharing the bushland with others, especially children. She has been lucky to work as a teacher of high school students, a botanist and a general teacher of anything to do with wildflowers to adults and children alike.



Amanda Spooner has been fascinated by the WA flora for 30 years. Throughout this time she has been involved with introducing children to the wonders of the flora, through bushwalks and workshops; she's been involved in many conservation projects and worked at the WA Herbarium for many years primarily on Florabase.

Jennifer Dudley is an artist interested in the ecology of the natural world. She is fascinated by the amazing Wildflowers of Western Australia, by their Intriguing forms and beautiful colours and their often tenacious grasp of life in extreme conditions. She loves working with children of various ages, presenting activities and workshops which encourage their interaction with the bush.



Grant Thornett is a self-taught Wildflower/Fungi Tour Guide, Photographer and Lecturer who enjoys educating people about WA's rich natural biodiversity either on bus tours or in the classroom.

Faye Arcaro is a qualified horticulturist and an avid photographer and nature enthusiast. She is a guest speaker and regular Co-host of Let's Talk Gardening on Curtin 100.1fm radio.



Fabulous Fungi

Take a wander through the little-known and often misunderstood world of fungi. Throughout the wetter months of the year South Western Australia puts on an outstanding display of fungal Biodiversity. Colourful, strange and bizarre, join Grant as he leads the group on an interactive and fascinating tour of local bushland that is so much more than just mushrooms. Soon you'll develop a keen eye finding fascinating fungus everywhere, maybe you'll come across something rare and unique, or maybe the mysterious and fluorescent Ghost Fungus. Fabulous Fungi is an engaging experience for young people from a wide range of ages ready to discover new worlds not too far from home.



Preferred Location	Maximum group size	Suggested age range of participants	Time taken	Leader of activity or workshop	Participants should bring with them
Outdoors	15	8 -18	30min - 1 hour	Grant Thornett	Hat Water Bottle Sturdy Shoes

Plants and their Places

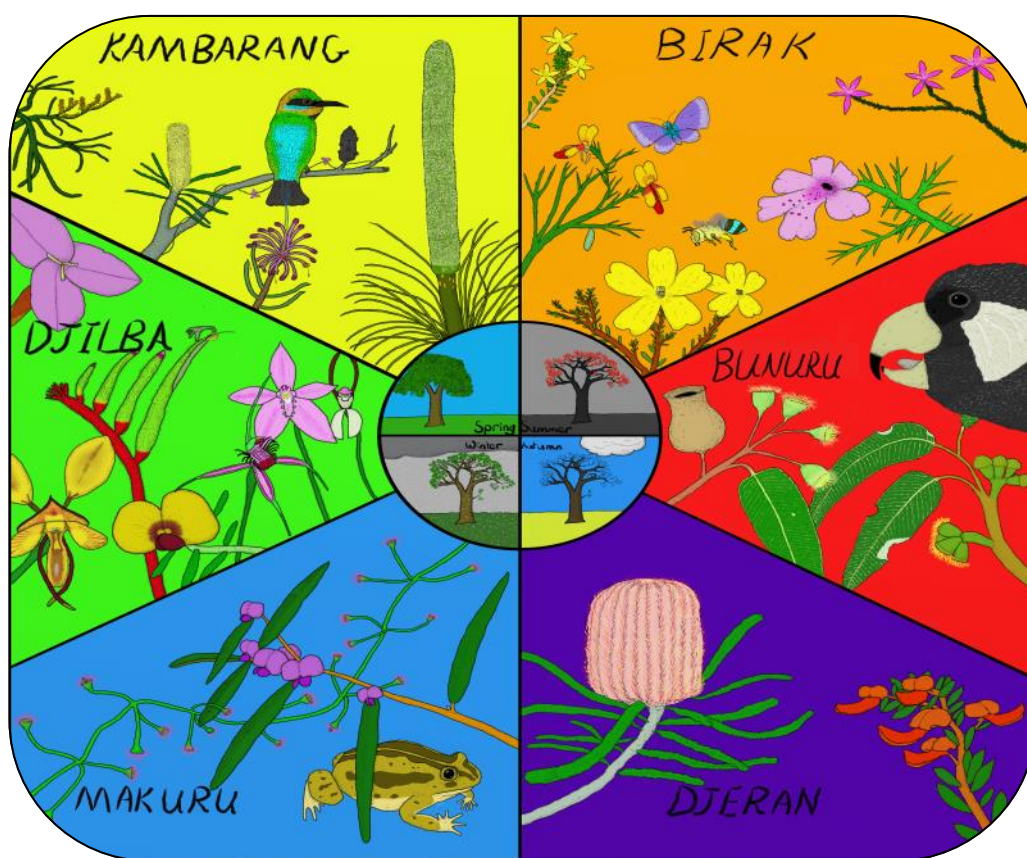
Plants and their Places allows young people to discover more about the astounding diversity of plants in their local environment first hand using a fully interactive digital key. Learn how our local plants and animals are each dependent on each other for survival and explore some fascinating aspects of ecology. Learn to recognise our plants by how they look, feel and smell. Be amazed by an insight into their cultural significance for humans both in recent times and throughout our indigenous history. Andrew leads the activity into local bushland to deliver a hands-on experience for a wide range of ages with lots of good humour and fun.



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Outdoors	20	7-18	30mins - 1 hour	Andrew Price	Hat Water Bottle Sturdy Shoes

Plants and Peoples

Indigenous Australians have learnt to live with our native plants for over fifty thousand years. Plants and Peoples explores the cultural and spiritual significance of our plants to our Indigenous Australians and celebrates our plants properties as foods, medicines and practical tools. This hands-on journey of discovery will introduce young people to how plants have been connected to people in South Western Australia for millennia and wherever possible refer to plants by their original 'Noongar' names.



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Outside	20	9 - 18 years	30mins - 1 hour	Andrew Price	Hat Water Sturdy Shoes

Drawing and Printing the Bush Around You

Jenni will be offering two activities based on sketches you make while bushwalking in each venue. She will introduce participants to Monoprint and Collography, two classic relief printmaking techniques. Both techniques are simple and fun and you can continue to develop your work after taking your prints and plates home.

Prints will be taken without a Press, using a Baren or the back of a wooden spoon.

Attention is paid to the method of inking the plates and varying the pressure applied according to the surface of each plate.

Activity 1: Monoprinting

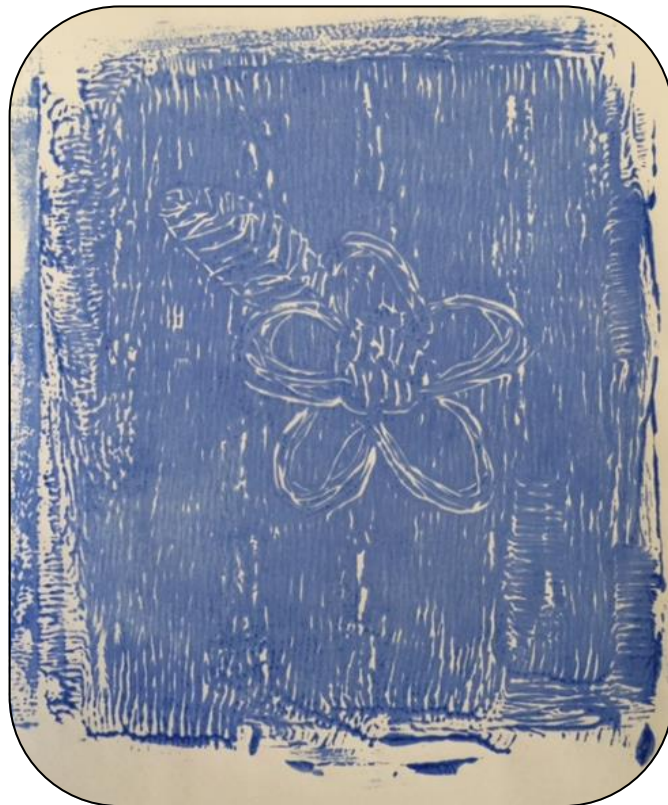
This workshop is most suitable for kids aged 7 to 12.

Monoprints are created by drawing or brushing into a wet dark or coloured inked surface, creating a white line drawing, other marks or patterns, then carefully pulling a print from this temporary plate. Monoprinting is good for capturing the detail of particular plants, flowers and fungi observed, but is also a very free process and can produce painterly effects.

Create a single image or a small series of prints which are similar but not exactly the same.



This Lemon Myrtle bush, (*Backhousia Citriodora*), became the subject of a recent Monoprinting workshop



1/1, Single Lemon Myrtle Flower and Leaf, Rose Price. (Aged 9).

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Indoors or Outdoors	10	7-12 Years	1 hour	Jenni Dudley	Old Clothes or Art shirt etc.

Drawing and Printing the Bush Around You

Activity 2: Collography

Collography introduces participants to the concept and practice of plate creation in Printmaking.

The printmaker makes a simple plate, sealing it to strengthen, then carefully inks and prints the plate to create repeated close versions of the original image.

Because Collography explores the use of textures within bold shapes, we will use it to express features of the wider environment visited that day, creating what Jenni refers to as “Bush Floor” printmaking.



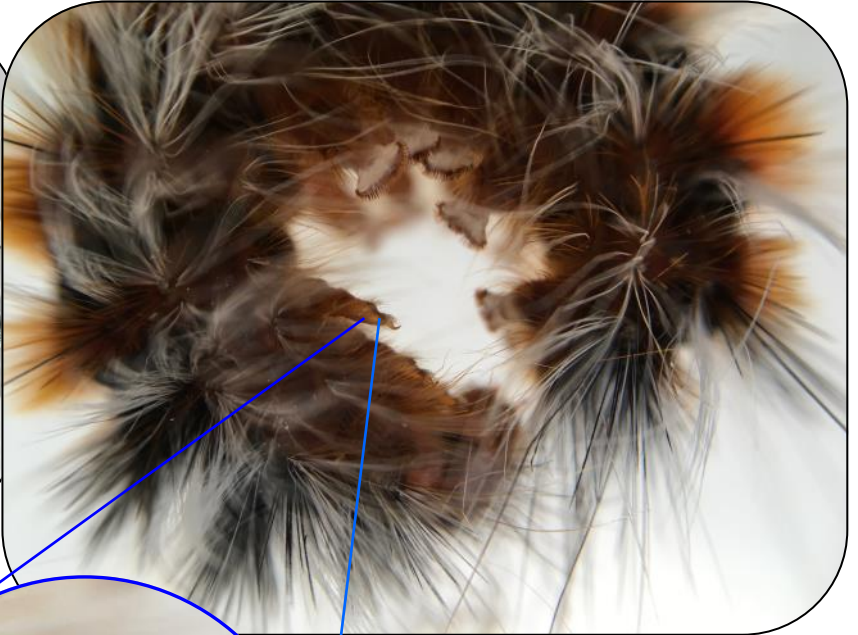
Here is Jenni's Collographic Plate created from the ground surface beneath the Lemon Myrtle.

Preferred Location	Maximum group size	Suggested age range of participants	Time taken	Leader of activity or workshop	Participants should bring with them
Indoors or Outdoors	10	10-17 Years	1.5 hours	Jenni Dudley	Old Clothes or Art shirt etc.

Leaf Litter Critters

Discover hidden wonders in nature using iScopes that turn iPads and Tablets into microscopes.

Begin with a walk to explore the natural environment and use magnifiers to take a close look at soil, leaves, feathers and other aspects of the bush. Collect small amounts of soil and leaf litter for study. Look closely at the soil and leaf litter to discover and identify the tiny animals that live there.



Can you see the tiny hooks on the feet of this Hairy Mary Moth Caterpillar? (*Anthelidae*) Using the iScope, participants can easily produce their own amazing digital microscopic images to take home on their own digital devices.



Preferred Location	Maximum group size	Suggested age range of participants	Time taken	Leader of activity or workshop	Participants should bring with them
Indoors and Outdoors	Twenty	6-12 years old	45 minutes	Cathy Levett	Hat, shoes, Smartphone or Tablet (optional)

Build a Bug Hotel

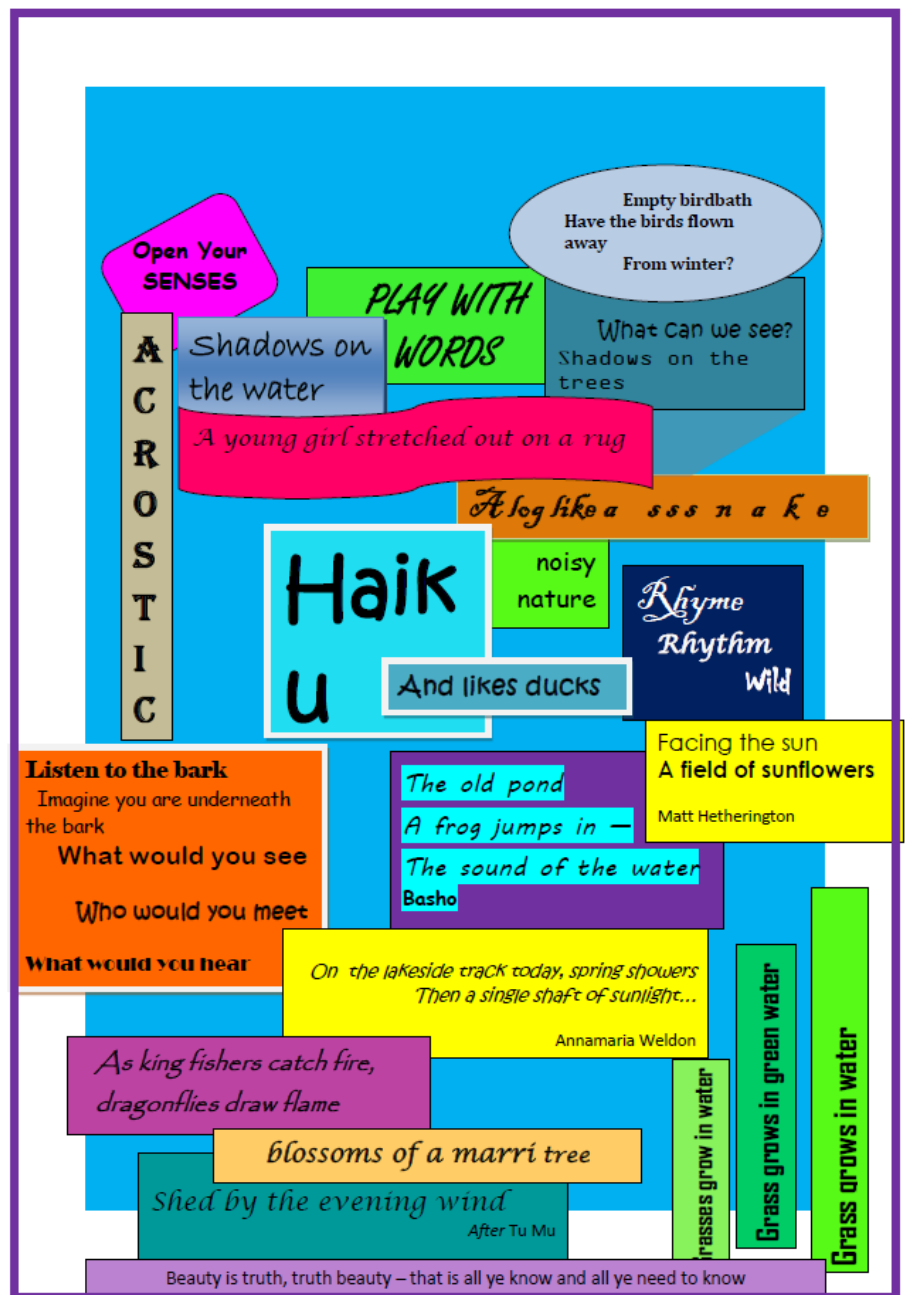
Beneficial bugs are a wondrous thing to have in your garden. By planting the right plants including Western Australian Natives the good bugs will happily live in your garden pollinating fruit and flowers and preying on the insect pests that gardeners don't like. You can create a bug hotel to welcome the critters and at the same time you can monitor who comes and goes, how long it takes to build their nest and what prey they collect. The materials can be collected from your own garden which might include garden prunings of grape vines, Buddleias, Hydrangeas and Lantana. Hollow bamboo or even drilled tree branches make great nesting spaces for cavity nesting bees. You could add gum nuts, soft mud blocks and a variety of recycled materials like straws and cardboard. The list is endless and you can use just about anything to create your own artistic bug hotel so why not give it a go?



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Indoors or outdoors	Variable depending on space and ability	7-81 years old. Really there is no limit.	30 minutes	Faye Arcaro	Closed in shoes

Scribbling Bark Stories

Sketching the wilderness as poetry and prose opens our minds to different ways of thinking. This activity offers kids the space to be still and the time to look with care into their surroundings, enabling new knowledge and insights. They'll use all their senses and we'll play with several quirky techniques to create poetry. The pace of this 'playshop' is slow and relaxed, with an emphasis on responding to our place and being present.



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Outside	10	6-18 years	1 hour	Amanda Spooner	Hat, Shoes, Water.

Naming Nature

In this activity budding taxonomists are introduced to the structure of a flower and to the basic tenets of character-based plant identification. During this activity the participants will learn to recognise parts of a plant using stylised character images and will become familiar with the concept of variation in nature. It will be a fun, engaging experience, using hands-on methods to identify and discover more about local native and weedy flora.



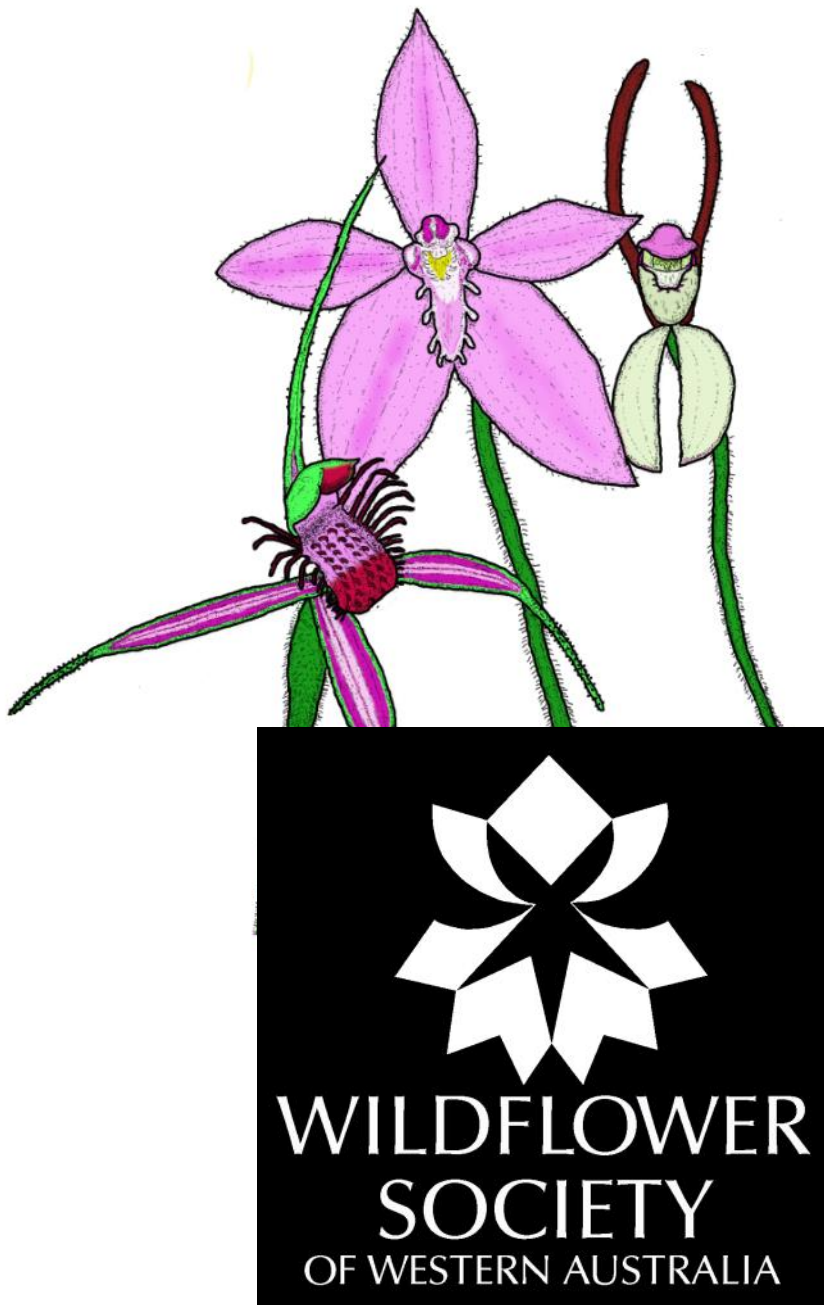
Preferred Location	Maximum group size	Suggested age range of participants	Time taken	Leader of activity or workshop	Participants should bring with them
Outdoors	10	10-16	1 hour	Amanda Spooner	Hat, Shoes, Water

Fantastic Fruits

Our native plants present their fruits and seeds in an astonishing variety of cones, nuts, beans and capsules. Hard and woody shapes with interesting designs and textures make for fantastic arts and crafts. In this fun and creative activity, young people are invited to create their own bizarre and strange creatures from a huge range of native flora fruits, leaves and a hot glue gun. Make something out of this world from materials very close to home.



Preferred Location	Maximum group size	Suggested age range of participants	Time taken	Leader of activity or workshop	Participants should bring with them
Indoors	10	6-10	45 minutes	Bronwen Keighery	_____



The Wildflower Society of Western Australia Educational Sub-Committee is committed to engaging young people with their natural environments. Using a range of innovative approaches to environmental education, a wealth of experience and embracing new technologies we hope to continue to provide an exceptional variety of professional and fun workshops for young people within WSWA and the wider community.

For more information or to book workshops please contact the following Sub-Committee representatives:

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Andrew Price (Project Manager) - admin@kwongankids.com