



Teacher Resource

Goldilocks Birds

Focus Questions

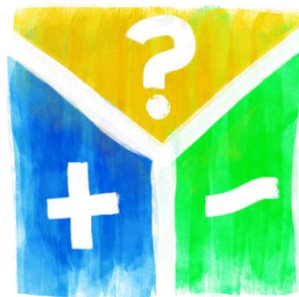
Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Why is the plains-wanderer bird nicknamed Goldilocks?
2. What has happened to the natural habitat of the plains-wanderer?
3. About how many plains-wanderers are there left in the wild?
4. What is being done to protect the species?
5. Name three facts you learnt watching this story.

Activity: Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN Goldilocks Birds story. After watching the story, ask students to reflect on and organise the information into three categories. What information in the story was...?

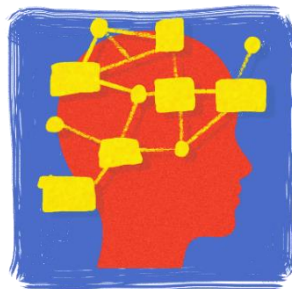
- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting



Activity: Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN story as a class. Create a class mind map with BIRDS in the middle. Ask students to record what they know about Australian birds. What questions do they have? In small groups, ask students to brainstorm responses to the following questions:

- What do you know about the plains-wanderer?
- Why is it important to protect native bird species?
- What is the conservation status of plains-wanderer birds?



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KEY LEARNING

Students will develop a deeper understanding of the issues facing endangered bird populations in Australia.

CURRICULUM

Science – Year 4

Living things have life cycles.

Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive.

Science – Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Science – Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

Science – Year 7

Classification helps organise the diverse group of organisms.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Goldilocks Birds story. Here are some words to get them started.

ECOSYSTEM	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	POPULATION
NATIVE SPECIES	CONSERVATION	HABITAT

Activity: Inquiry Research

The KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on the topic of endangered birds and consider what they would like to know and learn.

What do I <u>k</u> now?	What do I <u>w</u> ant to know?	What have I <u>l</u> earnt?	<u>H</u> ow will I find out?

Questions to research

Students will collect and record information from a wide variety of sources. Students may develop their own question for inquiry or select one of the questions below.

- Where do plains-wanderer birds live in the wild? Explore their habitat and mark where they live on a map.
- How can you identify the plains-wanderer bird? Explore its features and write a detailed description.
- What features does the plains-wanderer bird have to help it to adapt and survive in the wild?
- What does a plains-wanderer's habitat look like? Study the habitat of the plains-wanderer and create a diorama of its habitat.
- Why is the plains-wanderer endangered? Investigate what is causing species loss of the plains-wanderer bird. Explore issues such as habitat loss, introduced species, pollution and disease. Which of these factors are caused by humans?
- What do you think could be done to help protect the habitats of Australia's native birds?
- Who do you think should be responsible for addressing the problem of species loss? List some of the responsibilities of individuals, communities and the government.
- What might happen if we don't look after Australia's native birds? What would native bird populations look like in 30 years' time? Make some predictions. Imagine that the plains-wanderer bird has tragically become extinct and then write a news article telling people why they have become extinct.

Activity: Habitat

This literacy activity demonstrates students active listening and interpreting skills. Students will listen to a description of a plains-wanderer bird habitat and create a simple black and white artwork illustrating its habitat. Teachers will use the following as a guide for this activity.

- Find a description of a [plains-wanderer bird habitat](#) to read aloud to your students. Alternatively, choose another Australian native animal that is a vulnerable or endangered species. Visit the [Australian Museum](#) to explore a range of Australian animal habitats.
- Read the description of the plains-wanderer bird's habitat aloud to your class, reading the description 2 or 3 times.
- Students will take notes and write down key words as they listen.
- Students will illustrate the habitat using only a black felt—tip pen (0.4 or 0.6) on a piece of A4 art paper. Students will include as much detail as they can.
- Display the student's artwork in a school exhibition.
- We would love to see your students' artwork! Send your artwork to us at btn@abc.net.au
- Challenge students by asking them to recreate the habitat as a diorama.



Activity: Biodiversity

Improve the biodiversity in your local environment

Students will work together to help and introduce a native animal species into their school yard. Ask them to consider the following:

- What kind of animals could you reintroduce into your school yard? E.g., birds, bees, butterflies. Research the animals native to your local area. Contact a ranger at a park near your school or the local council to learn more about the local animal species.
- Do you have the right type of habitat in your school yard for them to survive? Describe the climate and identify the plants in your school yard.
- What are some threats to the species that are caused by humans? How can you reduce these threats in your school yard?
- What materials and tools will you need to build the habitat? Consider writing a guide or procedure manual explaining how to build the new habitat.
- Build the habitat as a class and present the habitat to your school community. Teach students in other classes about the new habitat and involve them in caring for the new habitat.
- Prepare a map of the habitat which highlights key features. Include information labels in the habitat (for example, QR codes next to plants) for other students to learn more about the habitat and the biodiversity of your school yard. Include scientific information about the species. Include botanical names of any plants which are part of the habitat, when it was planted and some basic information.

Activity: Choose a project

Individually or in small groups, students will choose one of the following projects to work on and then present their findings to the class.

Children's Book

Write and illustrate a children's book or comic which tells the story of the Goldilocks bird.

3D Model

Create a model of an endangered bird using recycled materials. Display your model in the classroom. Find a sound recording online to illustrate the sound that the animal makes.

Reporter for a day

Investigate the issues highlighted in the BTN Goldilocks Birds story and write a newspaper article or online news report for kids.

Campaign

Design a public education campaign to raise awareness about plains-wanderer birds. Think about your campaign's aim, your target audience, and the value of raising awareness. Create a poster in Canva.

Useful Websites

- [NSW critically endangered plains-wanderers released after successful breeding program](#) – ABC News
- [Plains-wanderer Profile](#) – Office of Environment & Heritage
- [Regent Honeyeater Song](#) – BTN
- [Threatened and Endangered Species](#) – BTN
- [Plains-wanderer](#) – Zoos Victoria