

# Noisy by Nature

## IN THE BUSH EXCURSION SUPPORT MATERIALS



*From trees and flowers to birds, furry animals, sticks, leaves and insects! Bush Kindy programs offer many opportunities for children to take risks in their play, build understandings about the natural environment, develop problem solving skills and resilience - all the while developing a strong sense of place and belonging.*

### BEFORE YOU GO

Listen to episodes from [Noisy by Nature](#) featuring Australian creatures found in bush environments. Expand children's knowledge and nurture curiosity through conversation and questioning that provokes thinking e.g. 'Did you notice ...?', 'Have you seen ...?' or 'I wonder if ...?'. Encourage children to pose their own questions for further investigation, using their interests and questions as a starting point for effective inquiry-based learning.

1 Early Childhood Australia (ECA). (2017). STEM in early childhood education.



Photographer: Daniella Teixeira





## IN THE BUSH

### EXCURSION SUPPORT MATERIALS

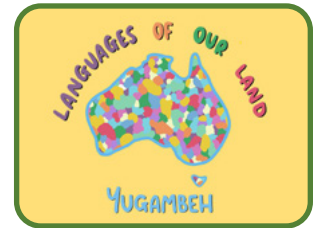
[Cackling Brush-tailed Possums](#) engages children in learning about nocturnal animals and the importance of forest conservation for protecting possum habitats. Use intentional teaching and empower young children to investigate ways they can make a difference - *‘What are some of the threats to these animal homes and how can we protect them?’*.

Suggested picture books to extend explorations about the habitats of native fauna include:

- *‘The Midnight Possum’* (2018)  
by Sally Morgan & Jess Racklyeft
- *‘Tippy and Jellybean’* (2020)  
by Sophie Cunningham & Anil Tortop
- *‘Kookaburra’* (2020)  
by Claire Saxby & Tanya Harricks
- *‘Searching for Cicadas’* (2019)  
by Lesley Gibbs & Judy Watson
- *‘Scribbly Gum Secrets’* (2020)  
by Dannika Patterson & Megan Forward
- *‘Waddle, Giggle, Gargle’* (1996)  
by Pamela Allen

Prepare children for giving an Acknowledgment of Country and paying respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land they will be visiting. To learn about the Traditional Custodians of the land on which your setting is located, visit the [Gambay First Languages Map](#), or access The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), [Map of Indigenous Australia](#).

Watch the ABC Kids program [Languages of our Land](#) together with young children and learn about the Aboriginal language of Yugambeh. Each episode introduces children to the Yugambeh word for different animals and places in nature.



Use the [Yugambeh language Flashcards](#) to promote a greater understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing and being, including respect for the surrounding environment (EYLF, 2009).

Watch ABC Kids Play School’s [Acknowledgement of Country Special](#). The words and actions shared on Play School were created by Aunty Tracey Linn Bostock – a descendant of the Bundjalung Nation.

***We would like to Acknowledge the Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.***

*Together we touch the ground of the land.*

(TOUCH GROUND)

*We reach for the sky that covers the land.*

(RAISE HANDS)

*And we touch our hearts to care of the land.*

(TOUCH CHEST OVER HEART).



### WHILE YOU ARE THERE

Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land together by sharing the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Country and language group of the bushland area you're visiting.

There are different ways to Acknowledge Country, showing a connection between your body and the earth. By enacting this connection between the earth and ourselves, we can help children understand why caring for Country is so important.

While walking together in the bush, observe habitats of different animals and insects like ants, termites, possums, birds, butterflies and bat . Support development of **EYLF Learning Outcome 2 'Children are connected with and contribute to their world'** by guiding explorations about the interdependence between living things - land, people, plants and animals. Encourage children to use their senses by looking, touching, smelling and listening to flora & fauna along the way. Take hand-held magnifying glasses and invite children to closely watch and examine bugs and flowers.

Help children verbally describe and record any sounds they hear using an audio recording



Acknowledging Darkinjung Country at Footprints Early Learning Centre, Erina NSW.

app on a tablet or smart phone. Talk about the importance of respect for the natural environment by helping children learn to accept responsibility for its conservation (**NQS Element 3.2.3 'Environmentally responsible'**).

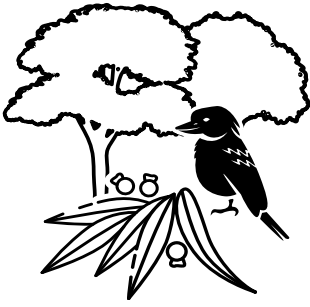
Invite children to collect materials such as fallen sticks, leaves, flowers, bark, pine needles, dry grasses. This process can help young children learn to '*resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials*' (**EYLF, Learning Outcome 4.4**).

### WHEN YOU GET BACK

Together with the natural materials collected from the bush - provide wood whittling tools, twine, scissors, recycled cardboard boxes and paper towel rolls. Invite children to build a shelter/ home for an insect or animal. Facilitate collaborative discussions about what different creatures need to survive in the Australian bush. Listen to children's audio recordings of bird/ animal sounds from the bushwalk and share these digital content creations with families.

Learn more about Australian animals with ABC Kids Listen's [Honey possum in Noongar Little Yarns](#) podcast, [Do animals sleep like people? Imagine This](#) podcast and Play School's '*Through the Windows*' film about [Animals in the Bush](#).





# My Noisy by Nature field trip

## IN THE BUSH

Print this sheet then invite children to add their drawings, words and stories to each box.

While I was walking in the bush, I could HEAR, SEE, TOUCH and SMELL ...

