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Nearer to Nature Community

Fun nature-based activities for 2017



nearertonature.dpaw.wa.gov.au



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



Getting communities Nearer to Nature

Nearer to Nature is an educational and community engagement program provided by Parks and Wildlife. It provides opportunities for the public to interact positively with environments in suburban Perth. There are a variety of environments to choose from, including forest, bushland, wetland, river, beach and marine.

School holiday program

For each Western Australian school holiday period, *Nearer to Nature* publish a calendar of activities which details the activities on offer, dates, locations and prices.

The calendar is available for Discovery Club members six weeks prior to the holidays and shortly thereafter for the general public.

Become a Discovery Club member for instant benefits

As a member of *Nearer to Nature's* Discovery Club, our calendar of activities will be available to you before it is more widely distributed, giving you the best chance of booking a place on even our most popular activities. You will also be entitled to a discounted price on activities, as well as our quarterly newsletter. All this for only \$15 per year for the whole family! Call now and your membership discounts will apply to activities this season.



Bookings

Bookings are needed for all activities, so please phone us on 9295 2244. Payment can easily be made by credit card at the time of booking.

For more information visit our website at nearertonature.dpaw.wa.gov.au or like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/dpaw2n

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Captivate the kids

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Keeping the children entertained during the holidays has never been so easy. Let the *Nearer to Nature* team *Captivate the kids* with fun-filled activities designed especially to capture the imaginations of children.

Note: For all *Captivate the kids* activities, an adult must remain on site with your child throughout the activity (unless otherwise stated against the activity). There is no charge for accompanying adults.

1 Adventure caving

(Ages 8–10 and 10–14)

Plunge into a world of darkness for an underground experience you'll never forget. Join our expert guides as you crawl, climb and slide your way through a wild cave environment where your only light source is torchlight! Be amazed at the fascinating formations and take the challenge to make your way through the cracks and fissures that make our limestone caves an exciting place to explore.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity. Helmets and torches are provided.



2 All washed up

(Ages 7–12)

Our beaches contain a myriad of washed-up items. Are they wonders from the marine world or just plain waste? Join our guide for a water's edge walk where you will learn all about these fascinating bits and pieces, where they came from and how they can affect our wonderful water world.



Captivate the kids

3 Baby bush birds

(Ages 4-7)

Spring is here and our bush is bountiful with beautiful baby birds. Discover amazing facts about how a mummy bird builds a warm, safe haven for her babies. Then get creative and weave a nest to take home. Finish with an up-close encounter with some real live baby birds.



4 Beetles, bugs 'n' bush

(Ages 4-7)

Bring the littlies and discover the little critters that live in our bush and ponds. Treading carefully in the bush, discover the tiny critters under your feet. Then with magnifiers and trays, check out some of our tiniest macroinvertebrates. Finish by making your own special bug mobile to take home.



5 Big kids campout

(Ages 8-12)

Experience the forest after dark when you join us for a cool campout and evening of fun-filled forest activities. The campout includes a wildlife trapping and release session – an experience exclusive to this camp. Then grab your torches and experience the forest as it comes alive during a nocturnal night walk! Finish the evening with fun games around the campfire. In the morning enjoy breakfast and more crazy campout capers.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity and collect them the next morning. All camping equipment and food must be provided – full details upon booking.

6 Big kids quadrathlon NEW

(Ages 13-15)

Bike ride the trail, walk the circuit, canoe across the lake AND survive a campout! Four activities in one day. Join us at Lake Leschenaultia to see what it takes to successfully complete the *Nearer to Nature* big kids quadrathlon.

Note: Bike, camping gear and food must be provided – full details upon booking. Parents drop off for this activity.



7 BrillianTS

(Ages 4-7)

The ants go marching one by one, hurrah, hurrah! Ants have been walking the earth for more than 100 million years and we think it is time to celebrate, so join us as we tANTalise you with lots of fun and ANTics. Join a *Nearer to Nature* guide on a journey into the wonderful world of ants where you will discover how amazing these tiny little creatures really are.

8 Bush cooking for kids

(Ages 7-12)

Gather around the campfire and cook just like the early settlers did. Make your own stick damper and then head into the forest to forage for bush tucker. You will discover Aboriginal and colonial uses of our wonderful plants. Back at camp, feast on your damper and watch as our guide 'swings the billy' to make you a steaming hot cup of billy tea.

Note: All ingredients provided.



Captivate the kids



9 Bush survival

(Ages 8–12)

Join our experienced 'bushy' for a fun-filled day of adventure. Trek through the bush and learn some awesome survival tips. Then team challenges will have you relying on your partner and/or team members for survival. Finish the day with an encounter with a mystery guest from the bush.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.

10 Buzzy, buzzy Aussie Bee

(Ages 4–7)

Join us to discover more about our special native Aussie bees. Listen to Aussie Bee's story and move to the Aussie Bee Dance. Put on your antennae and buzz around to collect pollen. Finally, make your own bee condo to take home.



13 Cocky capers

(Ages 4–7)

Get on board for some cocky capers in this hands-on activity. Meet one of our most iconic species, the red-tailed black cockatoo, in an up-close encounter. Play some cocky games, then make your own cocky headdress and head out into the forest to forage for food.

11

Camouflage capers

(Ages 4–7)

Why does that bird look like a speckled leaf and that bug look like a tree branch? Camouflage is key to survival of native animals. Join us on the camouflage trail, play the 'camouflage game' and make your own cool camouflage cape to take home.

14 Constellations and the cosmos NEW

(Ages 8–13)

Join us for a journey through the cosmos at the Perth Observatory. Starting on Mother Earth, look to the skies through some cool equipment. Then discover the cosmos, create your own constellation and make a star-viewing wheel. At the end of the journey, design your own parachute and capsule to land safely back on Earth.



Captivate the kids

15 Coolangar Dreaming

(Ages 4-7)

Gather up the coolangars (children) and take a journey into the Dreamtime. Discover the rich culture of Noongar people when you experience some real Indigenous activities. Make your own bush jewellery, decorate a boomerang, become a hunter and gatherer, and finish with some Dreamtime stories around the mia mia.



18 Deadly and dangerous

(Ages 7-12)

They bite, they sting, they spit and they spring. In the vast state of WA, deadly and dangerous creatures come in all shapes and sizes – on land and in the sea. Discover why some of the world's most dangerous creatures call Australia home. Then get up close and personal to some real life scary species, if you dare!



16 Creature feature

(Ages 4-7)

During this delightfully interactive marsupial encounter, you will meet some of WA's most adorable creatures. Cuddle a joey and get up close to many other cute and cuddly animals as you listen to stories about your favourite marsupials. Then create your own animal art to take home.



19 Dewy Droplet's incredible journey

(Ages 4-7)

Immerse yourself in the fascinating story of Dewy Droplet and his journey around the water cycle. Dress up as one of Dewy's friends and make your way through the water obstacle course. You will be amazed at the struggles a single drop of water faces and realise just how precious our drinking water is.

17 Damsels and dragons

(Ages 5-8)

They are the hovering helicopters of the insect world. Put on your silky wings and mimic some of the amazing aerial acrobatics of our damselflies and dragonflies. Take a fascinating look beyond the flashes of colour and dazzling dances to find out more about their lives. Why are they such masters in aerial hunting? How can they fly such long distances? Let us take you on a journey into the delightful world of 'damsels and dragons'.



20 Discovering the six seasons

(Ages 7-12)

Did you know Aboriginal people have six seasons instead of four? They use the changing of these seasons to herald their move to new hunting grounds. Take a journey through the six seasons with a Noongar guide in this interactive activity held in the traditional hunting grounds of our national parks. Then make your own cool six seasons wheel to take home.



Captivate the kids

21 Downy ducklings

(Ages 4–7)

Spring is here and the cute sight of downy ducklings and their feathered friends wandering around water holes is a delight to behold. Listen to the duckling family's story, take a water's edge walk to view our precious waterbird babies and make your own duckling-designed craft to take home.



22 Eco challenges

(Ages 7–12)

Whether at the beach or in the bush, it can sometimes be tricky to survive in these challenging environments. Join us for some team games that will reveal how our amazing natural world overcomes such challenges. Test your new knowledge and brave some specially-designed tasks yourself to see if you could survive.



23 Eco treasure hunt

(Ages 8–13)

Exploring our parks has never been this much fun. Using GPS navigation, follow the trail, complete the tasks and collect the code words before heading back to home base. Then unscramble the code words to uncover the treasures within.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.



24 Enchanted environment

(Ages 4–7)

Have you ever taken a walk in the bush, along the beach or deep inside a cave and wondered about the mystery of it all? If you look closely, deep into our wonderful world, you might find something magical within. Join Faerie Cara on a journey of discovery through our enchanted environment and discover how looking after nature is good for everyone.



25 Fabulous fungi

(Ages 8–13)

Fungi really is fabulous! Become a mini mycologist as you experiment with fungi. Take a walk in the bush and view fungi under a microscope. Watch how bread expands and goes mouldy. Finish the day by creating your own funky, fungi-coloured bandana to take home.



26 Feral to fancy

(Ages 8–13)

What can you do with the feral plants invading our bushland? Bangles, bandanas and bottle holders are just some of the fancy things you can make from weeds as you discover more about those unwanted garden guests.

27 Fight or flight

(Ages 7–12)

To flee in fear, fight to the end or simply freeze and hope that the hunter doesn't see you. These are all tactics used by our native animals when under threat. Discover how all animals have biological defence mechanisms to help them avoid being captured and meet some of our top aerial predators in a close-up encounter.



Captivate the kids

28 Flutter-by butterfly

(Ages 3–6)

Come and experience the mystery of metamorphosis as you enter your cocoon and emerge as a beautiful butterfly. Then hunt among the flowers for local butterflies and make your very own special butterfly and cocoon to take home.



29 Fossils and formations

(Ages 7–12)

Take a journey back in time to the days of our earliest marine life and discover how tiny animals became trapped forever in limestone 'museums'. Through a series of experiments, you will see how the weather affects our fragile limestone formations. Then create your very own replica fossil to take home.



30 Hazard heroes

(Ages 8–13)

Natural disasters threaten our way of life each year. They are part of nature's cycle but to triumph over adversity requires special skills. What does it take to confront some of the biggest trials of our time? Take a behind-the-scenes team challenge and see if you can make the grade.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.



31 Home among the gum trees

(Ages 8–14)

Sadly some of our favourite native animals are finding themselves without a place to call home. Find out why and what you can do to help. Take a walk into our bush areas and discover what it takes to make a suitable wildlife hollow. Then join our habitat-building workshop and make your own nest box to take home.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.



32 Incy wincy spider

(Ages 4–7)

Join our guide to forage into the forest and discover Incy's interesting world. Safely hunt for some of his friends, find out where they live and how cleverly they catch their prey. Then discover the intricacies of web weaving as you spin your own special spider web to take home.



33 Intertidal investigators

(Ages 7–12)

The intertidal rocky shore zone of our beaches can be a risky place to live. However, many creatures call this place home! Join our expert guide for a ramble among the rock pools and learn more about the creatures and the amazing characteristics that enable them to live in this hazardous place.



Captivate the kids

34 It's a shell life

(Ages 4– 7)

It can be a hard life being a shell! But each shell has its own story to tell. Join us and find out about the life cycle of shells. Then play the predator game – will you survive as a shell?



35 Life through a lens

(Ages 8–14)

Our natural world is in constant change, however you can capture some of Mother Nature's charm in digital form in this delightful photography session. Join our expert guide and discover how to zoom, focus and take that never-to-be-forgotten nature photo.



36 Lovely ladybeetles

(Ages 4–7)

Ladybirds, ladybugs or ladybeetles? They are not birds, but are they bugs or beetles? Join us to discover which they are, and why. Take a walk in the bush with shake sheets to see if you can find your very own ladybeetle and discover just how these colourful insects survive. Then get creative and make your own beautiful bright ladybeetle to take home.



37 Meander through marine-land

(Ages 4–7)

Learn about marine creatures and their extra special features. Join Alicia to understand our amazing Australian marine-land, from sea stars to urchins and crafty crustaceans, and those cool cucumbers cleaning our oceans. Take a walk on the beach, play the sea creatures game, make some funky beach craft – you'll be glad you came!



38 Nature's kaleidoscope/Cool coastal creations

(Ages 7–12)

The beauty of nature shows itself in many forms – a variety of colours, shapes, textures and patterns. Join our guide for a kaleidoscopic nature walk through the bush or along the beach which will open your eyes to the diversity of nature. Then decorate and stencil a handy bag and tie-dye your very own bandana or head scarf to take home.

39 Nature's kitchen on the Canning

(Ages 7–12)

Visit nature's bountiful kitchen in our bushland. Join our Noongar guide and learn about bush tucker, try your hand at traditional hunting and gathering techniques, and discover how Indigenous people relied upon the important resources of the land. Finish by making a cool six-seasons wheel to take home.



Captivate the kids

40 NzN spy kids

(Ages 7–12)

Join our top secret agents James Pond and Possum Galore as they embark on a mysterious mission through the bush. Dress in disguise and uncover the answers to some of nature's more curious questions. Follow the bush spy trail, complete secret tasks and find clues to help you break the spy kids' code. Solve the riddle to enjoy a secret surprise and complete the spy mission.

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.



41 Palaeontologist for a day NEW

(Ages 7–12)

Join us at Boomerang Gorge where you will be transported back to the Pleistocene! Discover facts about marvellous megabeasts that roamed the earth during this time. Take the fossil trail and use your palaeontologist skills to uncover bones and remnants of a giant marsupial. Then working in teams, reconstruct this giant creature and discover interesting facts about its life in Australia more than a million years ago. Would this creature resemble any fauna of today?



Photo: Rodney Start. Source: Museums Victoria

42 Pollywog to frog

(Ages 4–7)

Calling all junior frog lovers! This fun-tastic, froggy session promises to delight the kids and help them discover the journey from pollywog to frog. Hear the story about Polly Pollywog, take part in the pollywog hop and go on a pollywog hunt. Finish the day by making your own sand art frog to take home.



43 Possum tails tale

(Ages 4–7)

A delightful tale, all about tails! You will be enchanted as you join Buddy Brushtail on an amazing adventure. Discover what it is about our brush-tailed and ring-tailed possums that makes them the same, but also quite different. Play the 'pin the tail on the possum' game and make your very own possum craft to take home.



44 Ramble with a ranger

(Ages 7–12)

Do you have what it takes to manage a national park? Learn the tricks of the trade as you join a Parks and Wildlife ranger for the day! Learn how to use a two-way radio, read a map, navigate using a compass and how fire works, before finishing the day off with an animal encounter. It's all in a day's work for a ranger!

Note: Parents drop children off for this activity.

45 Roaming through river-land

(Ages 4–7)

Join Alicia and roam with our river-land residents, and uncover their extra special talents. See cormorants and grebes and some dusky moorhens, magpies and ducks and migratory friends. Take a stroll by the river, play the migratory maze, and make some recycled river craft to remember the day!



Captivate the kids



46 Sense-ational scavenger hunt

(Ages 7–11)

Engage the senses in this interactive forest activity. Use GPS navigation to touch, feel and smell the environment, then take a blindfold walk along the rope trail to get a sense-ational insight into the forest.

47 Snugglegum and Cuddlenut

(Ages 4–7)

An activity designed especially for the little ones! Join us for a journey of discovery into the world of Snugglegum and Cuddlenut. Listen to stories about early Australian bush craft, take a bush walk, then get crafty and make your own gumnut baby and seed bag to take home.



48 Squelching through swamp-land

(Ages 4–7)

Join Alicia to delve into the world of our swamp-land dwellers. They are unique with their special propellers. From boatmen to frogs and backswimmers galore, you'll find species aplenty on the cool swamy floor. Squelch through our swamps, play the 'who am I' game. Make some watery craft – you'll be glad you came!



49 Sticky fingers and friends

(Ages 5–8)

Geckos are extraordinary creatures, but why have they got sticky fingers? There are many reptiles living in our bushland and they manage to survive the very harsh conditions that the Australian bush is known for. Do you know what special characteristics help them survive? Play the sticky fingers game and get into some sticky fingers craft as we explore the reptile world.



50 Swamp dwellers discovery

(Ages 7–12)

Come and search for some fascinating swamp dwellers. Using a scoop net and inspection trays, you will discover wetland invertebrates and learn all about their incredible features before returning them safely to their watery homes.



51 Tiny seed to mighty tree

(Ages 5–8)

Discover the magic of growth that enables a tiny seed to become a mighty tree. Play the life cycle game and learn about threats to this amazing process. Then plant a seed in your own specially-designed pot and take it home to observe the process for yourself.

52 Totem tales

(Ages 7–12)

What is a totem? And how did it help Aboriginal people care for the bush? Join us and discover more about these symbols from the past and present. Play the totem game, go on a traditional hunt and listen to some tales from the Dreamtime.



53 Untamed and uninvited NEW

(Ages 8–13)

Untamed and uninvited! How did they get here and what are they doing? Using three elements of navigation, set off in teams on the feral geocaching trail. Uncover the intruders in our bushland and collect the clues to develop a safe haven for a native animal.



54 Wander through wildflower-land

(Ages 4–7)

You can learn a lot from the flowers – they have extra special powers. Join Alicia to understand our uniquely Australian wildflower-land. See sundews and orchids and tricky trigger plants, pollinated by wasps and bush bees and even ants. Take a trail through the bush, play the pollinator's game. Make some wildflower craft – you'll be glad you came.



55 Where's wallaby?

(Ages 4–7)

Wallaby has gone missing! Where can he be? Go on a search to find him. Make your own wallaby ears, dress as a little black-gloved wallaby and follow the tracks through the forest to see if you can find our missing friend. Then meet up-close some of wallaby's forest friends.



56 Whoo's who?

(Ages 4–7)

Whooooo whooooo. Owls are incredible creatures but just who is who? Join our guide for an interactive craft and story session where you will learn more about our fascinating feathered friends. Then get up close and personal with some owl friends during an interactive birds of prey encounter.

57 Wild about whales

(Ages 5–8)

Are you wild about whales and dolphins? Join us to discover more about these great marine mammals. Have a whale of a time with games, bones and tales that will immerse you in the cold, wet world of these marvellous marine mammals.



58 Workers of the underworld

(Ages 7–12)

Beneath our feet is an amazing world of mini forest workers busily recycling and keeping the forest alive and healthy. Peer down into their world and become a mini world scientist as you investigate some interesting facts through a microscope. Then make your own recycling worm farm to take home.

What to bring

For all activities please ensure you have water and weather-appropriate clothing including protective elements such as sunscreen and a hat. A camera is also handy for those special snaps. Any other activity-specific items will be detailed in your confirmation letter.

Share the experience



Activities for the whole family!

Enjoy amazing *Nearer to Nature* experiences with your family or group. These activities are designed to be enjoyed by most ages, so if you are looking to spend some quality time together, join our *Share the experience* activities.

Note: *Share the experience* activities are designed to suit most ages but some activities are age-specific. This will be advised in the individual activity content in this brochure. A paying adult must accompany all children under 16.

59 Around the campfire

(All ages – 6+ pay)

Grab your place around the campfire for a cool evening of colonial fun. A good ol' fashioned sing-a-long for the whole family. Meet some native animals, take a walk in the bush, throw your (own) supper on the barbie then sit back and relax as we serve you with traditional damper and ramp up the sing-a-long!

Note: BYO food for barbecue supper. Discounted camping is available to participants of this session (limited sites available so be quick!).

60 Easter Bilby family fun day

(Ages 3+)

Enjoy an all-Aussie Easter this year with a fun-filled day for the whole family. Take part in some special Easter craft, solve clues on the Easter Bilby trail and – the highlight of the day – have an up-close encounter with a real live bilby and other native animals!



61 Frog forage

(Ages 7+)

The search is on, so hop along to join this fun adventure! Pop on your gum boots and forage for frogs with our experienced 'froggie' guide. There are nine distinct frogs species that inhabit the Perth metro region. Our guide will show you how to tune into, and identify, frog calls. Then go on the hunt and see what species you can find.

62 Karakamia nights

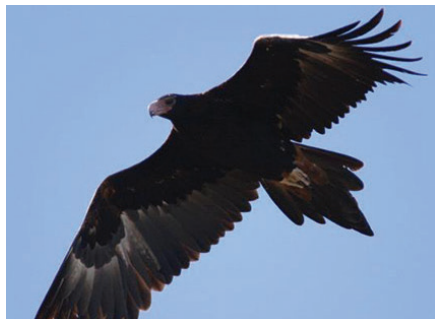
(Ages 7+)

Enjoy a twilight walk through the beautiful bushland of Karakamia Sanctuary. Bring a torch and encounter the many animals that live in this special place. Gain an interesting insight into the workings of this protected area from an Australian Wildlife Conservancy guide.

63 Lord of the sky

(Ages 8+)

He is a skilled hunter – silent, sleek and strong. In this special double presentation, come and find out why the wedge-tailed eagle is called the 'lord of the sky'. Hear from experts in this special field. The highlight of the day features an amazing up-close encounter with a wedge-tailed eagle and other birds of prey. Finish the afternoon with a tasty all-Aussie afternoon tea.



64 Meet the marsupials

(Ages 4+)

Meet some of our best-loved native animals and their carers in this interactive family encounter. Cuddle a joey and get up close to many other cute and cuddly animals as you listen to stories about your favourite marsupials.



65 Mornin' song/Evening song

(Ages 10+)

Grab your binoculars and join us for a bird walk in the Perth hills. Our local bird expert will take you through several habitats, show you bird nests and tune you into recognising bird calls. Chat about the stunning scenery and beauty of the bush over refreshments back at the centre.

66 Nocturnal delights

(Ages 6+)

Uncover nature's nocturnal secrets and get a new sensory perception as you discover the sounds and sights of the bush at night. Enjoy a spotlighting session then meet some of Australia's nocturnal inhabitants during an interactive marsupial encounter.



67 Rapt in raptors

(Ages 7+)

They're sleek, strong and silent in flight. Come and meet our majestic birds of prey. Discover how these fascinating feathered flyers hunt and how they shape their wings to dive, attack or simply soar through the skies. Then get up close with some real live birds of prey.





68 *Stories from the night sky NEW*

(Ages 7+)

For many thousands of years the night sky has provided us with stories and intrigue. Aboriginal people have their own meanings for the things they observe in the night sky and interpret in dreamtime stories. Join us for a relaxing evening under the stars to discover what the night sky means in Aboriginal lore. A light supper will be provided.

69 *Tunnel by twilight NEW*

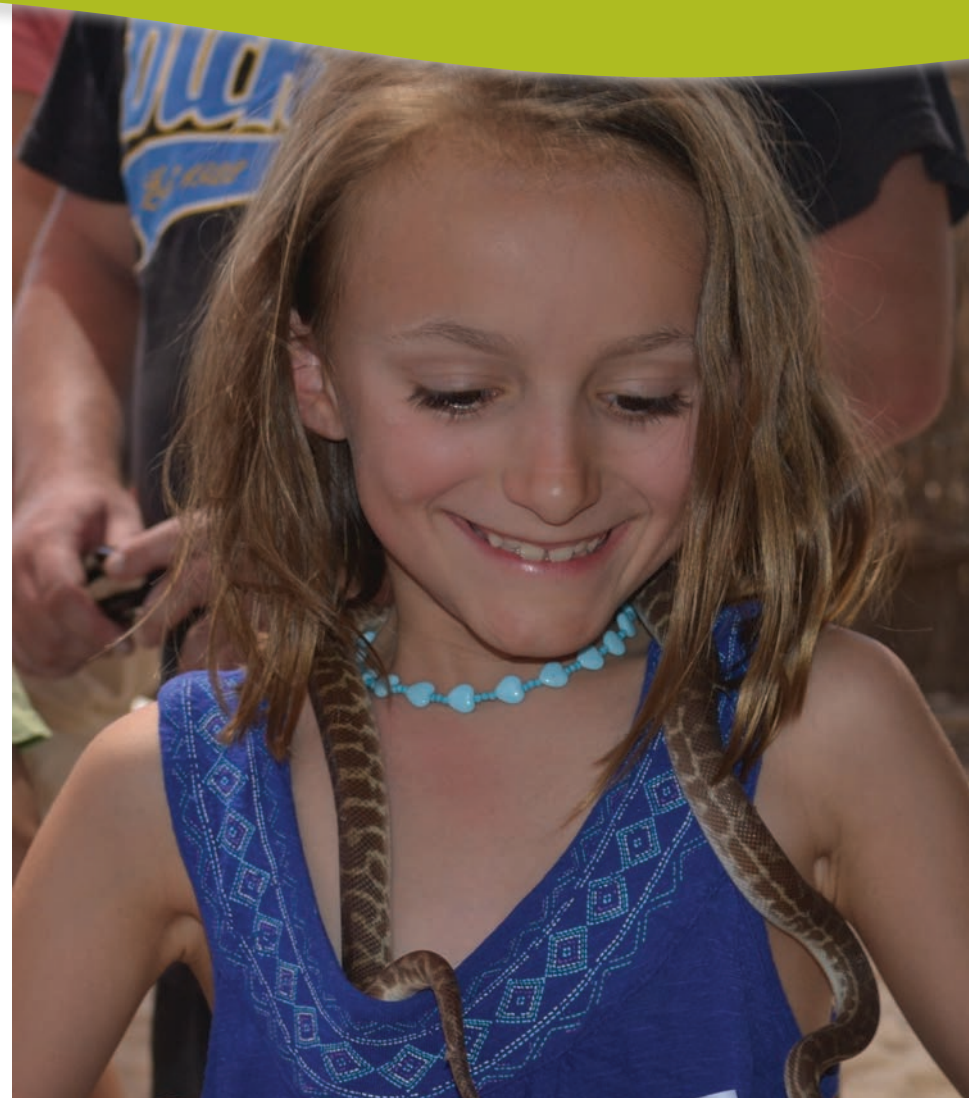
(Ages 7+)

Take in stunning views on a scenic walk to the Swan View Tunnel. Covering 2.5km, the walk will take you through an area of outstanding beauty and tall tales from the past. The tunnel has an eerie reputation, with many tales told of a ghost that inhabits its depths. Join us if you dare...

70 *Wonders of the wildlife ark*

(Ages 3+)

Here is a chance for everyone to get nearer to nature as you touch and hold some extra special creatures. Meet Monty the python, Adelaide the blue-tongue skink, Phoebe the frog and Carla the creepy crawly during this hands-on animal encounter. Our expert animal carer will be on hand to answer all your questions about these and other native animals.



71 *Wriggly reptiles*

(Ages 8+)

Have you ever looked a snake in the eye or felt the skin of a lizard? Come face-to-face in this close-up encounter with some of our most deadly reptiles. Learn fascinating facts about these most interesting animals and why they are not as dangerous as myths might suggest.

For grown ups



(Ages 18+)

This section of our program is for those aged 18 years and over to enjoy that special adult time away from the kids

72 Colonial Canning chronicles

Join us at Woodloes Homestead for an insight into pioneer life back in the days when the Canning River was Perth's main timber transport route. Take a journey back in time to the Bird/Mason woodcutting days and finish the afternoon with a traditional afternoon tea on the heritage verandah.

73 Darlings of the range

Unwind during a serene evening in the heart of the Darling Range. Enjoy a leisurely guided walk and take in the incredible views, then sit back and enjoy a gourmet supper and animal encounter that is sure to delight. Finish the evening with a movie at the iconic outdoor Kookaburra Cinema.

74 Sunset paddle on the Canning

Join us on the Canning River for a twilight paddle. Travelling upstream in wide-body Canadian canoes, immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the Canning River. Our guide will introduce you to the wonders of the riverine environment before returning downstream at dusk as the sun sets over the horizon.



75 Water water every weir

In the 1890s, CY O'Connor engineered a pipeline to carry fresh water to the arid goldfields – a feat of engineering that surpassed its day. Join our guide and uncover more about this heritage icon. Visit the 100-year-old steam pumping station, take a walk across the weir wall and learn more about the lives of the people who brought this amazing scheme to fruition.

76 Wonder at wildflowers (September to October)

Meander along flower-clad paths and enjoy amazing colours and scents as WA's wildflowers put on their finest show. For only a brief time in the year, our wildflowers come out in all their resplendent glory. So join our expert wildflower guide and put a name to some of those elusive species.



Our Locations

Perth and surrounds

PHDC – Perth Hills Discovery Centre

The PHDC is the home of *Nearer to Nature*, located within the jarrah/marri ecosystem of Beelu National Park approximately 7km south of the Mundaring township. The centre boasts indoor and outdoor education areas, a rammed earth courtyard and amphitheatre, and a universal access campground.

The campground is available all year round. Complete with small, comfortable camping bays, a camp kitchen with two electric barbecues, fridge, stainless steel sinks and benches, and access to quality toilet and shower facilities, it offers campers a luxurious camping experience.

Light freshments can be purchased from the on-site visitor centre, open Monday to Friday from 10am to 4pm.



CREEC – Canning River Eco Education Centre

Canning River Regional Park is located 9km south-east of Perth. The park extends for approximately 6km along the Canning River between the Shelley and Nicholson Road bridges in the City of Canning. This beautiful riverine system is perfect for getting the kids outdoors and the centre is fully equipped for any indoor craft activity. There is a café on site for drinks and refreshments.



HEC – Henderson Environmental Centre (Star Swamp), North Beach

Star Swamp is located 15km north of Perth on Groat Street, North Beach. The bushland is an important habitat for many species of reptiles, insects and spiders and provides a breeding site and sanctuary for both waterbirds and other bushland bird species.



JFNP – John Forrest National Park

Established in 1898, John Forrest National Park is the oldest national park in WA and the third oldest in the world. Located only a 30-minute drive from Perth, the park provides magnificent views of the Swan Coastal Plain, beautiful walks, waterfalls, a historical railway plus barbecue and picnic facilities.



TB – Trigg Beach, Marmion Marine Park

Marmion Marine Park lies offshore from Perth's northern suburbs, between Trigg Island and Burns Beach. The activity location is at Trigg Island, a 20-minute drive from Perth.



Marmion Marine Park has great natural beauty and limitless potential for beach activities. The clear shallow lagoons, reefs and small islands provide habitats for seabirds, marine mammals and other remarkably diverse marine life.

YNP – Yanchep National Park

Yanchep National Park is located in the northern suburbs approximately 54km north of Perth. Wide grassland areas adjoining the lake and the indigenous Wangi Mia are great areas for activities. Enjoy barbecue and picnic facilities, scenic walk trails, koalas, kangaroos and an abundance of other native animals and plants in one of the WA's oldest national parks.



Camping at the Perth Hills Discovery Centre

- For small or large groups (up to 35 people)
- Toilets and hot showers
- Undercover kitchen with fridge, kettle, toaster and electric barbecues
- Outdoor picnic tables and chairs
- Facilities with universal access



Volunteering

Becoming part of the *Nearer to Nature* team is easy and fun! If you have a little spare time and enjoy the outdoors, there is a wide range of opportunities in assisting *Nearer to Nature* to run programs at venues all around the Perth metropolitan area. Interested? Phone our programs officer for more information on (08) 9295 2244.

Testimonials

Absolute best holiday program that's going. I love joining in as much as my son.
– Samantha

We went to the bush food experience this week and it was brilliant! The guide was an amazing source of information regarding Indigenous culture. Can't wait to go back and chat to him again.
– Coralie

We have been to several events and all have been age appropriate, interesting and well run. My children went to the Big kids campout last night and absolutely loved it and will be back again...with their friends! Thanks again to those who braved camping with 20 pre-teens!
– Amy

Thank you so much for the baby birds session. My five-year-old daughter had an absolute ball learning about the birds and making the nest and eggs. It was so well run and such a pretty setting. Thanks again!
– Melissa

My daughter loved the flutterby butterfly activity. Was a great morning for the kids. Lots of helping hands and a good variety of activities to keep busy. Lovely setting too. Thank you.
– Andrea

Tips to maximise your Nearer to Nature fun!

Don't forget to bring:

- a bag for your litter
- drinking water and lunch or snacks if required
- a great sense of fun and adventure!

Wear clothing appropriate for your activity:

- weather protection gear – plan to protect yourself from the sun or rain
- comfortable and durable clothes
- sturdy, enclosed footwear in the bush (sandals are best for water-related activities).

Activities will begin on time – **please arrive 10 minutes early for registration.**

Please leave all pets at home.

Safety is our concern, but your responsibility. Have fun and stay safe.





Nearer to Nature Community

Fun nature-based activities for everyone!

Bookings and payment

Bookings are essential

Phone *Nearer to Nature* on (08) 9295 2244 (9am to 4pm Monday to Friday).

Payment options

Payment can be made at time of booking by Visa or MasterCard.

Cancellations

If you cancel your booking more than two working days before the activity, we will gladly refund your payment or offer a credit voucher (valid for one year). Refunds cannot be made after this time. Once confirmed, your booking is transferable – so if you can't make it, send your friends and family. Please notify us of any changes in attendance.

If we must cancel an activity, we may reschedule or offer a payment refund.

Contact us:

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