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Nearer to Nature Community

Holiday activities 2019

Sunlit Spring 2019



dbca.wa.gov.au/nearertonature



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions





Nearer to Nature provides opportunities for children and families to participate in outdoor, hands-on activities in the natural environment. Whether it can be in the bushland, wetlands, at the river or beach, participants can explore their surroundings in a safe manner close to their homes in suburban Perth.

Bookings and enquiries

Online: exploreparcs.dbca.wa.gov.au/whats-on

Phone: 9295 2244

Email: n2n@dbca.wa.gov.au









Membership

Become a Nearer to Nature Discovery Club member for discounts on all activities, seasonal newsletter and other member benefits.

Useful information

What to bring to all activities: water, weather appropriate clothing and protective elements such as sunscreen and hat. Please see activity information for more details on what is needed for specific programs. Please note attending adults are free unless an adult price is stated.



Date	Time	Activity	Drop off	Page no.	Location	Age
Sun 1 Sep	9am-12pm	Catch of the 'Fathers' day		9	WP	6+
Sat 14 Sep	8.30-10.30pm	Starry nights		15	PO	8+
Mon 30 Sep	10-11.30am	Jarrah joeys 		12	PHDC	3-7
Tue 1 Oct	10-11.30am	Creature Feature 		9	SSBR	4-7
Tue 1 Oct	12.30-4.30pm	Going wild	✓	12	SSBR	7-12
Wed 2 Oct	10-11.30am	Bugs in the bush		8	RTNKP	4-8
Wed 2 Oct	1.30-3pm	Bugs in the bush		8	RTNKP	4-8
Wed 2 Oct	10.30am-3.30pm	Surviving the Aussie Outback 	✓	16	PHDC	7-12
Thu 3 Oct	10-11.30am	Camouflage capers		9	CREEC	4-7
Thu 3 Oct	1-3pm	Nature's kitchen on the Canning		13	CREEC	7-12
Fri 4 Oct	10am-12pm	Nature's amazing race 		13	PLEEC	4-7
Fri 4 Oct	1-4pm	Where are the now? 	✓	18	PLEEC	7-12
Fri 4 Oct	6.30-8.30pm	Birds of the night 		7	PLEEC	6+
Sat 5 Oct	10-1pm	Spring into Parks at Perth Hills 		15	PHDC	3+
Mon 7 Oct	10-11.30am	The habitat tree		17	PHDC	3-6
Mon 7 Oct	1-3pm	eCAMPology	✓	11	PHDC	8-11
Mon 7 Oct	10-11.30am	Buzzy buzzy Aussie bee		8	LS	4-7
Mon 7 Oct	1-3pm	Palaeontologist for a day		14	LS	7-12
Tue 8 Oct	10-11.30am	Baby bush birds 		6	CREEC	4-7
Tue 8 Oct	1-3pm	Waste away		18	CREEC	7-12

Date	Time	Activity	Drop off	Page no.	Location	Age
Wed 9 Oct	10-11.30am	Critters in the creek		10	RTNKP	4-8
Wed 9 Oct	1.30-3pm	Flora-based investigations (FBI)		11	RTNKP	7-12
Thu 10 Oct	10-11.30am	Dolphin discovery		10	CMT	4-7
Thu 10 Oct	1-2.30pm	N2N survivor challenge		13	CMT	7-12
Fri 11 Oct	10-11.30am	Wander through wildflower land		17	PLEEC	4-7
Fri 11 Oct	1-4pm	Botanist for a day	✓	7	PLEEC	7-12
Fri 11 Oct	10.15am-12pm	Adventure caving	✓	6	YNP	8-10
Fri 11 Oct	12.45-2pm	Adventure caving	✓	6	YNP	10-14
Sat 12 Oct	4-7pm	Sunset paddle		16	CREEC	8+
Thu 31 Oct	5.30-7.30pm	Creepy critters		10	CREEC	5+
Sat 16 Nov	10am-1pm	Pollinators retreat		14	PLEEC	4+



Animal encounter ✓ *Drop off activity*

Costs Please refer to activity information for prices

Locations

CMT	Coogee Maritime Trail	PO	Perth Observatory
CREEC	Canning River Eco Education Centre	RTNKP	Rio Tinto Kings Park Naturescape
LS	Lightning Swamp	SSBR	Star Swamp Bushland Reserve
PHDC	Perth Hills Discovery Centre	WP	Woodman Point
PLEEC	Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre	YNP	Yanchep National Park



Adventure caving

Plunge into a world of darkness with a caving guide as you crawl, climb and slide your way through a wild cave environment. Marvel at fascinating formations and discover what makes limestone caves an exciting place to explore.

Age: AM session 8-10, PM session 10-14

Date and duration: Friday 11th October, 1hr 45min

Location: Yanchep National Park

Cost: DC \$30 Non-DC \$32

Note: Wear long-sleeved shirt, long pants and enclosed shoes

Baby bush birds

Baby birds are hatching with their cute 'cheep cheep' sounds and their downy feathers. Discover the baby birds hiding away in our bushland on a walk through the bush. Bring out your inner mumma and papa bird as you weave your very own nest to take home, then join Kanyana in a special up-close encounter with some baby birds.

Age: 4-7

Date and duration: Tuesday 8th October, 1.5hrs

Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre

Cost: DC \$15 Non-DC \$17



Birds of the night

Can you identify the different calls of the birds of the night? Discover the fascinating features to tell these feathered critters apart then head out into the dark as you search the trees above. Learn about the impacts humans are having on these beautiful birds and what you can do to help them, then sit back and enjoy an up-close encounter with these extraordinary hunters.

Age: 6+

Date and duration: Friday 4th October, 2hrs

Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

Cost: DC \$14ch \$18ad Non-DC \$16ch \$20ad

Note: All attending people must book a ticket.



Botanist for a day

Become a junior botanist as you join Carmel the Botanist on a GPS trail through the trees. Navigate your way to collect specimens and use microscopes and scientific techniques to identify the flora species of a Banksia woodland. This hand-on activity using botanical tools and methods, will get you up close with species usually overlooked.

Age: 7-12

Date and duration: Friday 11th October, 3hrs

Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

Cost: DC \$26 Non-DC \$28





<https://dpaw.sharepoint.com/SitePages/Events.aspx>

Bugs in the bush



What lives in the bush? Young explorers are invited to hunt for invertebrates and spiders in Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park, work in a team to build a bug hideaway and create their own bush critter to take home.

Age: 4-8
Date and duration: Wednesday 2nd October, 1.5hrs
Location: Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park
Cost: \$10 special introductory rate

Buzzy buzzy Aussie bee

Did you know that Western Australia has about 800 species of native bees? Get the buzz on these incredible workers as you discover their special pollination techniques and unique nesting habits. Determine the difference between these exceptional native species and the big honeybees everyone knows. Once you have gotten to know the bee's knee's, create your very own bee condo to take home.

Age: 4-7
Date and duration: Monday 7th October, 1.5hrs
Location: Lightning Swamp
Cost: DC \$12 Non-DC \$14



Camouflage capers

Camouflage is the key to survival in the wild. Explore the bush to discover why it is important for our native animal species to use camouflage as you try and spot them hiding away amongst the vegetation and rocks. Create your own camouflage cape and see if you can hide away from the predators trying to find you.

Age: 4-7
Date and duration: Thursday 3rd October, 1.5hrs
Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre
Cost: DC \$12 Non-DC \$14



Catch of the 'Father's' Day

Bring your dad along for a morning of fishing. With instructors from Rec Fish West, you will have a great Father's Day morning baiting your hook, practising your casting skills and learning how to handle your catch. The best part is you don't have to bring anything or do any of the packing up! After you have mastered your fishing technique celebrate with a good ol' sausage sizzle to end a great morning with your Dad. This event is supported by the WA Parks Foundation as part of Spring into Parks.

Age: 6+
Date and duration: Sunday 1st September, 3hrs
Location: Star Swamp Bushland Reserve
Cost: Free
Note: All attending people must book a ticket.



Creature feature

Native animals have extra special features which help them to survive in the wild. Discover their quirky characteristics along a trail through the bush, then enjoy a special encounter with some of our feathered and furry friends.

Age: 4-7
Date and duration: Tuesday 1st October, 1.5hrs
Location: Star Swamp Bushland Reserve
Cost: DC \$15 Non-DC \$17





Creepy critters

Join us for a special Halloween night walk along the Canning River to spot 'fearsome' nocturnal hunters. You may be a bit spooked to discover just how many bats are flying around the neighbourhood and how many creepy crawlies are hiding away in the bushes.

Age: 5+
Date and duration: Thursday 31st October, 2hrs
Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre
Cost: DC \$10ch \$14ad Non-DC \$12ch \$16ad
Note: All attending people must book a ticket. Come dressed up in your best Halloween Costume.



Photo – Joanna Bugar

Critters in the creek

Adventure awaits down at the Creek! Join us at the Kooyar Kep wetlands for a morning of discovery and fun....be prepared to get wet and muddy!

Age: 4-8
Date and duration: Wednesday 9th October, 1.5hrs
Location: Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park
Cost: \$10 special introductory rate

Dolphin discovery

Did you know you can identify a dolphin by its dorsal fin? Get to know the dolphins that call our Swan River home by playing the "who am I game" and go on a walk along the shore to see if you can spot them. Join us to discover how these friendly mammals survive and what you can do to keep them safe.

Age: 4-7
Date and duration: Thursday 10th October, 1.5hrs
Location: Coogee Maritime Trail
Cost: DC \$12 Non-DC \$14



eCAMPology

On this jam-packed overnight camp, the junior ecologists will have a special opportunity to explore a range of different monitoring methods used to help protect and manage our native species. From reptiles to invertebrates, mammals and birds, each species has a unique way of living. We will be heading out into the bush to set different traps used to safely collect and release these animals found in the Jarrah forest.

Age: 8-11
Date and duration: Monday 7th October- Tuesday 8th October, 26hrs
Location: Perth Hills Discovery Centre
Cost: DC \$42 Non-DC \$44
Note: Bring a packed dinner, lunch, breakfast and snacks as well as all camping gear. More information provided on booking.



Flora-based investigators (FBI)

The Flora-based Investigations (FBI) team are seeking budding nature detectives to help identify a deplorable florable on the loose in Naturescape. In a race against time, your team must find the most notorious members of Naturescape's big plant families, collect clues and solve the mystery.

Age: 7-12
Date and duration: Wednesday 9th October, 1.5hrs
Location: Rio Tinto Naturescape Kings Park
Cost: \$10 special introductory rate





N2N Survivor challenge

Join us for Survivor style team activities as you explore the challenges overcome by marine ecosystems every day. Crawl through the reef obstacle course, dodge predators in the intertidal zone and see which team comes out victorious.

Age: 7-12
Date and duration: Thursday 10th October, 1.5hrs
Location: Coogee Maritime Trail
Cost: DC \$14 Non-DC \$16



Nature's amazing race

On this amazing race, get hands-on as you explore the forest and beyond searching for birds, water critters and invertebrates. Complete mini missions in an amazing race through nature to see how different species work together to help our environment grow.

Age: 4-7
Date and duration: Friday 4th October, 2hrs
Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre
Cost: DC \$15 Non-DC \$17



Going wild

Bring out your inner scout as you use navigation techniques and go wild in nature. Who will be the first team to complete the GPS orienteering challenge, navigate the obstacles, uncover the hidden clues and discover the secret code?

Age: 7-12
Date and duration: Tuesday 1st October, 4hrs
Location: Star Swamp Bushland Reserve
Cost: DC \$16 Non-DC \$18



Jarrah joeys

Come for an adventure through the Jarrah forest and discover the joeys hiding within. Out of sight in their mother's pouch for protection, these baby Australian animals have a unique way of living. How many joeys can you find?

Age: 3-7
Date and duration: Monday 30th September, 1.5hrs
Location: Perth Hills Discovery Centre
Cost: DC \$15 Non-DC \$17

Nature's kitchen on the Canning

Visit nature's bountiful kitchen along the river. Learn about bush tucker, try your hand at traditional hunting and gathering techniques and discover how Indigenous people relied upon the resources provided by the land.

Age: 7-12
Date and duration: Thursday 3rd October, 2hrs
Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre
Cost: DC \$14 Non-DC \$16





Palaeontologist for a day

Join us and be transported back to the Pleistocene! Discover facts about marvellous mega-beasts that roamed the earth during this time and use your palaeontologist skills to uncover the bones and remnants of a giant marsupial.

Age: 7-12
Date and duration: Monday 7th October, 2hrs
Location: Lightning Swamp
Cost: DC \$14 Non-DC \$16

Pollinators retreat

Pollinating critters, such as insects and birds, are very important to the growth and health of the environment. Join us for Pollinator week as we head out for a pollinator count and discover the significance of these important species. Each family will get to build their very own insect hotel to take home to help house pollinators and discover ways to introduce them into your gardens.

Age: 4+
Date and duration: Saturday 16th November, 3hrs
Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre
Cost: DC \$30 per family Non-DC \$32 per family
Note: This price is for a family of 4 who will get one box to build and share. Charges apply for additional participants. All attending people must book a ticket.



Spring into Parks at Perth Hills



Discover spring in the Perth Hills as you explore the forest on a guided walk, get up close with cute native wildlife, explore your senses on a blindfolded trail and have a crack as some bush games. This event is supported by the WA Parks Foundation as part of Spring into Parks.

Age: 3+
Date and duration: Saturday 5th October, 3hrs
Location: Perth Hills Discovery Centre
Cost: Free
Note: All attending people must book a ticket.

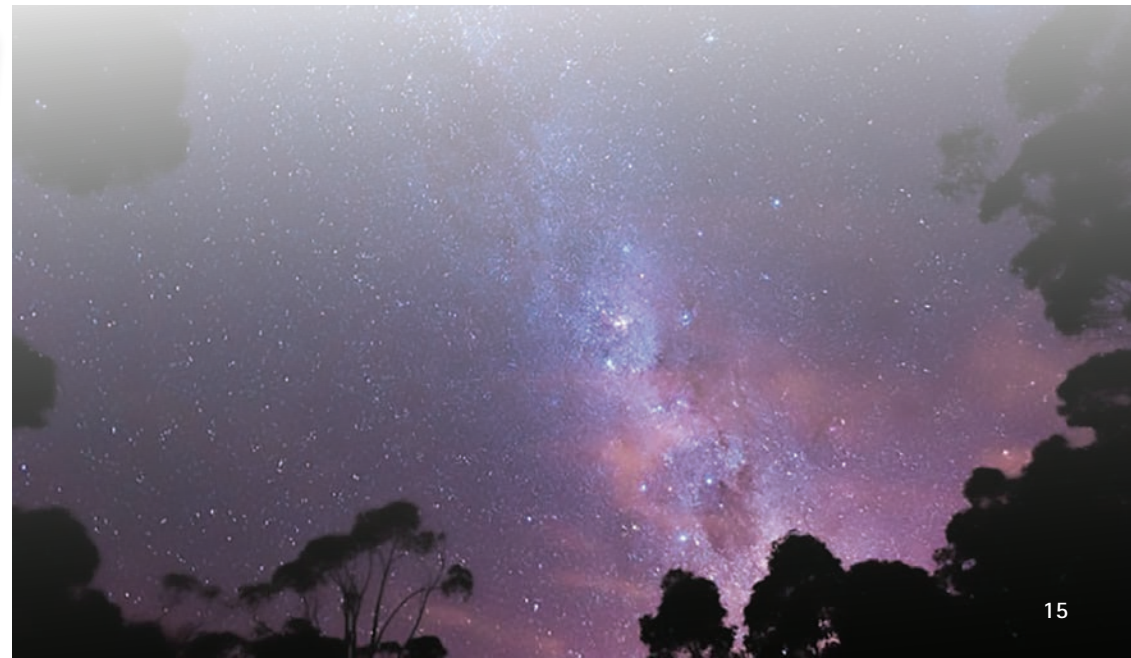


Starry nights



Bring the family along to the Perth Observatory and peer through telescopes at the galaxy above. Learn how to spot the constellations and clusters which appear in our night sky. This event is supported by the WA Parks Foundation as part of Spring into Parks.

Age: 8+
Date and duration: Saturday 14th September, 2hrs
Cost: Free
Note: All attending people must book a ticket.





Sunset paddle

Join us along the Canning River for a twilight paddle. Travelling downstream in Canadian canoes, immerse yourself in the sight and sounds of the Canning River. Be introduced to the wonders of the riverine environment before returning upstream on dusk as the sun sets over the horizon.

Age: 8+

Date and duration: Saturday 12th October, 3hrs

Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre

Cost: DC \$24ch \$28ad Non-DC \$26ch \$30ad

Note: Canoes, paddles and life vests are provided. All attending people must book a ticket.

Surviving the Aussie outback

G'day mate, ever wondered how you would go surviving in the Aussie outback? Come along to learn basic survival tips with 'Jack Jarrah' and then be put to the test to see if you could survive. Learn how to treat a snake bite, look for signs of wildlife or even to find shelter in the sweltering heat.

Age: 7-12

Date and duration: Wednesday 2nd October, 5hrs

Location: Perth Hills Discovery Centre

Cost: DC \$30 Non-DC \$32

Note: Bring a packed lunch.



The habitat tree

A big old tree hides a lot of creatures, moving deep within the soil, underneath the bark, hanging on a branch, nesting in a hollow or hiding amongst the leaves. Come on a journey with us as we explore the habitat tree and how the critters within survive. Then create your own stick man to take home.

Age: 3-6

Date and duration: Monday 7th October, 1.5hrs

Location: Perth Hills Discovery Centre

Cost: DC \$12 Non-DC \$14



Wander through wildflower-land

You can learn a lot from the flowers, did you know they have extra special powers? See sundews and orchids and tricky trigger plants as you explore beautiful wildflower-land. Take a trail through the bush and look for wasps, bush bees and the ants who are busy pollinating our wildflower-land.

Age: 4-7

Date and duration: Friday 11th October, 1.5hrs

Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

Cost: DC \$12 Non-DC \$14



Waste away

Plastics, fishing line and cardboard are having a devastating effect on our waterways and the animals who call the river home. Discover the long-lasting effects pollution has on the environment and channel your inner scientist and test the river water for pollutants. Find out how you can reduce the amount of rubbish you produce and make your own reusable beeswax wrap to take home.

Age: 7-12

Date and duration: Tuesday 8th October, 2 hrs

Location: Canning River Eco Education Centre

Cost: DC \$14 Non-DC \$16



Where are they now?

Did you realise there has been over 15 animal extinctions in Western Australia! Discover what species have become extinct as you head out on a GPS trail to collect clues, can you guess who has disappeared? Explore reasons behind the loss of so many species and discover ways that we can protect those at risk. A special animal encounter will leave you all inspired to act to protect our beautiful native animals.

Age: 7-12

Date and duration: Friday 4th October, 3hrs

Location: Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre

Cost: DC \$18 Non-DC \$20





Nearer to Nature Community



Contact us

Nearer to Nature
Perth Hills Discovery Centre
380 Allen Road
Mundaring 6073

Phone: 9295 2244

Email: n2n@dbca.wa.gov.au

Website: dbca.wa.gov.au/nearertonature

 @nearertonaturewa  @nearer_to_nature



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