

LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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15 Bush Babies and Cuddly Critters

Our bush babies (joeys, possums, woylies, frogmouths, parrots) are so cute and cuddly. Come along to a wonderful session where you'll meet them up close and personal. Hear about their life stories and how they got into the Kooikuna Fauna Centre to be raised by hand and later released back into the wild.

Cost: \$11 pp **Age:** 5+
Limit: 20 **Time:** 1 hour
wheelchair access

16 Repairing Raptors

Join in an adventure to help wildlife. You'll be introduced to raptors (birds of prey) with interesting stories to tell! Find out what wildlife carers do and why they dedicate their lives to these often misunderstood animals. Then join in on a mock fauna rescue mission, and learn what to do if you ever come across an injured wild animal.

Cost: \$11.50 pp **Age:** 6+
Limit: 20 **Time:** 2 hours

17 Aboriginal Connections (Star Swamp) and Woodman Point Wanderings

Take a casual stroll with a Nyoongar guide and learn about the links between Aboriginal and European history of Woodman Point Regional Park (south of Fremantle) or Star Swamp (North Beach). Learn about the methods of bush tucker collecting and preparation. See some of the Aboriginal tools and learn about traditional hunting methods. You'll leave with a better understanding of the deep connection Aboriginal people have to nature.

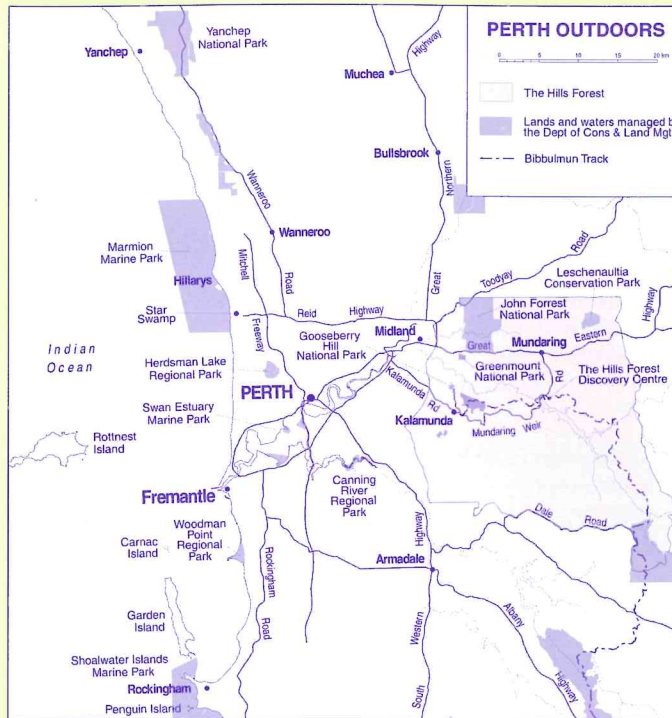
Cost: \$10 pp (no discounts apply)
Age: 6+ **Limit:** 20
Time: 2 hours

18 Smiling Snakes

Meet a range of beautiful snakes and their scaly associates. Hear about their ways of life and the myths that surround them. Don't be scared, be prepared when next you go bushwalking. Learn to recognise the venomous snakes and how to give first aid for snakebite. If you're lucky, one might curl its tail around your little finger! This is a snake display accompanied by an informative talk. The venomous snakes are behind glass, but are very much alive.

Cost: \$11 pp
Age: 6+ **Limit:** 30
Time: 1.5 hours

Nearer to Nature locations



Nearer to Nature

Department of Conservation and Land Management
Munding Weir Road, MUNDARING, Western Australia, 6073
Phone (08) 9295 2244 Fax (08) 9295 3247
Email: hillsforest@calm.wa.gov.au
Visit NatureBase at: www.naturebase.net

Go Bush Autumn 2002



Nature-based fun for everyone!
20 April - 5 May 2002

Nearer to Nature



What is Nearer to Nature?

Nearer to Nature is an exciting new initiative of the Department of Conservation and Land Management. It offers visitors a range of outdoor, nature-based experiences to raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity and the values and management of our natural heritage.

But above all else, it's about having fun!

Nearer to Nature . . . coming to a venue near you!

Keep your eyes open for Nearer to Nature at a venue near you. Over the next few months we will be starting activity programs at new venues throughout the Perth area. Venues such as Piney Lakes Environmental Education Centre and Henderson Environmental Centre at Star Swamp offer visitors unique natural experiences. Nearer to Nature will be organising and running activity programs at venues such as these over the next few months. Phone Nearer to Nature for more information.

Join the Nearer to Nature Fun Club

Talking about having fun, join the growing membership of our Nearer to Nature Fun Club. \$15 a year buys you membership for the whole family. You'll receive:

- advance notice of activities,
- current brochures outlining our activities and special events,
- early bird bookings,
- seasonal information about what is happening in the bush - what plants and animals to expect at different times of the year,
- discounts on activities,
- exclusive overnight camping experiences and
- 10% discount on activities.

Important information for you

People under 16 pay 'children's prices' and must be accompanied by adults at all times.

All activity prices include GST.

All activities will begin on time - please arrive at least 15 minutes early for registration.

Don't forget to bring:

- sun protection gear - hat, sunscreen, long-sleeved shirt and long trousers;
- drinking water;
- sturdy footwear;
- a bag for your litter;
- a sense of fun and adventure.

Please do not endanger our native animals - leave all pets at home.

Some session prices include food. Where this is not the case please feel free to bring along your own food and drinks.

Activities that include entry into National Parks are for participants only. If you and your family wish to use the park facilities before or after the activity, normal National Park entry fees apply.

Safety is our concern, but is your responsibility.

Discounts

- Nearer to Nature Fun Club Members – 10% Discount
- Seniors Card – 10% Discount
- YHA Members – 10% Discount
- 10% discount for groups of 6 or more

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ALL ACTIVITIES.

Please phone Nearer to Nature on (08) 9295 2244 (8am–4.30pm weekdays).

BOOKINGS CLOSE 48 HOURS BEFORE ACTIVITY.

Payment within five days of making your booking is required to confirm your booking.

Phone: Visa, Bankcard, MasterCard.

Mail: Cheques or Money Orders made out to Department of Conservation and Land Management, sent to: Nearer to Nature, The Hills Forest Discovery Centre, Mundaring Weir Road, MUNDARING, WA 6073.

If you cancel seven days before your booked activity we will gladly send you a credit voucher for the amount paid. This can be used towards other Nearer to Nature activities and is valid for one year. If you cancel under seven days, we cannot refund or offer credit vouchers.

Activity sessions may be cancelled if minimum places cannot be filled. If we cancel, we will either reschedule the activity, refund your money or offer credit vouchers to other Nearer to Nature activities.



Group bookings

Arrange something special for your group or club, or grab everyone in the office and take off on a Staff Day Out. We have the facilities and a range of nature-based activities. Sprinkle some nature walks or kids bushy activities for your next family get together. Give your seminar or conference participants a break from sitting indoors. It's amazing how a session or two of our nature-based activities can relieve the conference cramps. Book your brownies, guides, scouts, cubs or joeys into a specially designed bush adventure. Whether you're a car club, sports team or craft circle, Nearer to Nature can tailor an activity program for you. For more information ring the Programs Officer on (08) 9295 2244.

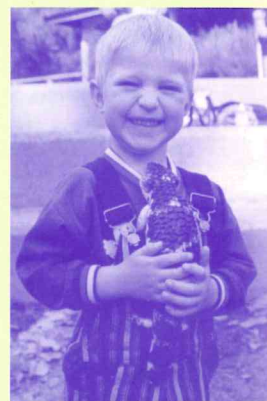
Volunteers welcome

Want to do something for the environment and meet lots of like-minded people? Be part of a team of dedicated volunteers who help people enjoy nature-based recreation? For more information phone the Volunteer Coordinator on (08) 9295 2244.

Camping at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

Come and camp at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre campground. It offers sites for small or large groups (up to 35), hot showers and toilets. Outdoor picnic tables at wheelchair height and an undercover camp kitchen containing fridge, electric BBQs and power points means you have less to pack up at home. Our campground, toilets and all facilities offer wheelchair access. Cost per night: \$8.80 per adult, \$6.60 per child, or \$165 for whole campground.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL, PHONE NEARER TO NATURE ON (08) 9295 2244.



At a glance

Hills Forest Discovery Centre – Mundaring

All activities at this venue begin at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre, Allens Rd, off Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring.

Date	Activity	Time
Sat 20 – 21 April	4WD Out 'n' back weekend	9.00am Sat – 4.30pm Sun
Sat 18 – 19 May	4WD Out 'n' back weekend	9.00am Sat – 4.30pm Sun
Sat 22 – 23 June	4WD Out 'n' back weekend	9.00am Sat – 4.30pm Sun
Tues 23 April	Boomerangs and Bushtucker	10.00am – 12.00noon
Wed 24 April	Discovery Night Hike	7.00pm – 9.00pm
Thur 25 April	Bushy Arts	1.00pm – 3.00pm
Sun 28 April	All day Trek	10.00am – 3.00pm
Tues 30 April	Bush Babies and Cuddly Critters	10.00am – 12.00noon
Fri 3 May	Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes	10.00am – 12.00noon
Sat 4 May	Hunters with Wings	1.00pm – 3.00pm

Star Swamp – North Beach

All activities at this venue begin at the Henderson Environmental Centre at the end of Groat St, North Beach (off the Reid Highway).

Date	Activity	Time
Sat 20 April	Meet the Marsupials	3.00pm – 4.00pm
Sun 21 April	Aboriginal Connections	10.00am – 12.00noon
Mon 22 April	Bush Babies and Cuddly Critters	10.00am – 12.00noon
Tues 23 April	Talking Talons	1.00pm – 2.00pm
Thurs 25 April	Snap Happy Photography Workshop	9.30am – 2.30pm
Sun 28 April	Mixing it with the Minibeasts	10.00am – 12.00noon
Mon 29 April	Bushy Arts	1.00pm – 3.00pm
Tues 30 April	Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes	10.00am – 12.00noon
Wed 1 May	Bush Survival Skills	10.00am – 2.30pm
Thur 2 May	Repairing Raptors	10.00am – 12.00noon
Fri 3 May	Nightshift	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Sat 4 May	Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes	10.00am – 12.00noon

John Forrest National Park – Hovea

All activities at this venue begin at the Margaret Forrest Centre in John Forrest National Park, off Great Eastern Highway, Hovea (turn into Park Road East).

Date	Activity	Time
Sun 21 April	Talking Talons	2.00pm – 3.00pm
Fri 26 April	Nightshift	7.30pm – 9.30pm
Sun 28 April	Snap Happy Photography Workshop	9.30am – 2.30pm
Sun 5 May	Smiling Snakes	2.00pm – 3.00pm

Canning River Regional Park – Riverton

All activities at this venue begin at the picnic area off Fern Road Bridge (also known as Riverton Bridge), Riverton.

Date	Activity	Time
Fri 26 April	Twilight to Moon Canoeing	6.00pm – 8.30pm
Sat 27 April	Twilight to Moon Canoeing	6.00pm – 8.30pm

Woodman Point Regional Park – Coogee

All activities at this venue begin at the end of O'Kane Court off Cockburn Road, Coogee (about 12km south of Fremantle).

Date	Activity	Time
Sat 27 April	Woodman Point Wanderings	1.00pm – 3.00pm

1 Meet the marsupials

Come face to face with gorgeous joeys. An animal carer will explain the life of macropods (kangaroos, wallabies etc) and other marsupials, while showing you the special features that make them so unique. Learn about the different types of marsupials and what they need to survive in their habitats, especially when they face difficulties. This is a wonderful experience for all ages.

Cost: \$11 pp **Age:** 5+
Limit: 20 **Time:** 1 hour
wheelchair access

2 4wd Out 'n' Back Weekend

Enjoy a weekend of 4-wheel-driving and camping under the stars. This weekend of fun and 4WD training offers lessons in safe and minimal impact off-road motoring. There are off-road challenges for all, whether you're a novice or experienced off-road driver. You'll learn techniques that will enable you to safely (for you and the environment) tackle a variety of sand and bush tracks. Bring the whole family along for this bush-to-beach experience. BYO meals and air compressor.

Cost: \$195 per car **Limit:** 10 vehicles
Location: Meet at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre
Times: 9am Sat – 4.30pm Sun
Dates: Weekends of 20 & 21 Apr; 18 & 19 May; 22 & 23 June;
More info sent 5 days before the event.

3 Hunters with wings

Learn the intricacies of flight through a session with our birds of prey. You'll meet three different birds, each with a fascinating story. You'll get to understand how these fascinating creatures hunt, shape their wings to dive, attack or simply soar with joy. You'll go for a short bush walk and learn about their favourite roosting places. Finish the session with a bit of fun, when you get your very own raptor kite and can test your own flying ability.

Cost: \$13 (includes kite) **Age:** 6+ **Limit:** 20
Time: 2 hour wheelchair access

4 Talking Talons

Do something special with your family. Spend an hour with the coolest birds of all - our fantastic birds of prey. Learn about their amazing life stories and how they use every sense to hunt their prey. Birds of prey are brought to this intriguing display and information session. If you're lucky one might sit on your arm and give you that cold predator stare.

Cost: \$9.90 pp **Age:** 5+ **Limit:** 25 **Time:** 1 hour

5 Twilight to Moon Canoeing

Ease that workday tension with a gentle canoe on the Canning River. Sneak up on the local wildlife species as they're settling down for their night's roosting. Glide past picturesque riverside parks and forests and enjoy a tranquil day's end bathed in sunset colours. You'll canoe home by the light of soft moonbeams cast by an April full moon.

Cost: \$22 pp **Age:** 8+ **Limit:** 20 **Times:** 6 – 8.30pm
Location: Canning River Regional Park
Dates: Fri 26 April 02, Sat 27 April 02
Info: Meet at the Fern Rd Bridge, Riverton 5.45pm, BYO torch, drinking water,

6 Discovery Night Hike

Spend a couple of hours hiking along the back tracks of the Hills Forest. You'll go places where few people venture. This is a solid night hike (4.5km with one steep slope) with two experienced walkers. As well as exercising your legs you'll catch some nocturnal animals in your torchlight, learn about the history of the forest surrounding the Mundaring Weir, and visit an old logger's hut and the relic thunderbox.

Cost: \$9.90 pp **Age:** open **Limit:** 20 **Time:** 2 hours
Location: Meet at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre

7 All day trek

Grab a great big lunch, your back pack and binoculars and take a guided walk into the depths of the Hills Forest. You'll catch many a bird not expecting to find you around these parts. You'll take a trip back into history as you walk past some of the relics of the dam builders. But most of all you'll get away from the traffic and the rush of city-life. This a solid trek (10km return easy walking), so bring enough lunch, snacks and drinking water

Cost: \$12.50 pp **Age:** 10+ **Limit:** 20 **Time:** 5 hrs
Location: Meet at The Hills Forest Discovery Centre
BYO food and at least 2 litres of water



8 Snap happy photography workshop

Learn some tricks of nature photography. How do you get that excellent underwater shot without getting wet? How do you hypnotise a grasshopper and get him to pose? Learn about composition, balance and lighting. Bring your camera, lenses, a tripod (if possible) and plenty of film so you can try out some of the techniques. BYO picnic lunch, but we'll supply yummy morning tea and great coffee, teas and juices.

Cost: \$22 pp **Age:** 16+ **Limit:** 20 **Time:** 9.30am – 2.30pm
Location: The Margaret Forrest Centre in John Forrest National Park

9 Bushy Arts

Children will thoroughly love this nature art activity. They'll join their guide for a nature discovery walk where they'll learn all about the bushy things that help to make our forests beautiful. Afterwards they make some take-home treasures in the shapes of bush animals, plants and their own forest masks carved from clay.

Cost: \$12.50 pp (Adults free) **Age:** 6-11 **Limit:** 25
Time: 2 hours

10 Bush Survival Skills

Develop some bushy skills and how to tread lightly in our forests. Your guide will take you through different activities including fire lighting, first aid for snake bite, and string making. Learn about native plants and their uses and how to tell direction from the sun and moon. You'll learn skills in ancient and modern techniques for making survival tools from the bush and what to do if you ever get lost in the bush and how not to get lost in the first place. You'll get time to practise these and lots more useful hints in this four hour session. Bring a hearty lunch and at least two litres of water you can carry with you.

Cost: \$19.90 pp **Age:** 10+ **Limit:** 30 **Time:** 4 hours

11 Boomerangs and Bushtucker

Learn about the many different uses and Aboriginal names for our native plants and animals. Walk with a Nyoongar guide, through the forest and meet bushtucker and bush medicine plants face to face. You'll learn about traditional hunting methods and try your hand at spear and boomerang throwing. Finish this great session by painting a souvenir boomerang to take home with you.

Cost: \$12.50 pp (includes boomerangs blanks, no discounts apply) **Age:** 5+ **Limit:** 20
Time: 2 hours

12 Forest Fairies and Gumnut Gnomes

Do 'flower fairies' and 'gumnut gnomes' live deep in The Hills Forest? Join in a discovery walk and hear the tale of the long lost Fairy Forest Map that, if found, will lead you to the fairies and gnomes secret places! Dress up as a fairy or a gnome and explore the nooks and crannies of the beautiful fairy forest. Dress-ups provided. Make rainbow bubbles and join in the fairy craft-making session.

Cost: \$14 pp (Adults free, no discounts apply) **Age:** 3-8 **Limit:** 20
Time: 2 hours

13 Nightshift

Bring your torch and spotlight some of the mysteries of the forest. Guides will help you get to know the bush by tuning in to the forest's nightlife. Sing along with the crickets and search for the glowing eyes of an owl or possum. Stare at the stars while sipping a cuppa and then meet some of our native fauna face to face. This is a most popular activity, so bookings are essential.

Cost: \$12 pp **Age:** 6+ **Limit:** 25
Time: 2.5 hours

14 Mixing it with the Minibeasts

Be prepared to enter another world as you become the insect scientist. You WILL see some unbelievable little beasts. Watch the slow motion ballet of the giant stick insects. Trick a scorpion or beetle into your observation jar. Check out the heavyweights in the world of insects, and hold your jaws off the ground as you look over the comprehensive display of insects mounted and live. Then go out on a hour-long field trip and learn about the secret places and faces of our different insects.

Cost: \$14.50 pp (no discount apply) **Age:** 5+ **Limit:** 25
Time: 2 hours

