

LEADERS' GUIDE

to the Bush Blitz badge



GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA



BUSH BLITZ BADGE



GIRL GUIDES IN AUSTRALIA HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND ENVIRONMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

The team at Bush Blitz and Girl Guides Australia now offer this opportunity to Guides throughout Australia to take part in the Bush Blitz badge. This has been created to support the Australian Guide Program. Guides will be able to take part in this program and earn the blanket badge to sew on their bag or blanket etc.



If you are up for outdoor adventure around the garden or a bush area, then take a look at this!

WHAT TO DO

To earn your Bush Blitz badge, you need to explore and discover the natural environment around you, take photos of naturally occurring plants and animals, and your Leader will upload your findings to iNaturalist.

- ✓ Check out the Bush Blitz resource and decide if you, your Patrol or Unit is interested.
- ✓ Please consider the safest and best way to participate in this challenge.

Remember, we have process for planning activities in our Guide Program:

Discover, Decide, Plan, Do, Evaluate

- Discover and Decide what you are going to do
- Plan the activity
- Do the activity
- Evaluate how you went!
- ✓ Share your findings or what you may have learnt with your Patrol or Unit
- ✓ Guides can research other areas of the Recognition System to find what other challenges might be relevant.



For any technical issues, please contact: bushblitz@awe.gov.au

Email feedback to: guides@girlguides.org.au



Bush Blitz badge



About the badge

Bush Blitz wants Australians to help discover our amazing biodiversity by recording what they find and uploading their observations to the Backyard Species Discovery project on iNaturalist.

Bush Blitz is offering a free badge to Scouts and Guides who take part in certain challenges. These challenges are suitable for in-person group meetings, or can be self-guided from home. Full instructions and challenges are provided in the youth booklet.

One leader needs to coordinate your group's involvement and liaise with the Bush Blitz team. That leader will also decide which (and how many) of the challenges youth members should complete and whether members have completed the challenge/challenges to the standard required to earn a badge.

What you need to do

- Register your intention to participate by emailing Bush Blitz at bushblitz@awe.gov.au.
- Provide each youth member with a copy of the youth booklet (electronic or printed) and clearly explain which challenge/s they need to complete in order to earn a Bush Blitz badge.
- Sign up to iNaturalist on behalf of your group using the instructions below.
- Upload observations to iNaturalist:

Sign up to iNaturalist on behalf of your group using the instructions below. Youth members will give you their observations to upload to iNaturalist. Please consider the quality of photos/sound recordings before you upload them, and exclude any inappropriate observations (including pets and garden plants). Give them a link to your iNaturalist profile so they can see their observations and any identifications.

- When you are satisfied that members have completed the challenge/s, email Bush Blitz at bushblitz@awe.gov.au with:
 - your iNaturalist username/s,
 - the number of badges you need,
 - the address you would like the badges sent to.
- Your badges will be mailed to the address provided so that you can present them to those who have earned them.

Bush Blitz badge



A note on safety

Children should get permission from their parent/carer before taking part in a Bush Blitz badge challenge. We recommend you change the geoprivacy setting to 'obscured' from the drop-down menu on iNaturalist so that general users can't see exactly where the observation was made. Children should avoid touching wildlife and plants, and a parent/carer or leader should know where they are going to look for plants and animals.



Frequently asked questions

Q. What if a youth member didn't bring a camera/smartphone?

A. Your youth member can still take part if they haven't brought a camera or smartphone to your group meeting. Members could share a camera or smartphone. As their leader you will upload observations to iNaturalist on their behalf. It is up to you, as their leader, to determine whether each member has earned their Bush Blitz badge.

Q. How do I upload my youth members' observations onto iNaturalist?

A. Follow the iNaturalist instructions below to create an iNaturalist account (we recommend naming your account after your group), upload observations and add them to the Backyard Species Discovery project.

Q. Where can I find more resources?

A. You can find more resources on using iNaturalist and tips on photography on our website Backyard Species Discovery page: <https://bushblitz.org.au/introducing-an-expedition-for-everyone/>.

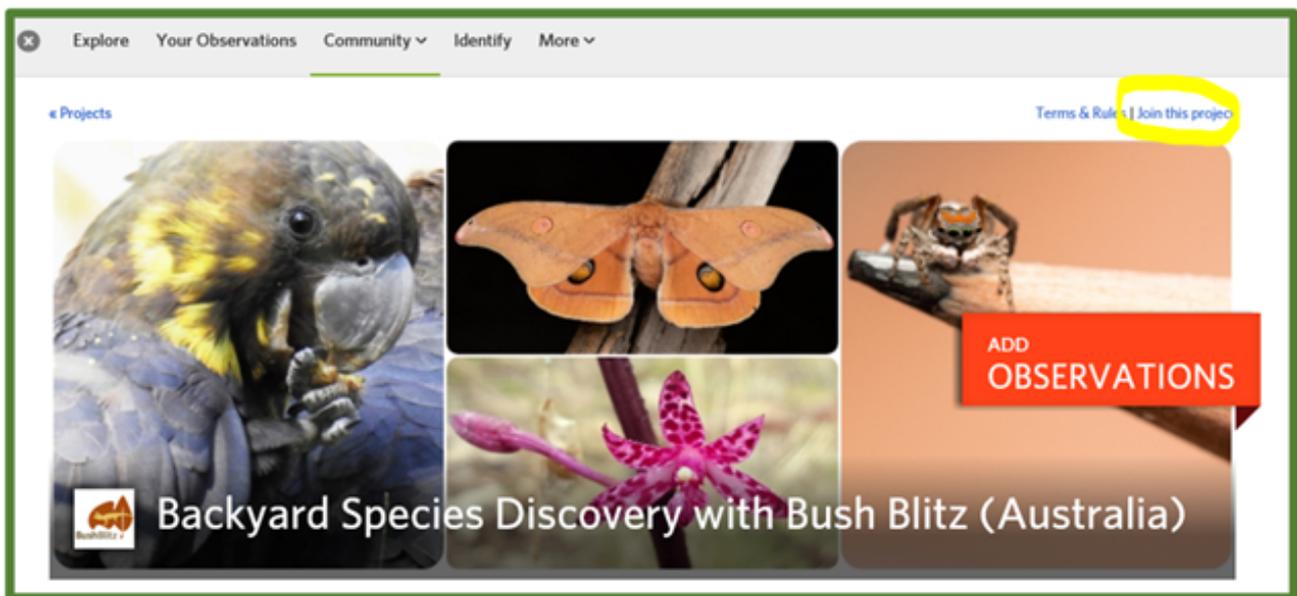
You can also contact Bush Blitz directly by emailing bushblitz@awe.gov.au with any enquiries.

iNaturalist instructions – for leaders



How to upload your Bush Blitz badge observations!

1. Sign up for an iNaturalist Australia account at <https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/> (best done on a computer).
2. Join our Backyard Species Discovery project: Click on Community, then Projects, then search for Bush Blitz.
 - a) Click Join this Project.



- b) Click Yes, I want to join
3. To upload all of the youth members' images/sound recordings:
 - a) Click on the green Upload button.
 - b) Select all files (images/sound recordings) you want to upload. If there is more than one image/recording for a single observation, select them and click 'Combine'
 - c) Click on the Species Name and enter a name or wait for suggestions. Remember to only ID to a level you are confident of (e.g. if you don't know what kind of spider, just select 'Spiders'). Our scientists can help identify your finding.
 - d) Add the Date and Location (if this data is missing).
 - e) 'Select All' to bulk edit all observations to select 'Location is obscured' and to add to the Backyard Species Discovery project.
 - f) Submit by clicking on the green button: Submit observation.

Name _____



Scavenger Hunt checklist

Fungi

Lichen

Flowering plant

Vertebrate

Gastropod

Insect

Crustacean

Myriapod

Sound recording

Tracks or traces of an animal

Mammal

Arachnid

Name _____



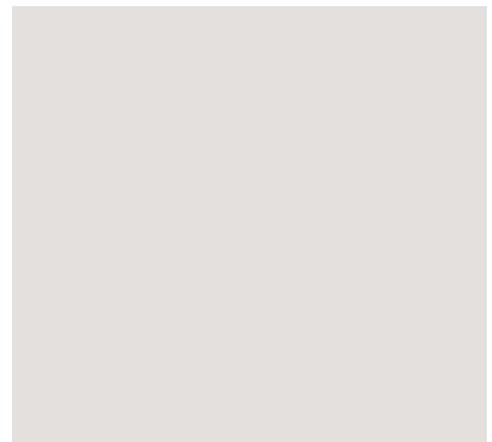
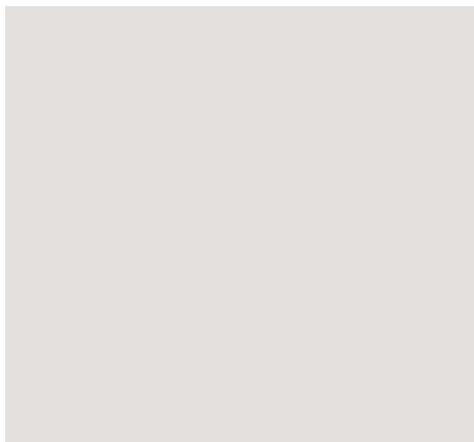
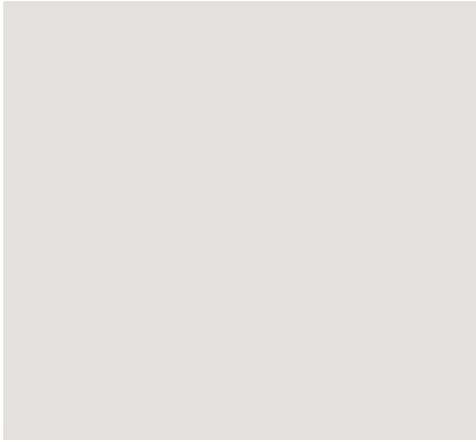
Native species investigation – option 1

Instructions: Draw your three native species observations and their habitat below. Try to capture key characteristics of the species and what habitat they need.

1. Native Species

2. Native Species

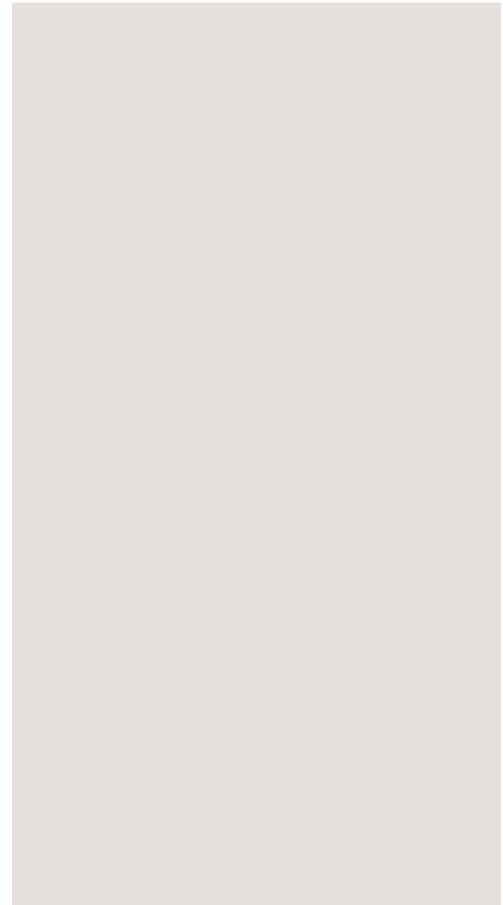
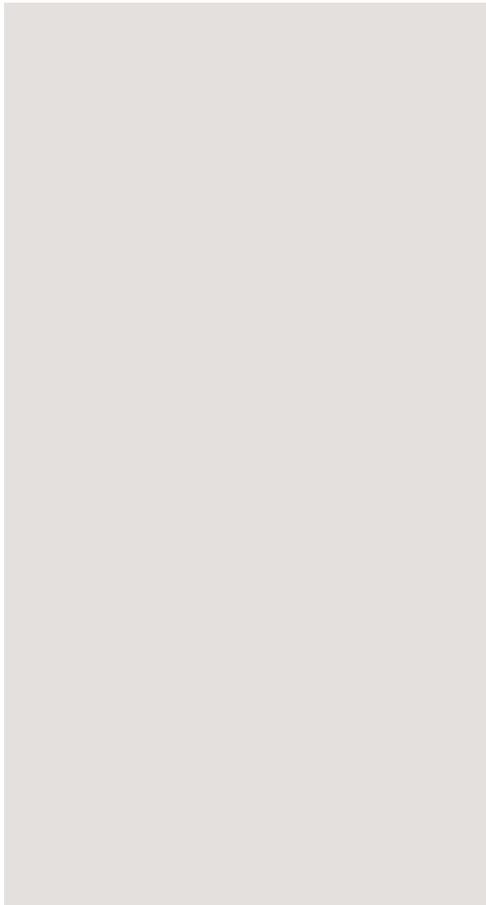
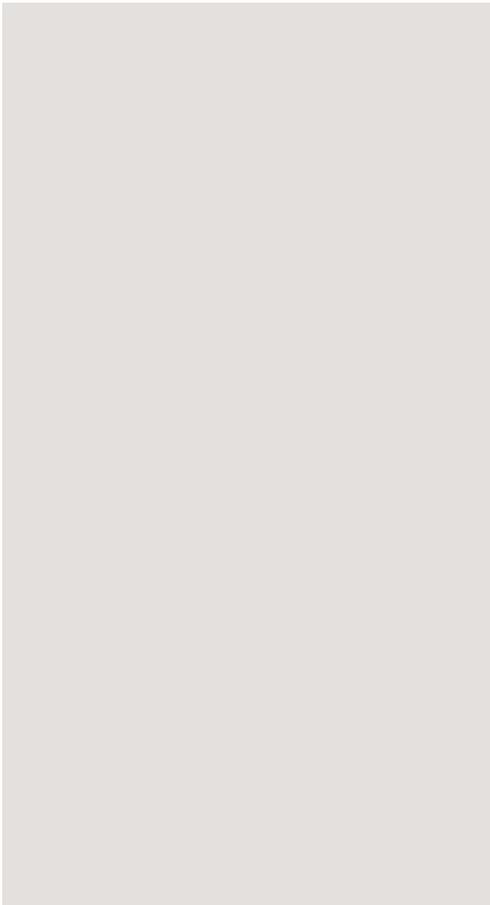
3. Native Species



Habitat

Habitat

Habitat



Name _____



Native species investigation – option 2

Instructions: Research the native species that you have observed and answer the following questions. Repeat this worksheet for each of your observations

Identification

Circle one: Fauna / Flora / Fungi / Lichen

Common name
(if applicable):

Scientific
name:
(iNaturalist can
help you with
this)

Habitat - observations

Describe where you found the species.

Habitat - research

Research what habitat your species needs.

Threats

What is threatening your species' habitat?
Do humans threaten their habitat?