

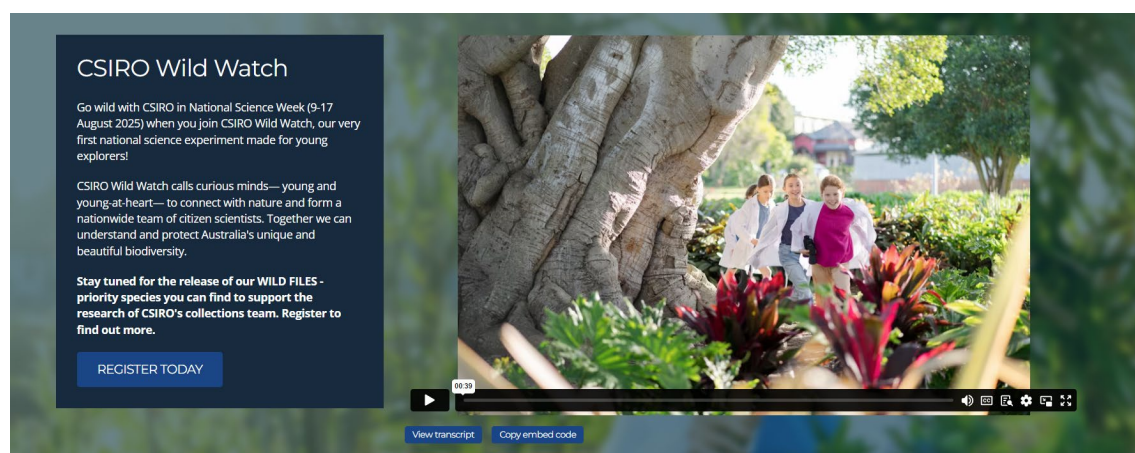
AGINFO 19 (2025)

CSIRO Wild Watch Program Science Week – 9 – 17 August 2025

We are excited to introduce you to CSIRO Wild Watch, CSIRO's the first annual National Science Experiment. This large-scale citizen science event will run during National Science Week 9-17 August.

It is a biodiversity blitz, run by educators, community group leaders and parents, to support young people to observe their local flora and fauna and contribute valuable biodiversity data to support Australian research.

CSIRO Wild Watch has been developed in partnership with The CSIRO National Collections Research Team Australia and the Atlas of Living Australia and will be delivered through the iNaturalist platform.



Watch the video here [National Science Week - CSIRO](#)

Advice for Girl Guide Leaders on running CSIRO Wild Watch

If you would like your Unit to take part in this fabulous opportunity:

1. Please register at <https://www.csiro.au/en/WebForms/National-Science-Experiment>.
2. Have a read through the CSIRO Wild Watch and iNaturalist Teacher Guides, which will be sent to you once you have registered,
3. Then select the way your Unit might like to participate from the options below.

There are 3 x webinars running during the week of 4 August that Leaders are welcome to attend to find out more about running a Wild Watch and ask questions of the CSIRO team:

- Tuesday 5 August, 4.00 to 5.00pm AEST
- Wednesday 6 August, 4.00 to 5.00pm AEST
- Thursday 7 August, 5.30 to 6.30pm AEST

Ways you can participate in Wild Watch with your Unit

Option 1: Run the Wild Watch on the weekend at the start of National Science Week (8/9 August)

- Watch the Wild Watch Student Presentation and iNaturalist Observation Videos with your unit before the weekend so they can learn how to take quality images.
- Look at the Wild Files together to see if there is a particular species or group of species you would all like to search for as part of your Wild Watch. Otherwise, you can just look for whatever wild flora and fauna you can find in your area. This could be near the Guide Hall, or in a nearby reserve.
- When you get started doing Wild Watch at the weekend, Guides will need to use an iPhone, iPad or digital camera to take images of their chosen wild living things which they then share with their Leader ready to decide which ones will be uploaded at the following meeting.
- Use your next meeting to work as a group and choose which images will be uploaded to iNaturalist by the Unit Leader.

Option 2: Run Wild Watch across 2 or 3 Meetings during National Science Week (9–17 August)

- Watch the Wild Watch student presentation and iNaturalist observation videos with your unit so they can learn how to take quality images. Then use the rest of this meeting or the next to collect your images.
- Use the next meeting to work as a group and choose which images will be uploaded to iNaturalist by the Unit leader.
- Being that most Guide sessions are run in the evening, and it will be dark in most parts of the country in August, you could target nocturnal creatures for your Wild Watch. Moths, spiders, marsupials, owls, slugs and snails (featured in the Wild Files) should all be out and about. What else can you find near the Guide Hall, or in a nearby reserve?

Option 3: Run Wild Watch with the Guides collecting their photos at home in the week before National Science Week (Week of 4 August)

- Use a meeting before National Science week to take the Guides through the Wild Watch student presentation and iNaturalist observation videos to teach them about how to take quality images.
- Ask the Guides to make their observations and take photos at home or in their local park/reserve and email these to the Unit Leader ahead of the next meeting.
- Use the Meeting during National Science Week to work as a group and choose which images will be uploaded to iNaturalist by the Unit Leader. You could also complete the Geospatial Mapping activity (available as part of the Wild File resources).
- Look at the Wild Files to see if there is a particular species or group of species you would like to search for as part of your Wild Watch. Otherwise, it can be open to finding whatever wild flora and fauna you can find in your area.
- This option could work well as Guides could work independent of the unit by using a device at home to record their images.

Action for SGGOs:

Please share this information through your channels to Leaders and share the following post on your socials to make Girl Guides aware of this fantastic opportunity.



This year's National Science Week will feature CSIRO's inaugural National Science Experiment: CSIRO Wild Watch - their first national science experiment made for young explorers. We invite curious minds to connect with nature and form a nationwide team of citizen scientists.

By observing and recording local flora and fauna, you will contribute valuable data directly to Australian researchers via the Atlas of Living Australia—the national biodiversity database, hosted by CSIRO. Each week, Australian observations uploaded to the iNaturalist app are integrated into the Atlas of Living Australia. This means contributions go straight to the researchers who need them.

Scientists at our National Research Collections Australia team want the community to look out for shark and ray eggs, the yellow/orange lichen, snails, wattle and more! Help researchers track their presence and movement—crucial information for conservation and scientific discovery.

Leaders please register now at <https://www.csiro.au/WildWatch>.

There are webinars to explain how all aspects of this program work w/c4 August since CSIRO are eager to ensure you have all you need to help Girl Guides be part of this fabulous biodiversity survey!

#CSIROScienceWeek #WildWatch2025 #advocatefornaturelikeagirlguide #becausegirlsdo

Evaluation

By registering your Unit with CSIRO for Wild Watch we will be able to see what Units, Regions and States take part and how many girls participate. We will also be able to see how many iNaturalist accounts are opened and the number of photos/observations are uploaded.

For more information please contact:

admin@girlguides.org.au