

Animal Habitats

Topic: Rehabilitation

Background Information

Western Australia's Jarrah Forest is home to many unique fauna species. It is difficult to relocate mammals, birds, reptiles and insects to rehabilitated forest after mining. Therefore fauna recolonisation is one of the key success indicators of rehabilitation. Animal habitats are placed in areas that have been rehabilitated to encourage the return of different animal species.

You Will Need

- Paper
- Clipboard
- Pencil/pen

What You Need To Do

Identify potential animal habitats in your local area (school grounds/backyard/parklands).

Look for identifying features such as movement, scats, markings/diggings, shelter. Sketch one of the habitats. What animal species is likely to occupy this habitat?

Extension/Alternatives

What needs to be considered to create a habitat?

On paper design a habitat for local animal species. Determine a suitable location where the habitat could be built.

Can you build the habitat you have designed?

Final Question

How can animal habitats in your area be improved?

Consider:



- Adding nest boxes in bush where tree hollows have not yet formed
- Removing weeds and replanting with local plants
- Fencing bushland to protect existing vegetation and to encourage regrowth
- Planting wildlife corridors between patches of bush. Planting under-storey species
- Fencing of the riverbanks to keep stock off. Planting of the riverbanks to stop erosion.

Curriculum Links

Society & Environment: Place and Space, Natural and Social Systems, Resources, Active Citizenship - Ecological Sustainability

Science: Life and Living

Technology and Enterprise: Technology Process, Materials, Technology Skills

Values

5. Environmental Responsibility
 - Conservation of the environment
 - Sustainable development
 - Diversity of species