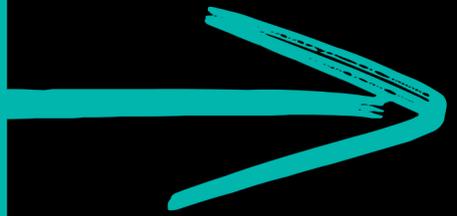




**ON
AIR**
PlayUP

**NATIONAL
THREATENED
SPECIES DAY**

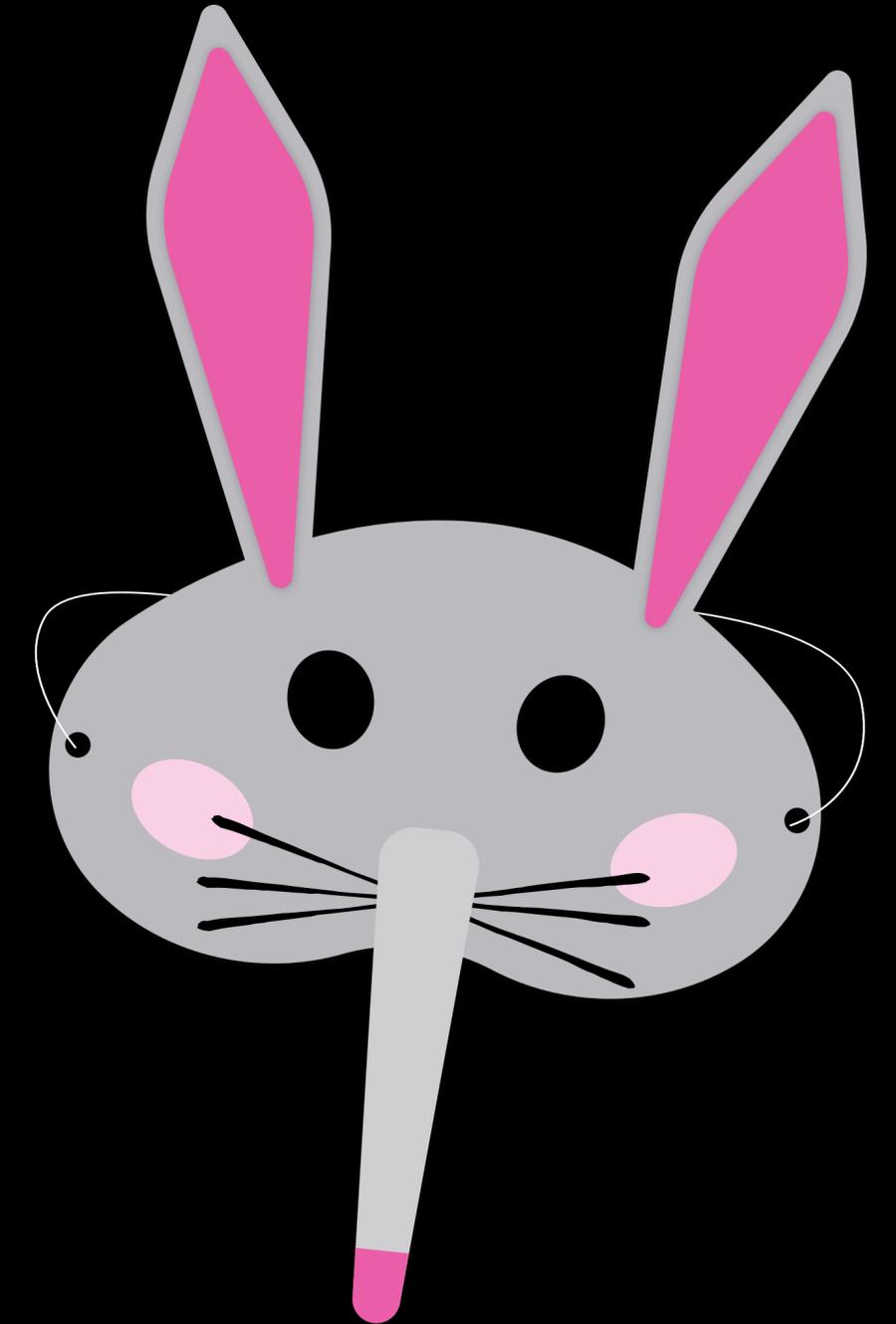


Join the PlayUP team
as they make

ANIMAL MASKS

to commemorate

NATIONAL THREATENED SPECIES DAY



Australia is home to more than 500,000 animal and plant species, many of which are not found anywhere else in the world.

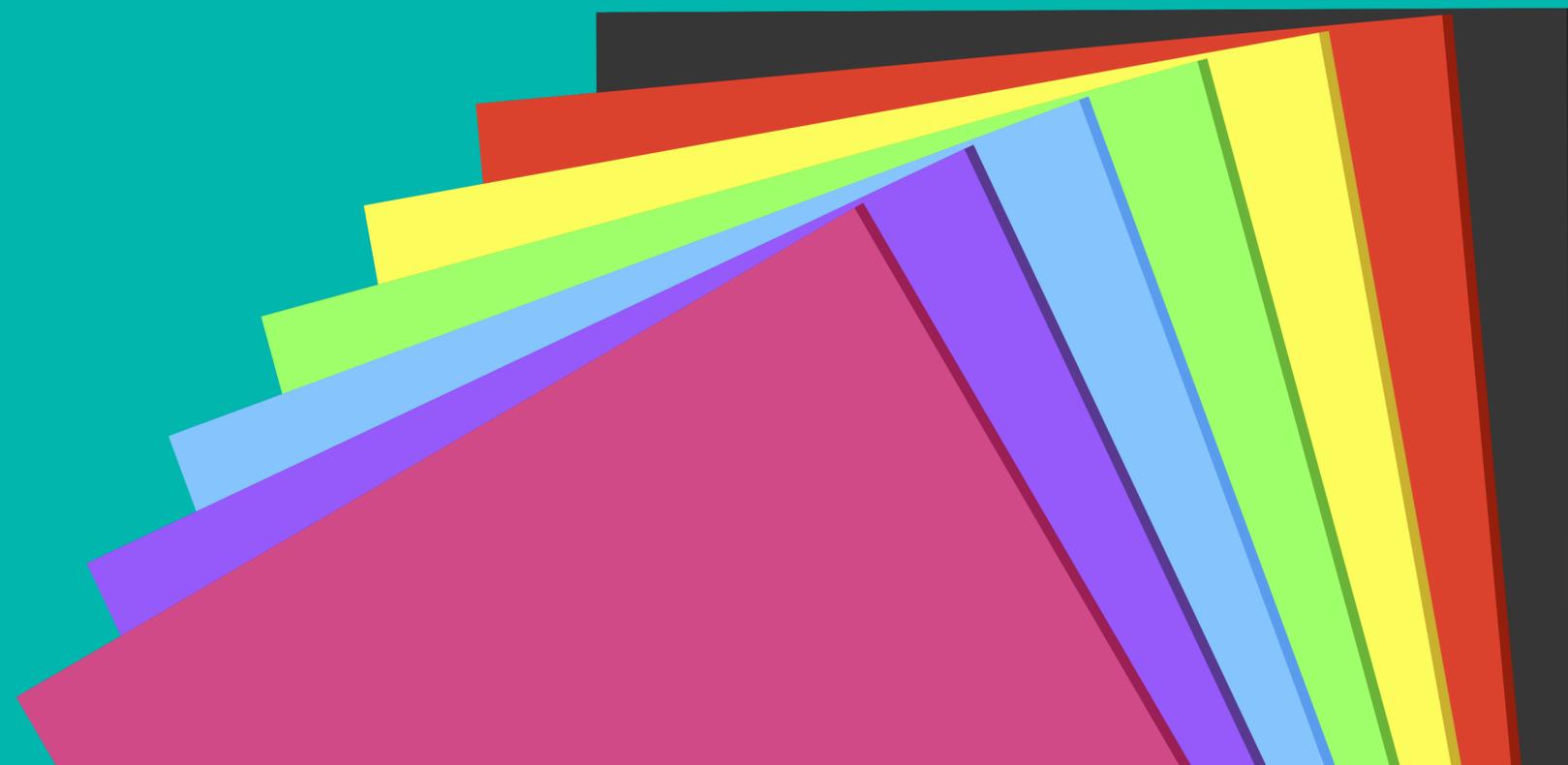
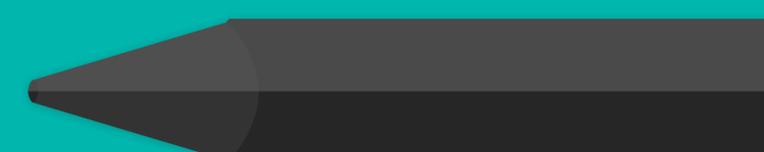
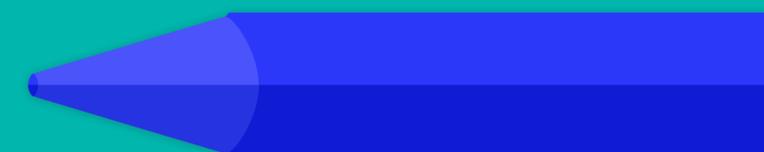
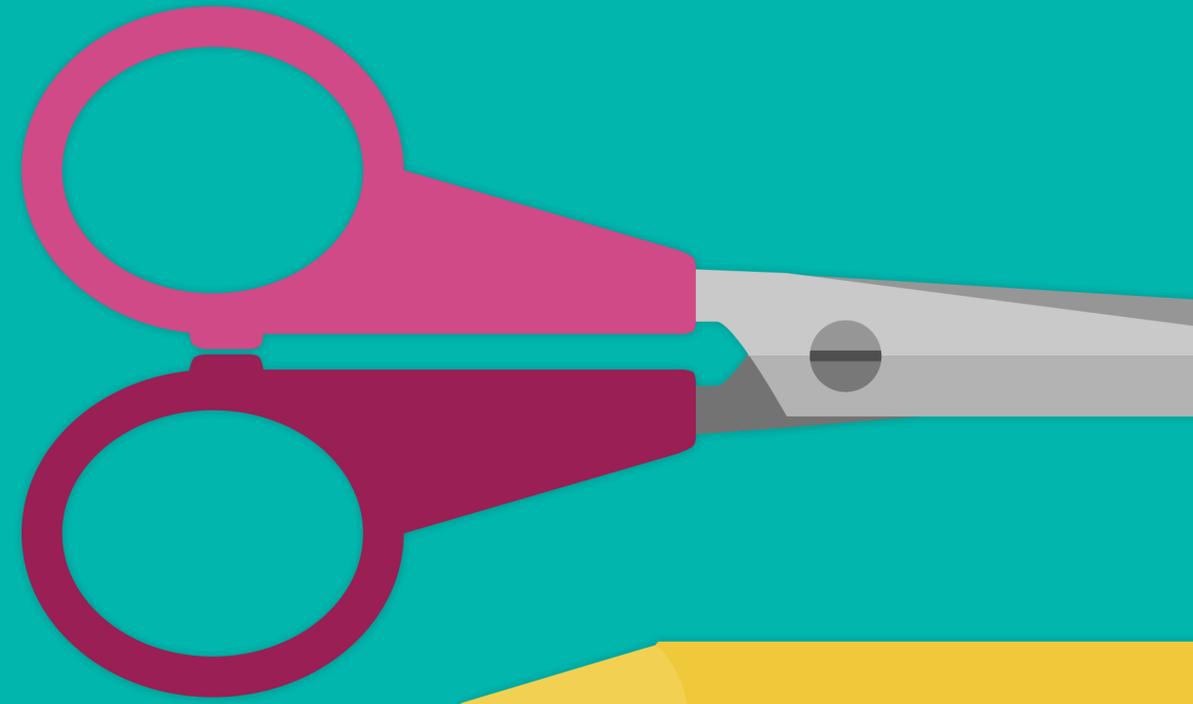
Sadly, some plants and animals are threatened and at risk of extinction. This means they could be gone forever. Destruction of habitats and the introduction of non-native species has put many Australian plants and animals in danger.

On National Threatened Species Day, we think about the ways we can help protect native plants, animals and ecosystems.

It's also a good time to celebrate the great work being done by conservationists, researchers, volunteers, and community experts to look after threatened species.

Materials

- Paper or cardboard
- **Scissors** (please be careful with these)
- **Crayons, textas or pencils**
- **Glue stick or sticky tape**
- **String, wool, elastic or paddle pop stick**



Instructions

1. Firstly, think about what kind of animal you will make. What kind of nose do they have? Do they have big or small ears?
2. To create your mask, draw a big jellybean-like shape on paper or cardboard — big enough to reach from the bridge of your nose, around your cheeks and forehead. Then cut it out.
3. Draw two circles to create eye holes and cut them out.

Tip: Fold the paper across the circle and create a small snip to get your cutting started.

4. Add a nose and ears. Cut shapes from paper or cardboard and stick them on your mask.
5. Draw or stick on more features of your animal. Does it need feathers? Or cotton wool buds for fur?
6. Make a small hole on both edges of your mask. Thread some string, wool or elastic through and either tie some knots or use sticky tape to keep it in place. This will hold the mask onto your face. Or, sticky tape a paddle pop stick to the back of your mask so you can hold it up to your face.

Fun at Home

Animal Charades

Gather your friends and family and clear a space in your home – it's time to get moving for Animal Charades!

Start by thinking of an animal that is threatened. Don't tell anyone what it is. Now think of a way you can act out the animal without making a sound. Do you need to get down low and be very tiny? Is the animal you're thinking of round or does it have wings? Are you a corroboree frog? What about the little bilby?

See if your family and friends can guess which animal you are. When they guess, tell them one fun fact about the animal so that you can all learn more about threatened species.

Whoever guessed the animal gets to have the next turn.

For round two, try playing Animal Sounds instead. Make the sound of your chosen animal, can your friends and family guess what it is?

Tip: This game can be played in-person or on video calls.





More Fun at Home

Learn about and plant a threatened species

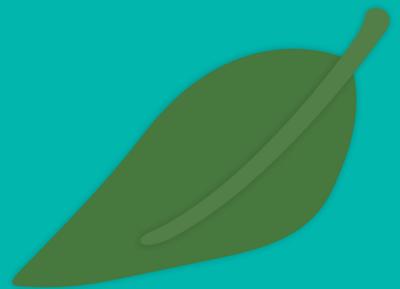
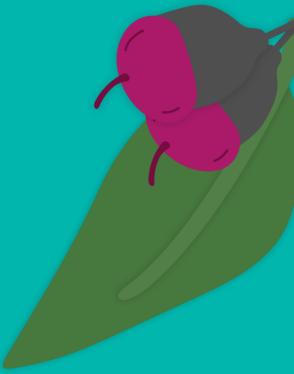
Help a threatened plant species by planting one in your backyard, in a pot or with a community group in a park.

The *Grow Me Instead* project identifies introduced species of plants in your area that you shouldn't grow, and lists the ones you should consider planting instead. Head to the website and explore the interactive map to learn about your region.

Make a native Australian plant journal

Visit your local botanic garden or arboretum and discover the native Australian plants that grow in your area. Create a journal to record your discoveries.

Remember to leave the botanic garden or arboretum as you found it so that everyone, even animals, can enjoy the unique plants growing there.



Spiky stick echidnas

Make your very own spiky echidna.

1. Head outdoors and collect some fallen twigs and small sticks to become your echidna's spikes.
2. Next, create an echidna body from playdough or clay.
3. Poke your twigs and sticks into the body to complete your spiky echidna.

Can you create a whole family of echidnas? What other threatened animals could you make?

Threatened species bake off

Get out your mixing bowls and flour — it's time for a bake off.

How about a koala cupcake with marshmallows for fluffy ears? A wombat shaped biscuit with chocolate sprinkles for fur? Or a wattle cake covered in yellow buttercream?

Don't forget to check out the results of the annual Threatened Species Bake Off competition by going to the Threatened Species Commissioners' Facebook page or search social media with the hashtag #TSBakeOff.





Books

<u>Title</u>	<u>Authors/Illustrator</u>
<i>The Sea Book</i>	by Charlotte Milner
<i>When the Bees Buzzed Off</i>	by Lula Bell and Stephen Bennett
<i>The Children and the Whale</i>	by Daniel Frost
<i>Diary of a Wombat</i>	by Jackie French and Bruce Whatley

Story and Song Online

Somewhere in Australia by Marcello Pennacchio
[youtube.com/watch?v=07MsMRFzaWI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07MsMRFzaWI)

Dance along with the 'Wombat Wobble'
by Johnny Huckle & Helen Moran
[youtube.com/watch?v=D3jllzkcr0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3jllzkcr0s)

Learn More

- aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Parliamentary_Departments/Parliamentary_Library/FlagPost/2017/September/National_Threatened_Species_Day
- environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-news/threatened-species-day
- environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/commissioner
- wires.org.au/wildlife-information

Check out the Threatened Species Bake-Off
environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/commissioner/tsbakeoff

The Grow Me Instead project
growmeinstead.com.au/

Find your nearest botanic garden
bganz.org.au/category/locations/

Links to the Early Learning Framework – Belonging, Being and Becoming

Outcome 2: Children are connected with and contribute to their world

- Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment

Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

- Children develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity
- Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials

Learn More

[Links to the Australian Curriculum](#)

Critical and Creative Thinking Levels 1-3

Inquiring – identifying, exploring and organising information and ideas – pose questions; identify and clarify information and ideas

Generating ideas, possibilities and actions
- seek solutions and put ideas into action

Personal and Social Capability Levels 1-3

Social awareness – contribute to civil society



Aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



Aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15

Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ON AIR PlayUP

**Don't forget to tune
into On Air PlayUP next
Wednesday for more fun.**



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