



australian  
wildlife  
conservancy

## Kids Activity Book



Australian Wildlife Conservancy is a global leader in conservation, providing hope for Australia's wildlife with a science-informed, land management partnership model that delivers high impact results. Find out more on our website: [www.australianwildlife.org](http://www.australianwildlife.org)



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## Did you know?

Northern Bettongs' love truffles! They forage for them on the forest floor, digging up soil and spreading fungi which helps to nourish eucalypts and other tree species.

# Hi junior scientists!



Welcome to your very own wildlife activity book – filled with fun facts and cool things to do and create.

Australia's animals and plants are special: more than 80% of our mammals, frogs, reptiles and plants are found nowhere else in the world. In this book you will meet some of Australia's weird and wonderful wildlife and learn about their homes, favourite foods and what makes them unique.

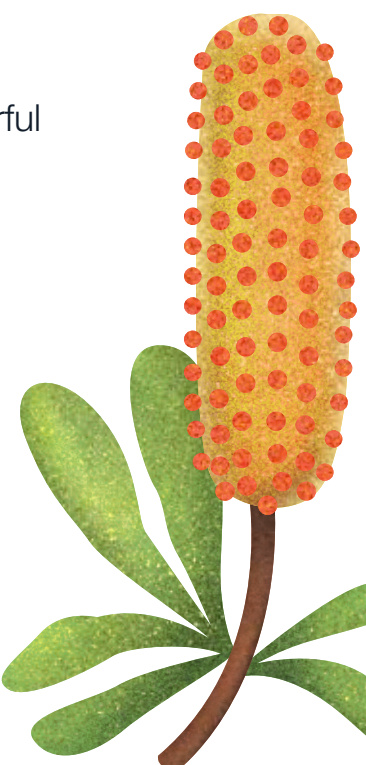
Discover what a Gouldian Finch likes for lunch, learn where a Western Quoll sleeps during the day and find out about Australia's largest burrowing animal, the Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat.

Here at Australian Wildlife Conservancy, we are working hard to protect Australia's special plants, animals and their homes.

Across Australia our scientists are researching threatened animals and sometimes they even discover new species that haven't been recorded before!

Our land managers have the very important job of maintaining the health of the environment, protecting it from weeds and uncontrolled wildfire.

From your friends at Australian Wildlife Conservancy, we hope you enjoy learning about some of Australia's wonderful animals and why it's so important that we care for them.



# Greater Bilby

The Greater Bilby is an iconic Australian marsupial, with a pointed snout, long ears, soft grey fur and striking black and white tail.

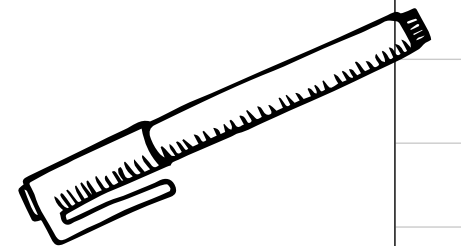
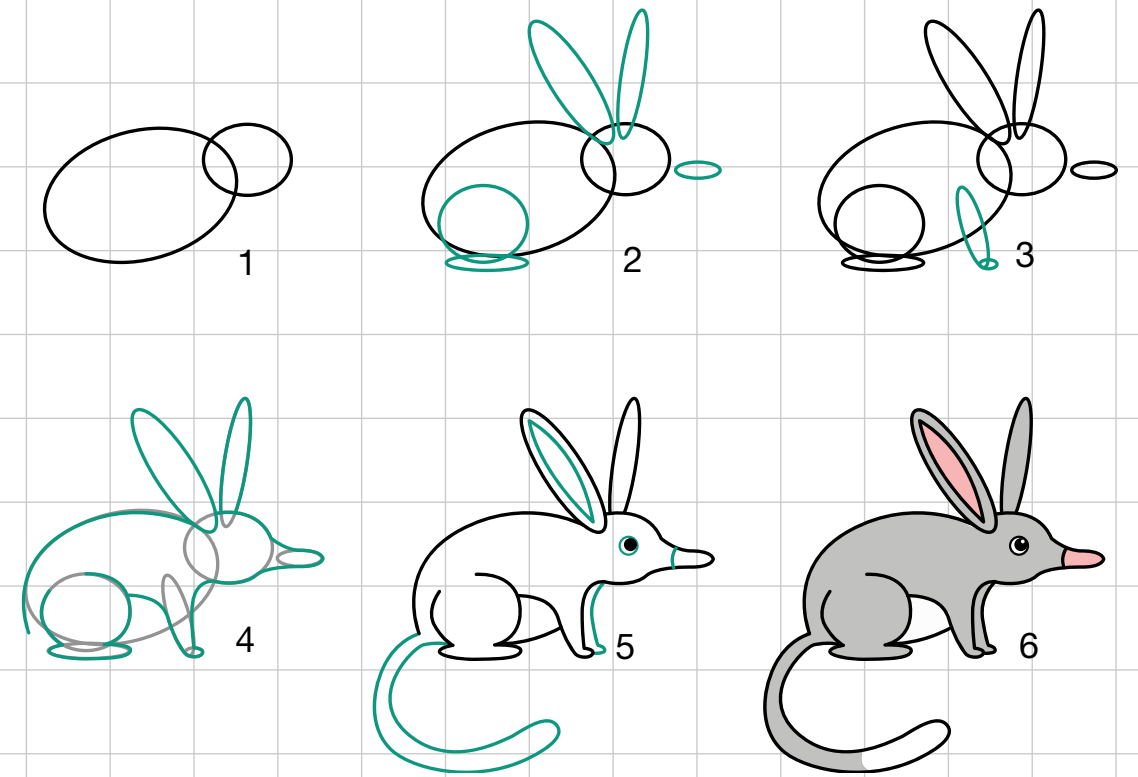
Bilbies dig burrows up to 3 metres deep to live in, and they love to eat insects, seeds, bulbs, fruit and fungi.



## Did you know?

Greater Bilbies dig up 20 tonnes of topsoil in a year when making their homes and looking for food. Their digging moves water and nutrients into the soil helping plants to grow.

Follow the step-by-step tutorial to draw your own Bilby.

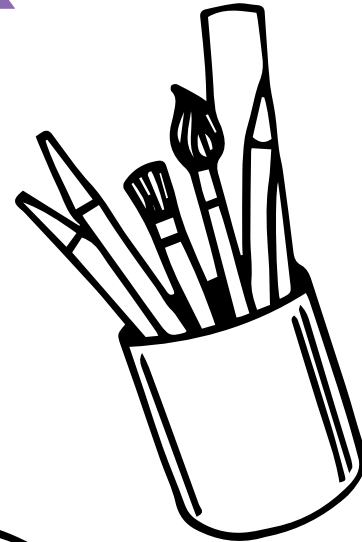
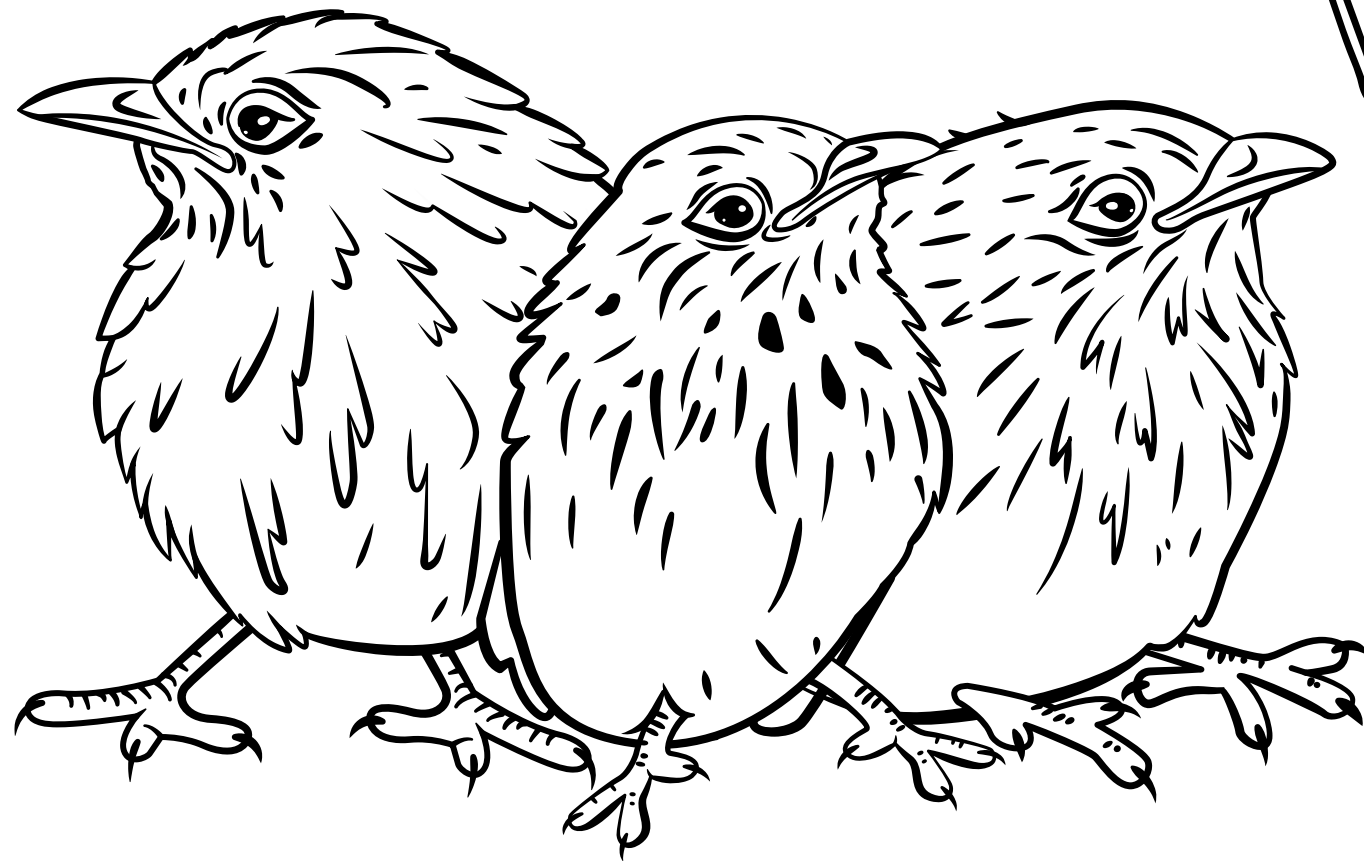




# Black Grasswren

The Black Grasswren is only found in the north-west Kimberley in Western Australia. This bird loves rocky sandstone country with big rocks and grasslands.

Male and female Grasswrens have slightly different colours – can you tell them apart? Try colouring them in below.



## Did you know?

Black Grasswrens live in pairs or groups of up to 8 birds. You can tell males and females apart based on their feathers! Males have a black front with rich brown-back feathers. Females have a paler red-brown front.



# Rough-scaled Python

The Rough-scaled Python is a placid and non-venomous snake that can grow to 2 metres long!

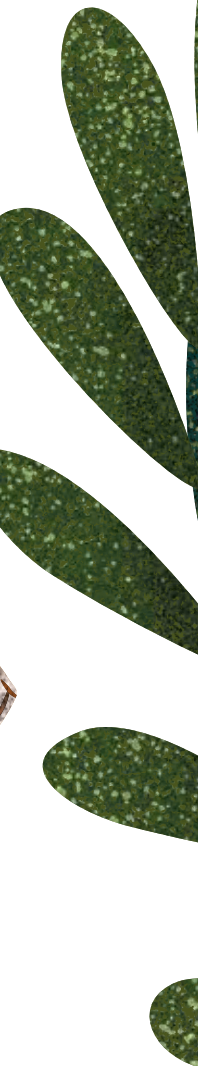


## Activity

Take a measuring tape and find something in your house or garden that is 2 metres long. This will give you an idea of how big the Rough-scaled Python can grow!

## Did you know?

Rough-scaled Pythons live in remote areas and are some of the rarest snakes in Australia! They are well camouflaged and very difficult to spot, but Australian Wildlife Conservancy scientists have spotted them at our sanctuaries in the Kimberley.

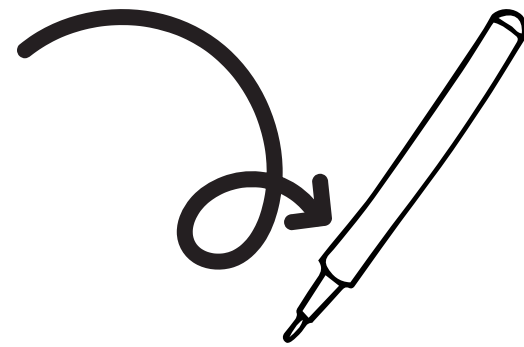




# Red-tailed Phascogale

The Red-tailed Phascogale is a small marsupial with an ash-grey body and distinctive reddish-brown tail that ends in a brush of long black hairs. By night they hunt prey and during the day they sleep curled up in tree hollows.

Can you draw a safe place for the Red-tailed Phascogale to sleep during the day?



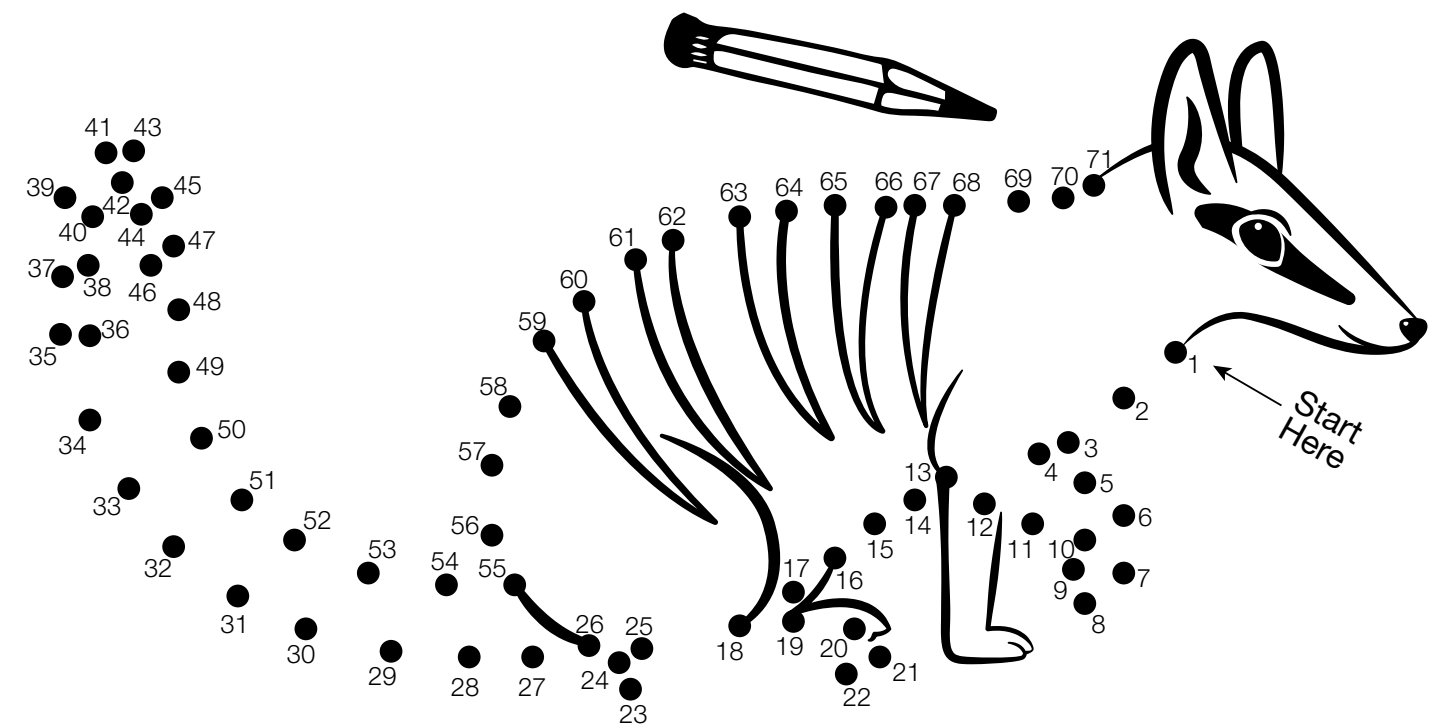
## Did you know?

Red-tailed Phascogales' favourite foods are insects and spiders. They get all the water they need from their food and don't need to drink anything!

# Numbat

Numbats have rusty-orange and grey-black fur, with white bands across their backs that get bigger towards their tail. Numbats have long fluffy tails and very long sticky tongues which they use to eat their favourite food – termites.

Connect the dots to draw the Numbat and then colour it in.



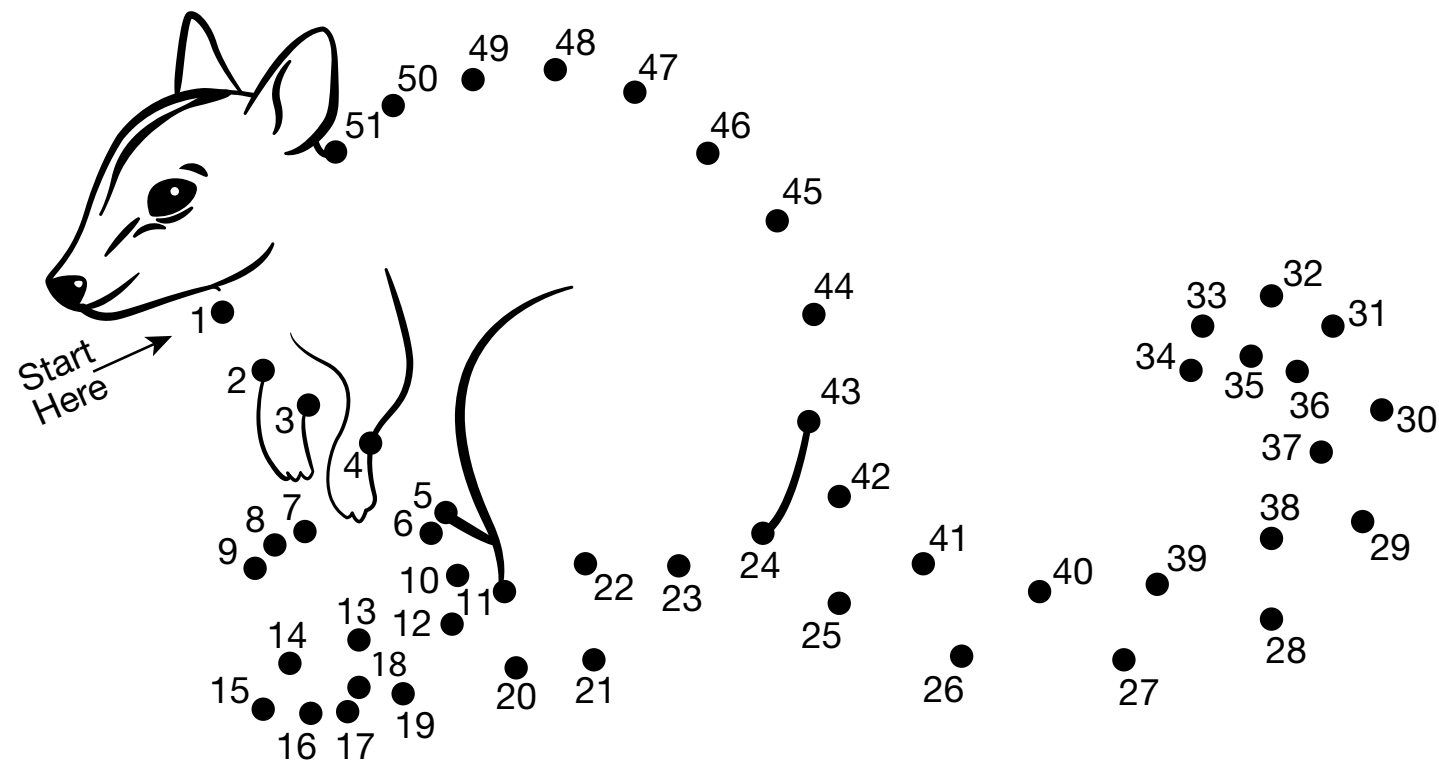
## Did you know?

Like us, Numbats are active during the day. This makes it easier to find termites which Numbats dig up and then eat by flicking out their long tongues.

# Short-eared Rock-wallaby

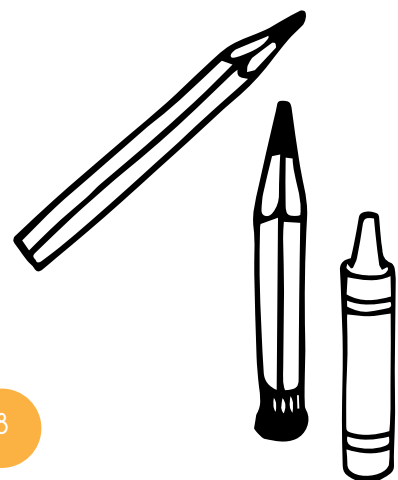
The Short-eared Rock-wallaby is found up north in the Northern Territory and Western Australia. They are generally grey to brown with white areas around their face and legs.

Connect the dots to draw the Short-eared Rock-wallaby and then colour it in.



## Did you know?

Short-eared Rock-wallabies munch on leaves and grasses. The Gunwinggu (Kunwinjku) People in West Arnhem Land call the Short-eared Rock-wallaby *badbong*.



# Gouldian Finch

Gouldian Finches are spectacular – their multi-coloured feathers are the colour of gemstones! These small birds have a bright green back, sunshine-yellow belly and a royal-purple chest. Each bird can have one of three different face colours – black, red or yellow.

Find the numbers and colour in the Gouldian Finch.



## Did you know?

Gouldian Finches eat grass seeds and prefer to flock together – sometimes in groups of as many as 1,000 members.

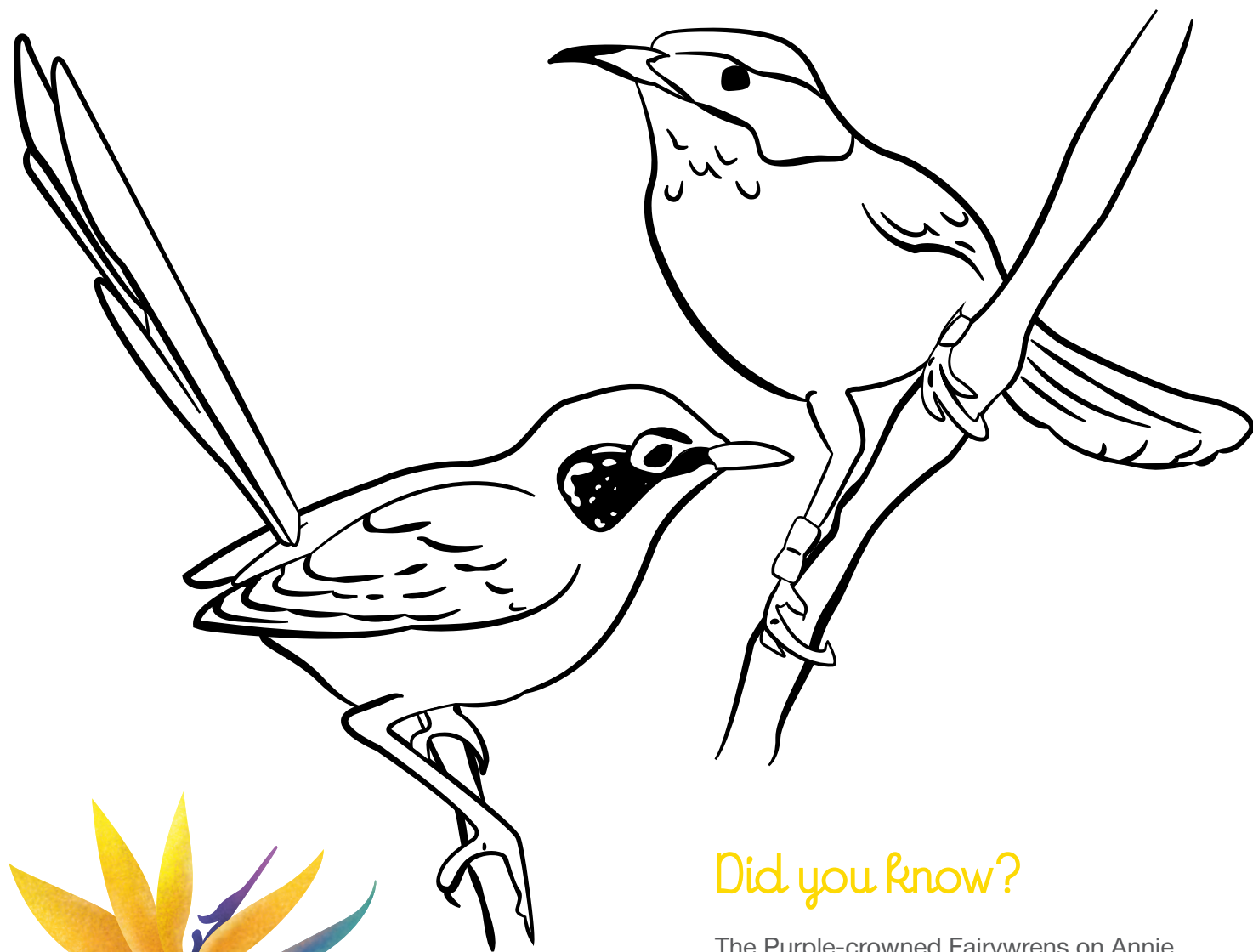




## Purple-crowned Fairywren

Purple-crowned Fairywrens are small birds – each one weighs less than 3 sugar cubes! They get their name from the vivid purple crown of feathers males have when trying to attract females. Both males and females have bright blue tails, black bills, and brown backs and wings.

The male and female Purple-crowned Fairywrens have different colours – can you tell them apart?



### Did you know?

The Purple-crowned Fairywrens on Annie Creek and the Adcock River on Australian Wildlife Conservancy's Mornington-Marion Downs Wildlife Sanctuary have been studied since 2005. Scientists can tell the birds apart by sight by the different coloured bands that have been attached to their legs.



## Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat

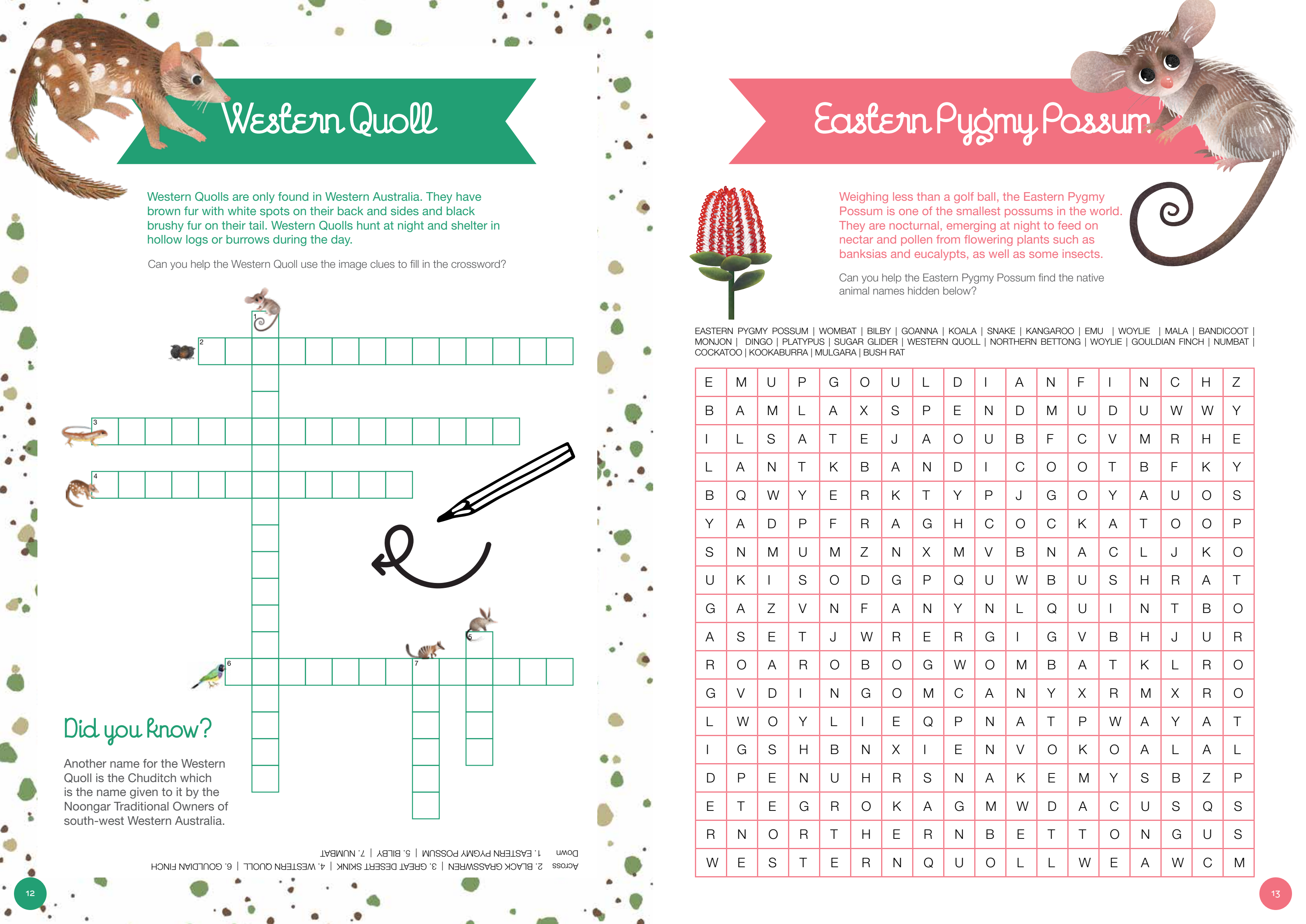
The Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat is the largest burrowing marsupial in the world. It is also one of Australia's rarest animals. They spend most of their time underground in vast burrows but come out at night to feed on grasses.

Can you trace the best way for the Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat to find his way to his bed?



### Did you know?

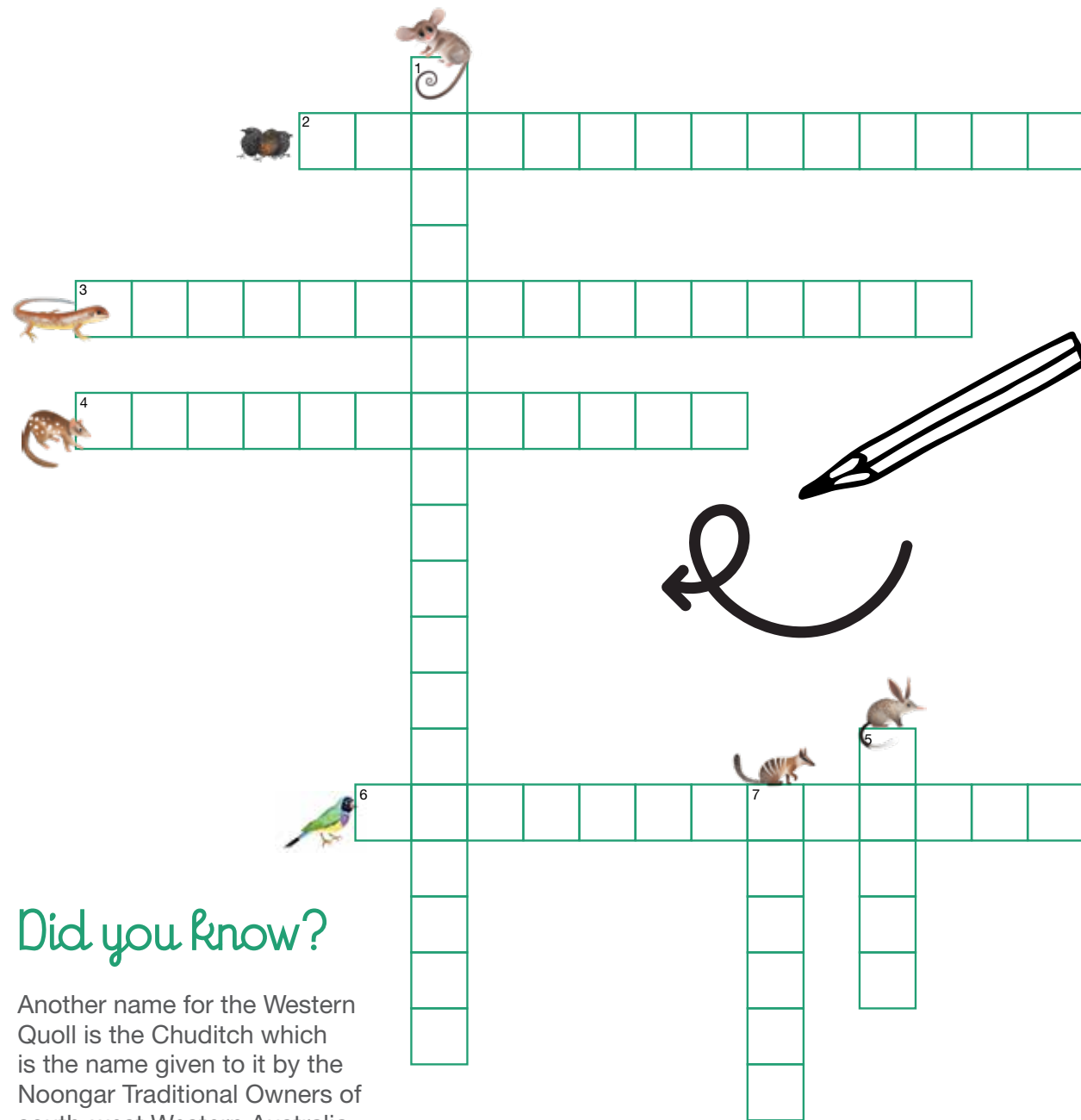
There are only 315 Northern Hairy-nosed Wombats left in the wild and they can live to be 24 years old.



# Western Quoll

Western Quolls are only found in Western Australia. They have brown fur with white spots on their back and sides and black brushy fur on their tail. Western Quolls hunt at night and shelter in hollow logs or burrows during the day.

Can you help the Western Quoll use the image clues to fill in the crossword?



## Did you know?

Another name for the Western Quoll is the Chuditch which is the name given to it by the Noongar Traditional Owners of south-west Western Australia.

Across 2. BLACK GRASSWREN | 3. GREAT DESERT SKINK | 4. WESTERN QUOLL | 6. GOULDIAN FINCH  
Down 1. EASTERN PYGMY POSSUM | 5. BILBY | 7. NUMBAT

# Eastern Pygmy Possum

Weighing less than a golf ball, the Eastern Pygmy Possum is one of the smallest possums in the world. They are nocturnal, emerging at night to feed on nectar and pollen from flowering plants such as banksias and eucalypts, as well as some insects.

Can you help the Eastern Pygmy Possum find the native animal names hidden below?



EASTERN PYGMY POSSUM | WOMBAT | BILBY | GOANNA | KOALA | SNAKE | KANGAROO | EMU | WOYLIE | MALA | BANDICOOT | MONJON | DINGO | PLATYPUS | SUGAR GLIDER | WESTERN QUOLL | NORTHERN BETTONG | WOYLIE | GOULDIAN FINCH | NUMBAT | COCKATOO | KOOKABURRA | MULGARA | BUSH RAT

E	M	U	P	G	O	U	L	D	I	A	N	F	I	N	C	H	Z
B	A	M	L	A	X	S	P	E	N	D	M	U	D	U	W	W	Y
I	L	S	A	T	E	J	A	O	U	B	F	C	V	M	R	H	E
L	A	N	T	K	B	A	N	D	I	C	O	O	T	B	F	K	Y
B	Q	W	Y	E	R	K	T	Y	P	J	G	O	Y	A	U	O	S
Y	A	D	P	F	R	A	G	H	C	O	C	K	A	T	O	O	P
S	N	M	U	M	Z	N	X	M	V	B	N	A	C	L	J	K	O
U	K	I	S	O	D	G	P	Q	U	W	B	U	S	H	R	A	T
G	A	Z	V	N	F	A	N	Y	N	L	Q	U	I	N	T	B	O
A	S	E	T	J	W	R	E	R	G	I	G	V	B	H	J	U	R
R	O	A	R	O	B	O	G	W	O	M	B	A	T	K	L	R	O
G	V	D	I	N	G	O	M	C	A	N	Y	X	R	M	X	R	O
L	W	O	Y	L	I	E	Q	P	N	A	T	P	W	A	Y	A	T
I	G	S	H	B	N	X	I	E	N	V	O	K	O	A	L	A	L
D	P	E	N	U	H	R	S	N	A	K	E	M	Y	S	B	Z	P
E	T	E	G	R	O	K	A	G	M	W	D	A	C	U	S	Q	S
R	N	O	R	T	H	E	R	N	B	E	T	T	O	N	G	U	S
W	E	S	T	E	R	N	Q	U	O	L	L	W	E	A	W	C	M

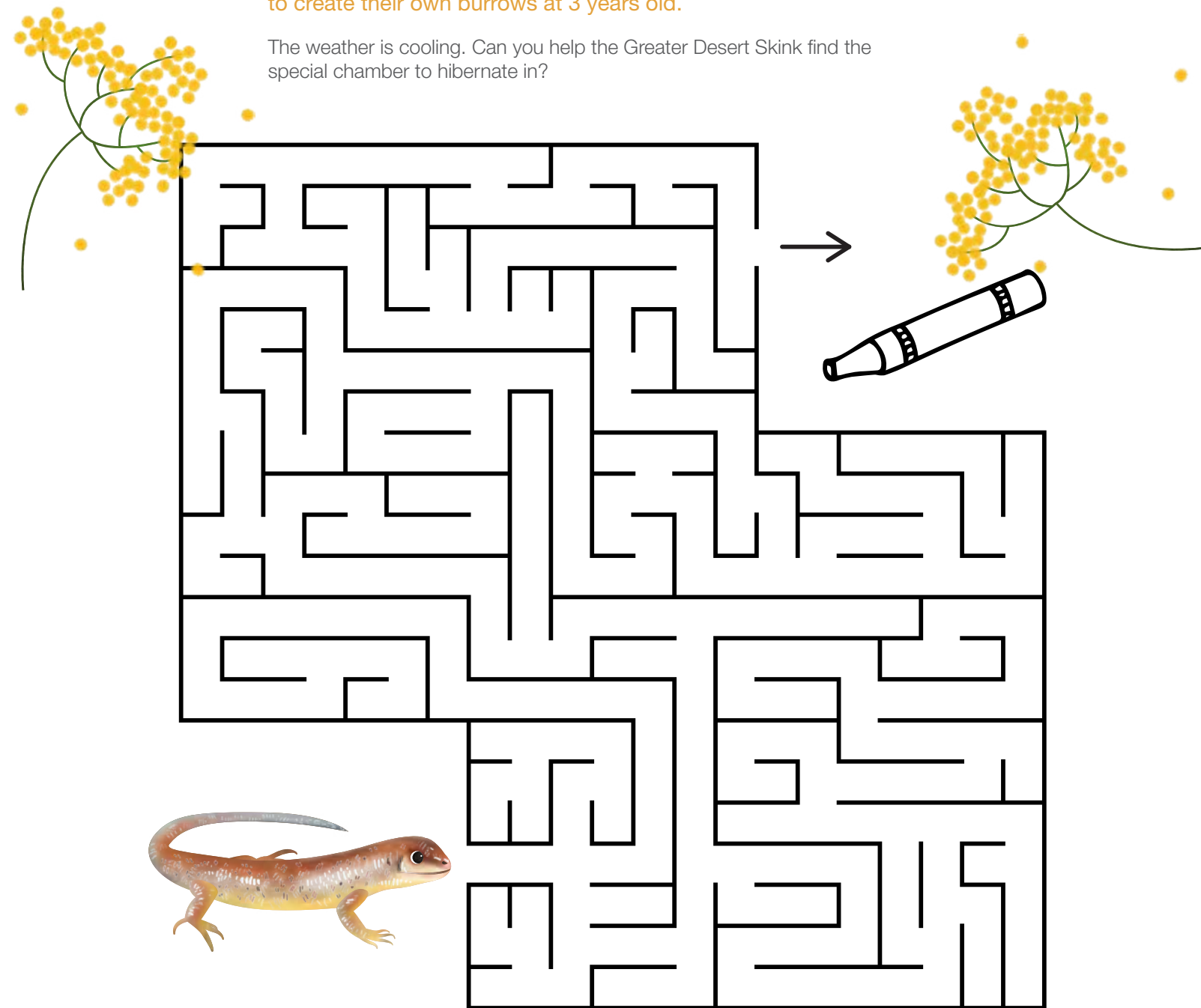




## Great Desert Skink

Great Desert Skinks are large (growing up to 44 cm!), long-lived reptiles that dig complex burrow systems up to 10 metres wide with multiple entrances. Outside of each burrow is a distinctive latrine area – a large toilet that all resident skinks use. Great Desert Skinks share their burrows with their young until they leave home to create their own burrows at 3 years old.

The weather is cooling. Can you help the Greater Desert Skink find the special chamber to hibernate in?



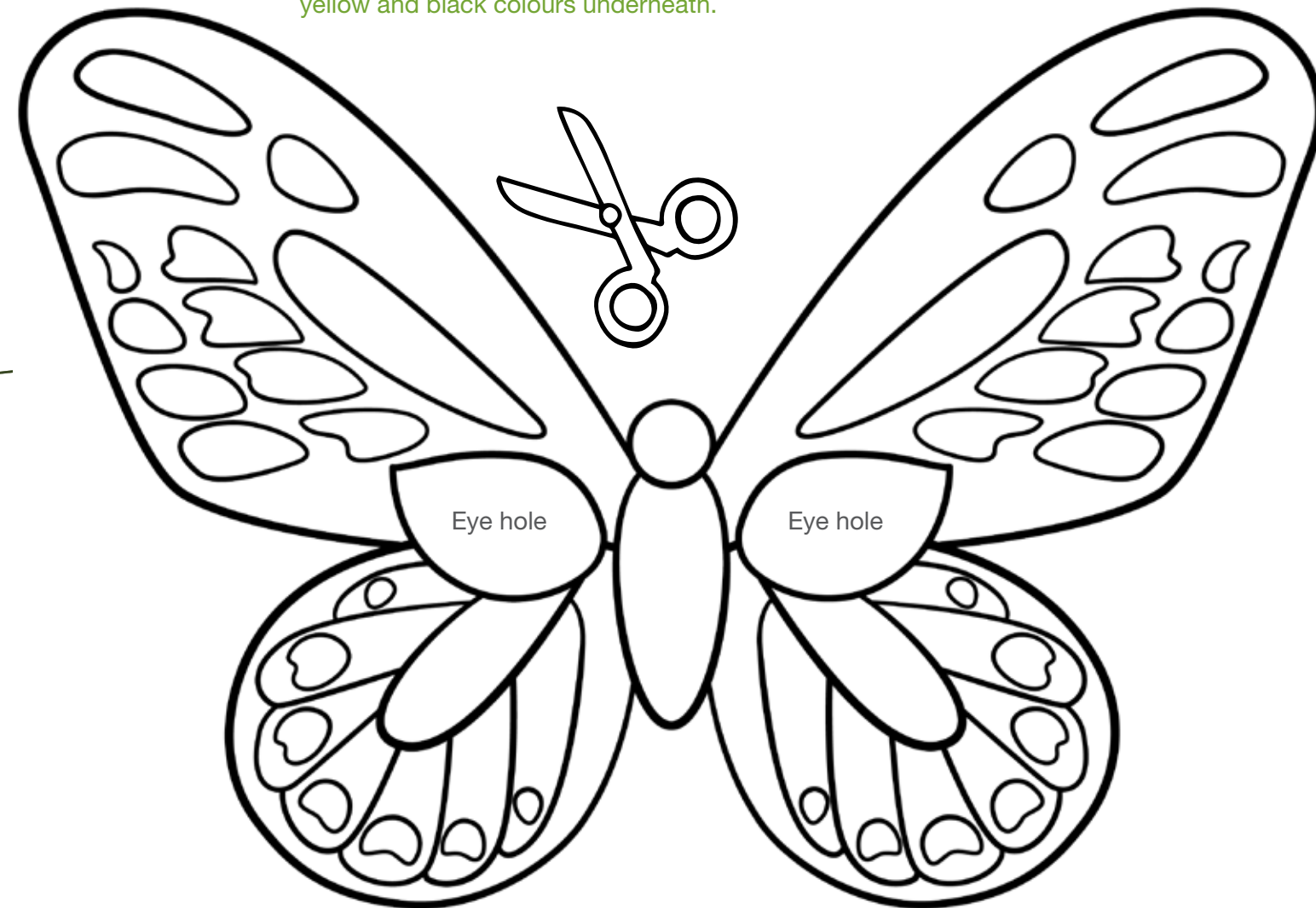
Did you know?

In cooler months Great Desert Skinks hibernate in specially constructed chambers in their burrows.



## Richmond Birdwing Butterfly

The Richmond Birdwing is one of Australia's largest butterflies. The male has brilliant green and black wings on top with blue, yellow and black colours underneath.



### Craft Project

Colour in the butterfly and then cut it out.

Carefully cut out the eye holes so you can see. Add ribbon or string to the sides of the mask to tie your butterfly mask in place.

### Did you know?

Richmond Birdwing Butterflies evolved to only lay their eggs on one special vine called the Birdwing Butterfly Vine. Since a similar-looking poisonous weed called the Dutchman's Pipe Vine started growing in Australia, the butterflies now sometimes lay their eggs on this weed by mistake. The leaves are poisonous to the butterfly's larvae which makes getting rid of this weed very important.

# Mountain-top Nursery Frog

The Mountain-top Nursery Frog is only found in Australia. Its natural habitat is in moist tropical and subtropical high-altitude forests. It is sometimes called the Mount Lewis Nursery Frog.



## Craft Project

Colour in and then cut out your frog and frog stand along the dotted lines. Fold the frog feet along the straight line. Fold the stand along the straight line and glue the stand to the back of your frog (just like a picture stand). Now stand your frog up!

## Did you know?

Mountain-top Nursery Frogs are found only in one place in Australia – the very top of Mount Lewis in Queensland!

