

BIRDS EYE VIEW ACTIVITY SHEET

Welcome to Whitlam! Have fun exploring and finding the flock of birds that have recently landed in our suburb for the first time ever! Lucky for them, this is near their natural habitats, so they are happy hanging out in our suburb.

This is a self-guided interactive art tour experience. You can use this map to help you explore the suburb, take in the beautiful views of Molonglo Valley, play in our amazing parks, stop in for a coffee and cake at Heartbeat Café or enjoy a break in the climate wise garden at SLA's Display Village.

The best place to start is at the Whitlam Pond, opposite Heartbeat Café. From there your challenge is to find all six birds. Here you can find information on the birds and some activities to do while you are here, including a fun "Birds Personality Quiz".

While you are on the bird hunt take a photo of your favourite view (with the bird in it) and send it to MINGLE@ACT.GOV.AU to go into a draw for a prize (the photo may be used by Suburban Land Agency in its public communications).



ACT
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DISPLAY
VILLAGE

Meet our birds

All our birds are local to Canberra and are made from recycled steel, wood and cardboard by a local artist, Tom Buckland.



Learn more
about the artist

SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO



Cockatoos are a large white parrot with a sulphur-yellow crest and yellow wash on the underside to their wings. They are very noisy and conspicuous, both at rest and flight. They can live up to 80 years in captivity. They are found in timbered habitats and are common around human settlements, stay in the same place all year round, eat berries, seeds, bulbs and roots. They communicate with a distinctive loud screech..

What can you see from here?

GALAH



Galah's have a rose-pink head, neck and underparts, with a paler pink crown and a grey back, wings and undertail. Galah's have a bouncing acrobatic flight. They congregate and roost together at night and can be very noisy, with a distinctive high-pitch screech "chi-chi". They form permanent bonds, usually partnering for life, and nest in tree hollows lined with leaves. They form huge, noisy flocks which feed on seeds, mostly on the ground.

What can you see from here?

WHITE-FACED HERON



White-faced Herons are a light blue-grey in colour, with a characteristic white face. They have a long, slim neck and a pointed grey-black bill with long and dull yellow legs. They feed on a wide variety of prey, including fish, insects and amphibians. They can be found anywhere where there is water. They are the most seen herons in Australia.

What can you see from here?

MAGPIE



Known as songbirds, magpies have a wide variety of calls, many of which are complex with their pitch sometimes varying up to four octaves. They have striking black and white markings and chestnut brown eyes. They are found where there is a combination of trees and adjacent open areas. They live in groups of up to 24 and their territories are actively defended by all group members during breeding season, generally in and around September. Some Magpies will swoop to protect their young. It is best to avoid those areas for the breeding month. They will soon calm down once their babies turn into teenagers! They eat insects and larvae and are known to venture into open houses to beg for food.

What can you see from here?

NATIVE CRESTED PIGEON



The Native Crested Pigeon is a stocky pigeon, with a conspicuous thin black crest. Most of the plumage is grey-brown. If startled, this pigeon takes to the air with a characteristic whistling flight. Upon landing, the pigeon swings its tail high in the air. They eat mostly native seeds, introduced crops and weeds and some leaves and insects. They live in lightly wooded grasslands in both rural and urban areas, usually near water as they need to drink every day.

What can you see from here?

CRIMSON ROSELLA



Crimson Rosella's are not only red but can be yellow or orange with blue accents. They live mostly in tall eucalypt and damp forests. They eat seeds from eucalyptus, grasses and shrubs as well as insects and some tree blossoms. They also enjoy seed trays in people's gardens. Once familiar with humans, they will accept handheld food. They cluster together in small flocks and have a range of calls, the most common being a two syllabled 'cussick-cussik'. They also have a range of harsh screeches and metallic whistles.

What can you see from here?