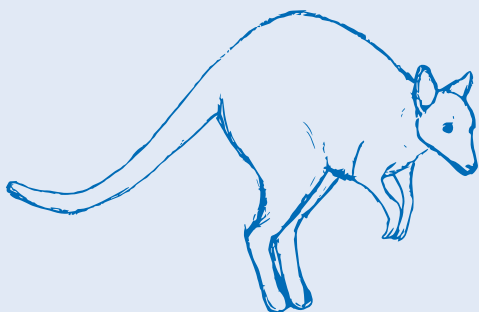




Checklist

What can you see?

- native stingless bees
- big ant
- beetle
- colourful gum leaf
- butterfly
- native flowers
- brush turkey
- gum nut
- native fungi



Bushland quiz

1. Exotic garden plants in the bushland:

- a) means lots of pretty flowers along the creek
- b) don't do any harm and don't need to be removed
- c) compete with native plants and can make animals sick if they eat them.

2. Native fungi:

- a) break down detritus, help nutrients get to plants and are a food source for animals
- b) make rings for the fairies to dance in
- c) can be found in the ocean.

3. Hollows in old trees:

- a) mean the trees should be cut down
- b) are important habitats for nocturnal animals and nesting birds
- c) are where fairies sleep.

4. Brush turkeys:

- a) are reptiles
- b) are related to domestic turkeys
- c) help turn over the soil and spread native seeds.

5. Flying foxes are:

- a) cold-blooded animals
- b) important because they pollinate and disperse seeds
- c) asleep at night.

Answers: 1(c), 2(a), 3(b), 4(c), 5(b)

Downfall Creek

Hide 'n' Seek Children's Trail



Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434, Brisbane Qld 4001



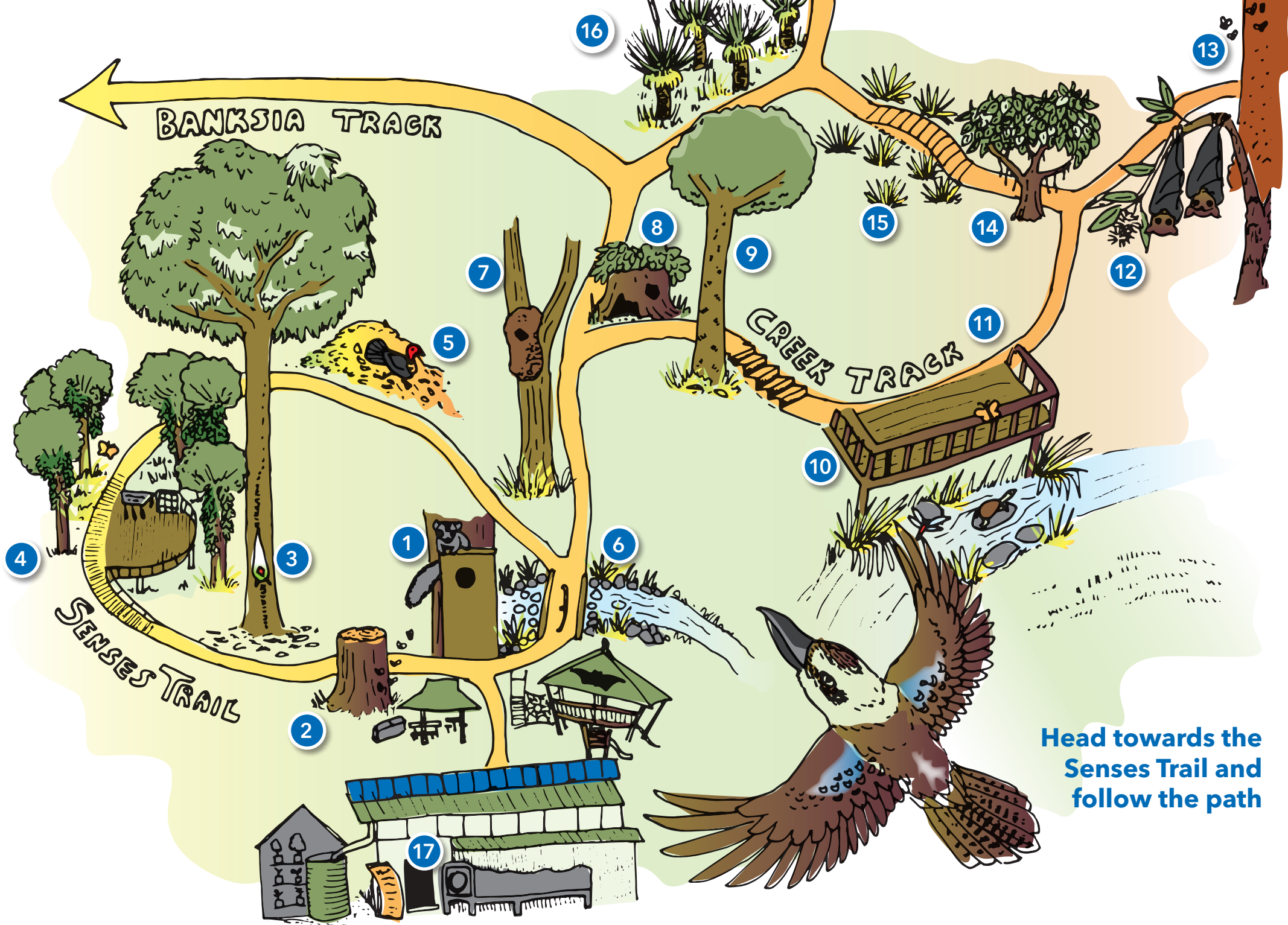
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Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Head towards the Senses Trail and follow the path

The Downfall Creek story

Downfall Creek is part of the Raven Street Reserve which links to other bushlands to create the Mountains to Mangroves Corridor. When walking the bush trails, you will pass through open forest and coastal heathland, and will be able to see the original vegetation along the creek.

As you walk along the reserve trails, stop at the points listed throughout this booklet to look at the many interesting plants and animals that can be found in the reserve.



Trail description

1 Whose home is here?

Have a look up high in the tree. Whose little home do you think you can see? Tucked away snoozing while safe and warm, a family of squirrel gliders wait for the night.

2 Native bees

Listen to the tree stump buzzing like a hive with native stingless bees, it's positively alive! Collecting pollen from the flowers and the trees, what a wonderful colony of busy native bees.

3 Patterns on the blue gum

Who is the mystery artist painting the blue gum tree? Scribbling pretty patterns on the bark for you to see. To solve the mystery, visit the forest when it's dark, to see red triangle slugs eating algae on the bark.

4 Monkey rope vine forest

Wrapped around tree trunks are native vines on their large leaves, can you see animal signs? Common crow butterflies lay eggs here and caterpillar nibbles will also be near.

5 Brush turkey mound

Who made this mound of leaves and sticks? A father brush turkey is up to his tricks! All day he kicks leaves with his big, strong legs to make a warm bed for his brush turkey eggs.

6 Creek stories

Over boulders and rocks Downfall Creek flows, gurgling with all of the stories it knows. Of Hartenstein's downfall with cart and horse, and tales of the local Aboriginal people of course!

7 Arboreal termites

What is mud doing so high off the ground? Termites carried it up to make their mound. Can you see the big hole on the side? A kingfisher family nests inside.

8 Tree stump

This stump is the remains of a once mighty tree, part of a forest growing as far as you could see. But for Brisbane to grow, we needed timber to build and trees must be cleared for fields to be tilled.

9 Scratches tree

Look at the scratches going right up this tree. How many claw marks can you see? Many native animals only come out after dark, always look to see if they've left their mark.

10 Creek platform

Come to the platform and look at the creek, there are birds, butterflies and turtles to seek. Look over to where few trees have grown, that clearing was once a quarry for stone!

11 Bronzed eel

Come take a seat next to the bronzed eel. Don't you think it looks so real? Adult eels migrate to the ocean to spawn, they can even travel overland so sometimes they're gone.

12 Flying foxes

High in the trees, hanging upside down, flying foxes are snoozing, hidden from town. When night arrives, they wake and take flight to pollinate the blossoms that flower by night.

13 Natural native bee hive

See the reddish bark of the tallowood tree, this one is home to a hive of native bees. Your branches provide shelter to all, and your creamy flowers are like a food mall.

14 Fig tree

With roots hanging from branches and leaves shiny green, the curious fig tree is a sight to be seen. Many animals rely on fig tree fruit to thrive and fig trees need the fig wasp to survive.

15 Lomandra bridge

Under the bridge where water sometimes flows is where the useful plant lomandra grows. Aboriginal people used it to make flour from the seeds. Weaving leaves for dilly bags and other daily needs.

16 Ridge of the ancient trees

Can you see the grass trees standing on the hills? Knobby black stumps and leaves like spiky quills. Xanthorrhoea are something special to behold. Some of these trees are more than 250 years old!

17 Bushland centre

Come into the bushland centre, it's fun and free to enter. With a nature play passport to find more missions, it supports your adventurous expeditions.