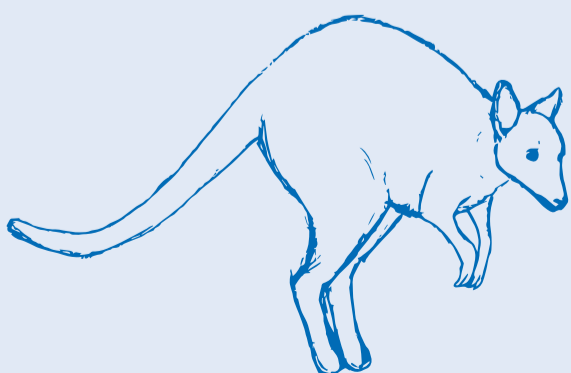




Checklist

What can you see?

- butterfly
- colourful insect
- termite nest in a tree
- small bird
- large spider
- tree hollows
- heart-shaped leaf
- native fungi



Forest quiz

1. Bushland reserves are:

- a) places where dogs can go off-leash
- b) a sanctuary for native wildlife and play an important part for wildlife corridors
- c) have no flowers.

2. Native termites:

- a) don't exist
- b) are marsupials
- c) play an important role in nutrient recycling, breaking down dead wood and plant material.

3. Logs:

- a) are fun to climb on
- b) are where frogs like to relax
- c) provide shelter for animals
- d) all of the above.

4. Greater gliders need:

- a) meat pies and tomato sauce
- b) a big hollow in a very old tree to sleep in during the day
- c) a car to drive.

5. Karawatha Forest is:

- a) a great place to have my birthday party or a picnic
- b) a place where I learn about plants and animals
- c) full of walking trails for me and my family to explore
- d) all of the above.

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

Karawatha Forest

Hide 'n' Seek Children's Trail



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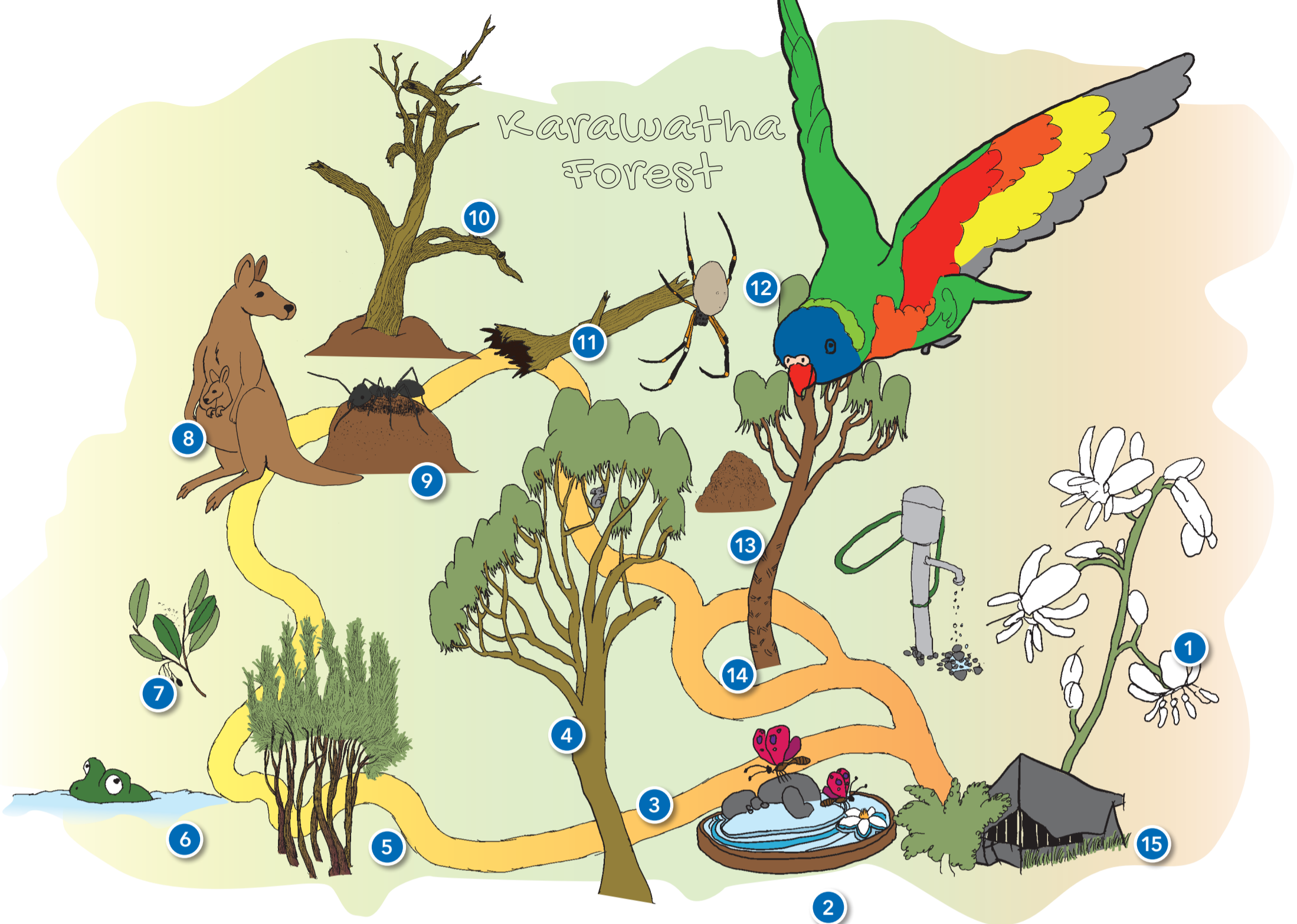
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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Karawatha Forest



The Karawatha Forest story

Karawatha Forest is part of the Flinders Karawatha Corridor. Corridors are important as they provide habitats for wildlife and a safe place for animals to move between chains of bushland. Karawatha Forest has land bridges on Compton Road and Illawena Street that help animals to cross busy roads.

The forest is approximately 900 hectares and has many bushwalking trails to explore. You may pass through areas of eucalyptus forests, wet heathland and melaleuca wetlands.

Many of the animals that live in Karawatha Forest are nocturnal and can only be seen at night. Others are shy and will hide when they hear you coming. Walking along the trail as quietly as possible - with all your senses alert - will give you the best chance of seeing local wildlife.

As you walk along the ironbark circuit, stop at the points listed throughout this booklet to discover the many interesting plants and animals that can be found living here.



Trail description

1 Native garden

Planting native species provides shelter to all and any, flowers, fruits, and leaves are food for many. Check out what we have planted in this space, many useful plants on showcase.

2 Pollinator puddle

In this puddle a flutter of butterflies often congregate, to obtain water and minerals before they mate. Don't forget to add sand and stones for them to sit, because our pollinators sure deserve it.

3 Ironbark

Look out and what can you see? Dominating this track is the ironbark tree. Koalas are known to call this gum home, but you'll never see them if you let your dogs roam.

4 Arboreal termites

Look at that mud nest high in the tree, this belongs to a native termite colony. Termites are decomposers eating dead wood, without this insect the ecosystem's no-good.

5 Casuarinas

Only after heavy rains will you see this creek flowing, but that won't stop the casuarinas from growing. The fruit of these trees are called cones, and hungry cockatoos can't leave them alone.

6 Temporary water frogs

Frogs found here are cryptically coloured, but I doubt you'll see them because they'll be covered. Many will burrow and stay underground, until the rain softens the ground.

7 Soap bush

See that tree over there? You can use the leaves to wash your hair. Aboriginal people used it with care. Add these leaves to water, the fish will have no air.

8 Swamp wallaby

Kangaroos and wallabies spend mid day having a rest, dusk and dawn is when you'll see them best. Browsing on leaves and grazing on grass. Maybe you'll see a joey riding first class.

9 Southern meat ant

This dome mound is a meat ant nest, tunnels, galleries and paths put to the test. Aboriginal people would put bones on top for the ants to clean, to make their tools to fetch their cuisine.

10 Old dead tree

Hey! Don't get rid of that dead old tree, it's providing homes for animals we can't see. Nocturnal possums, gliders, and bats snooze here, and if we don't help protect them they'll soon disappear.

11 Log

See the wood scattered around? Leave it there; it belongs on the ground. Many animals will use it to hide, can you see any bandicoot diggings on the side?

12 Golden orb-weaver

One of nature's best engineers, flies, wasps and mosquitos worst fear. With a silk web that is super strong, it could be more than two metres long.

13 Terrestrial termite mound

Check out this terrestrial termite mound, there might even be echidnas around. Echidnas lay one egg the size of a dime, then a puggle hatches out happy it's springtime.

14 Scratches tree

Evidence of wildlife aren't hard to find, scratches on this tree or droppings left behind. Don't forget to look on the ground, I can guarantee you'll find many animal tracks around.

15 Discovery Centre

Come into the Discovery Centre, it's fun and free to enter. Ask for a nature play passport to find more missions, to support your adventurous expeditions.