

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM NETWORK

Animals I share my neighbourhood with Scavenger hunt activity

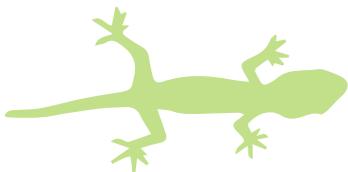


There are many species of animals and insects all around our environment! You have probably seen some around your home, in your backyard, or around your neighbourhood.

Have fun exploring and finding different animals by doing a scavenger hunt!

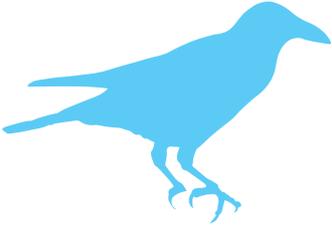
Steps:

- 1 Read each description and see if you can find any animals that match.
- 2 When you have found an animal that matches the description, record your findings by writing down the animal's name (for example, Kookaburra) and record what it looked like. You can do this by drawing the animal, or taking a photo and placing it next to each description.
- 3 Work through the list of descriptions and see how many you can find!



Remember to look, don't touch, for your safety and the safety of the animals you find. Younger explorers should be accompanied by an adult.





SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Animals with feathers

Hint: birds are animals with feathers



Draw the
animal or add
a photo in
the box

Animal with colourful feathers

**Animal with feathers that feeds
on the ground**

What animal did you find?

What animal did you find?

**Animal with feathers that have
very long legs**

**Animal with feathers that have
a loud call**

What animal did you find?

What animal did you find?



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SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Animals with hair or fur

Hint: dogs are animals that have fur



Draw the animal or add a photo in the box

Animal with hair or fur that lives in a tree

What animal did you find?

Animal with hair or fur that lives inside your house, yard or shed

What animal did you find?

Animal with hair or fur that you can see at night with a torch

Hint: a torch allows us to see animals eye shine

What animal did you find?

Animal with hair or fur with a long tail

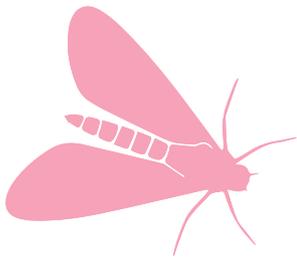
What animal did you find?



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SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Animal with six legs

Hint: insects have 6 legs



Draw the
animal or add
a photo in
the box

Animal with six legs that flies

**Animal with six legs that crawls on
the ground**

What animal did you find?

What animal did you find?

**Animal with six legs that has lots
of colours**

**Animal with six legs that makes
a noise**

What animal did you find?

What animal did you find?



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SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Animals with 8 legs

Hint: spiders have 8 legs



Draw the
animal or add
a photo in
the box

Animal with 8 legs that spins a web

**Animal with 8 legs that lives on
the ground**

What animal did you find?

What animal did you find?

**Animal with 8 legs that has very
long legs**

**Animal with 8 legs that lives
in the garden**

What animal did you find?

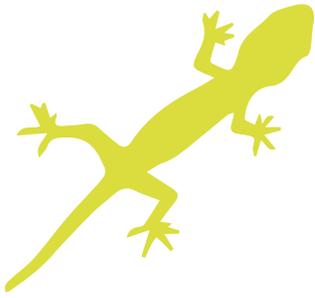
What animal did you find?



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SCAVENGER HUNT ACTIVITY

Animals that are reptiles or amphibians

Hint: lizards are reptiles and frogs are amphibians

Draw the animal or add a photo in the box

A reptile or amphibian that is light-coloured

What animal did you find?

A reptile or amphibian that is small

What animal did you find?

A reptile or amphibian that makes a loud noise

What animal did you find?

A reptile or amphibian that lives inside your house, yard, or shed

What animal did you find?



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Helpful tips for identifying

Need some help to identify the animals you have found? Here are some suggestions to get you started:

- Take a photograph so you check key features carefully
- Write down all the things you notice about the animal. What is its size, shape and colour? Does it have any special features? What time of day did you see it, and where?
- Spend time drawing the animal you found to study its details. Search Queensland Museum Fieldguides (apps or books) to identify this animal when you get home.
- Go to the Queensland Museum "[Find out about](#)" pages to learn more about the animals you discovered.
- If you can't remember some of the detail, try finding it again the next time you walk the trail and make more notes.
- Start a species list for your backyard. Make sure to note the time of year as species change through the seasons.
- Log into a website like [iNaturalist \(www.inaturalist.org\)](http://www.inaturalist.org), here you can see what other people are identifying from your area, and lodge your records as well. By recording this information, you can help scientists understand how nature is changing around us.
- If you live in Queensland, our Discovery Centre team can help you identify tricky finds. Go to our website and "[Ask an Expert](#)".

Hints and Tricks

- Binoculars can help you see the details of some animals more clearly, making them easier to identify.
- Record the sounds of your area and learn to identify the calls of all your local birds. By learning calls many experts can work out all the birds in area without even looking.
- If you can't see an animal clearly, or scare it a little bit, try sitting down and waiting. It may come back out and let you have a clearer look, and you may also get to learn about its behaviour.
- Try searching at different times of day. Birds often feed early in the morning or late in the evening.
- Try searching in different weather. Frogs and insects are often easier to find after rain.
- Many animals only come out at night. Try going for a night walk around your house or neighbourhood with a torch. Many night animals can be found by their eye shine (light reflected back at you from their eyes). When using a torch, try looking along the beam. This helps detect eye shine. There is an amazing diversity of animals living around us, but it takes time to get to know them all. Even experts find it challenging, so practice, do your best and remember to be patient.

