

# A WILD TOMORROW

*What do you want tomorrow  
to look like for our wildlife?*

# ONE PLANET, ONE ECOSYSTEM, ONE HOME.



**“An ecosystem is a community of living organisms (plants, animals and microbes) in a particular area, that interact with both each other and the environment they are in.”**

Everything in nature is part of an enormous ecosystem that’s been developing for centuries. Its size, diversity, and balance support all life and helps keep everything working as needed.

Australia’s unique landscape is home to wildlife not found anywhere else in the world. It’s important we work together to ensure they survive and thrive now and for future generations.

Victoria alone is home to over 600 native wildlife species and more than 5,000 species of native plants. They all have an essential and unique role in keeping our ecosystem healthy.

**Can you think of an example of something one of our native species does that helps the environment?**

All native species are essential caretakers of our environment; from pollinating the plants, to keeping pest populations under control, to maintaining the health of the soil beneath us, to keeping our waterways clean!



**SLOW**

# WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR WILDLIFE?

Through the effects of climate change, habitat destruction and increased urbanisation, wildlife are needing to adapt to environmental changes faster than ever before.

Unfortunately, it's hard to keep up and we're starting to find less of our wildlife where we used to see them, and more in need of our help.

We can all work together to find a way to live with wildlife that helps reduce those pressures now, and protects them into the future.

**These are some of the challenges facing native wildlife today:**

- **Habitat destruction**
- **Urbanisation and increased human interaction, e.g. wildlife on roads**
- **Introduction of non-native species**
- **Climate change**



**Can you think of ways these challenges might affect our native wildlife?**

# A WILD TOMORROW!



## 1. RESEARCH

### **Research a species native to Victoria**

Find out what makes them special. What unique behaviours do they have? How many do we have in Victoria?

Find out how that species interacts with the ecosystem - what plants and other animals depend on them?

How do they interact with us?

**What can we do** as humans to keep our populations of native wildlife healthy?

## 2. REFLECT

**What would Victoria look like without this species?**

**What would Victoria look like with more happy, healthy native wildlife?**

**What do you want tomorrow to look like?**



## 3. CREATE!

### **Show us your ideas for a Wild Tomorrow.**

What does a world with people and wildlife positively co-existing look like?

**Be as creative as you want, whilst showing us what you learned from your research.**

You can show us your Wild Tomorrow however you like, whether it's **artwork, a video, a story, a poem or an essay.**

# RESOURCES



## ECOSYSTEMS & NATIVE SPECIES

- [What is an ecosystem? - Australian Museum](#)
- [Native species fact sheets - Wildlife Victoria](#)
- [Animal toolkits - Zoos Victoria](#)

CLICK  
HERE!



## THREATS TO NATIVE WILDLIFE

- [What's happening to Australia's biodiversity? - Australian Museum](#)
- [Cause of injury fact sheets - Wildlife Victoria](#)
- [Impacts of climate change - Australian Museum](#)



**SLOW**

## PROTECTING NATIVE WILDLIFE

- [Simple things you can do to protect wildlife - DEECA](#)
- [How to protect urban wildlife - City of Melbourne](#)
- [Learn how to help - Wildlife Victoria](#)
- [Put it in the bin - How rubbish and waste impacts wildlife - Wildlife Victoria](#)





# SUBMIT. Guidelines



## Submission criteria:

- Our Wild Tomorrow submission is **open to all children in Victoria aged up to 15 years.**
- Work can be submitted **individually or as a group/class project.**
- Submissions are open now until **31st May 2025.**
- **Submissions must depict or describe wildlife species native to Victoria.** Submissions depicting non-native species will not be considered.
- Wild Tomorrow submissions can be any creative media. The entrant can choose whether it is visual (artwork) or descriptive (poems, stories, essays etc.)
- **Submissions must be created solely by the child,** and must be the child's original creation. Adults may only provide encouragement to the entrant, such as helping with research and transcribing young children's written work etc.

## Submission guidelines:

- Please provide the name(s) of any participant(s), the school/organisation they are a part of (where relevant), email address and postal address. **We'll only share first names and the organisation (where relevant). If any participants do not wish their name to be displayed with their submission please inform us accordingly. You can view our privacy policy [here](#).**
- **All artworks must be submitted by an adult: either a parent/legal guardian, teacher or program manager.** If a teacher or program manager is submitting the work, it is assumed they have received any necessary parent/legal guardian consent.
- **Submissions must be received in a digital format, emailed to us at [donations@wildlifevictoria.org.au](mailto:donations@wildlifevictoria.org.au).** Please assist your child/student to create a clear digital copy of their original artwork, by either scanning a copy, taking a photograph or uploading as a PDF.
- **By submitting your work, you give Wildlife Victoria permission to use and display any submissions on our website, social media and communications to our supporters.**



All  
participants will  
receive a certificate  
and selected  
submissions will be  
showcased on our  
website!

# THANK YOU!

Email your submissions:  
[donations@wildlifestvictoria.org.au](mailto:donations@wildlifestvictoria.org.au)



[wildlifestvictoria.org.au](http://wildlifestvictoria.org.au)