



The West Australian

# CLASSROOM ESSENTIALS

2021

Education products and services guide for WA schools

- Excursions & incursions
- Resources
- Education programs
- Professional learning
- Professional associations
- Services and support
- Teacher offers





# ADVANCE YOUR TEACHING CAREER

Develop a deeper understanding within a specialist teaching area and progress your career with ECU's new Graduate Certificate of Education.

As a teacher, you can put your interests at the forefront of your professional development and focus on a specialist area of teaching. Or you can choose a specialisation to enhance your opportunities for leadership roles.

There are eight specialisations available that you can study part-time, online or on-campus:

- Behaviour and Wellbeing
- Educational Leadership
- Learning Difficulties
- Literacy Education
- Secondary: Design and Technology
- Secondary: Mathematics
- Special Education: Complex Communication Needs
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

**APPLY NOW FOR 2021. BECOME WORLD READY.**  
**[ECUWORLDREADY.COM.AU/EDUCATION](https://www.ecuworldready.com.au/education)**





# HELP YOUR SCHOOL

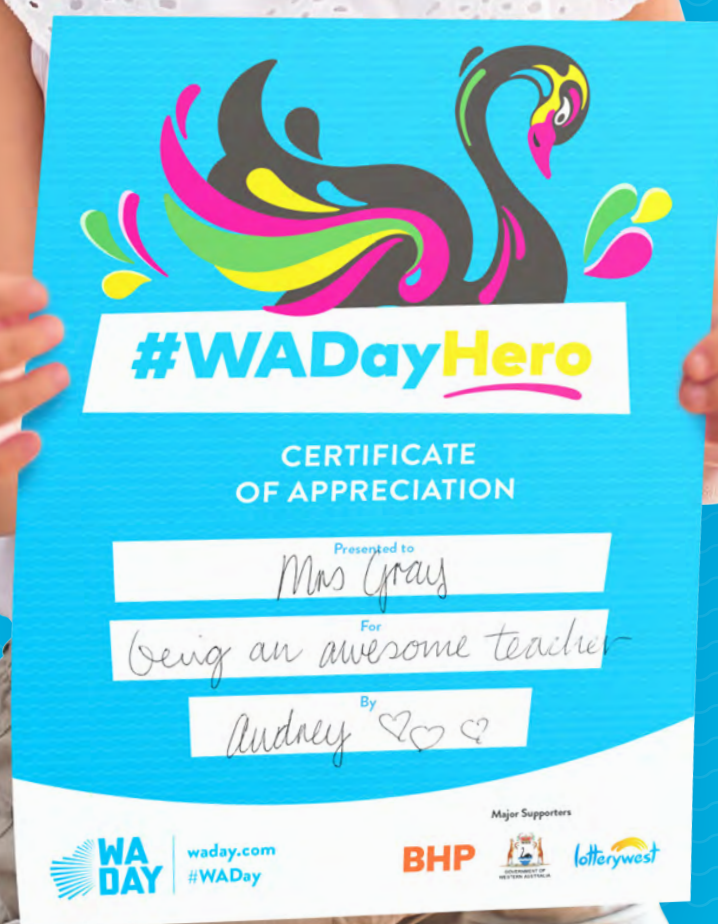
JOIN IN THE FUN  
OF WA DAY 2021!

CELEBRATE WA DAY  
ON 7 JUNE, 2021!

WA Day is approaching, and so too is the opportunity to get your school involved with celebrating this historic day in the WA calendar. Here are some easy, simple ideas to get you started:

- Hold a WA Day themed assembly on the Friday before the WA Day long weekend.
- Encourage your students to award #WADayHero certificates to someone who has inspired them and made a positive impact on our community.
- Invite one of our Western Australian of the Year alumni to provide an inspirational address to your students.
- Download and create your very own WA Day posters and craft.

You'll find plenty more tips in the WA Day toolkit which can be downloaded for free at [waday.com](http://waday.com)



Major Supporters



# Saving lives through road safety education

Children and young adults are some of our most vulnerable road users. What they learn in the classroom could save their life.

Every day, students interact with our road network, whether they're walking to school, riding the bus or cycling with their friends. Understanding the road rules and learning the skills to navigate our roads from a young age will give them the best chance at keeping themselves and others safe.

RAC offers free road safety education for primary and secondary school students, through presentations, workshops, online lesson plans and class activities.

RAC's General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, says the teaching resources were created to not only make learning fun, but to align with the Western Australian curriculum.

"The tragic reality is that children and young adults continue to be overrepresented by deaths and serious injuries on Western Australian roads," Mr Golsby says. "Our aim is to keep students safe by encouraging responsible behaviours, reducing risks and helping them to recognise and understand the consequences of bad decisions."



The Around the Roads program teaches primary students practical road safety skills.

## Primary School

"Transport-related injuries continue to be a leading cause of death in children under the age of 15," Mr Golsby says. "That's why early intervention is the key when it comes to road safety."

RAC's *Around the Roads* program has games, activities and workshops for pre-primary to year 6 students to learn how to stay safe while walking, cycling and being a passenger.

## Secondary School

RAC's *On the Roads* program provides free presentations and resources to educate our next generation of drivers on how to stay safe behind the wheel and as a passenger, and how to buy a safe car.

RAC *bstreetsmart* is a free annual event for Year 10-12 students that features a crash re-enactment to demonstrate the consequences of distracted driving, speeding and drink and drug driving. Students also hear from guest speakers and emergency services who have been directly impacted by road trauma.

"Complacency and reckless behaviour behind the wheel can change your life forever," Mr Golsby says. "By educating the next generation of drivers, we hope to prevent thousands from being killed or suffering life-changing injuries on WA roads."



RAC *bstreetsmart*'s crash re-enactment features emergency service crews from WA Police Force, St John Ambulance and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (pictured).

### Free Teaching Resources

To book a free road safety presentation, workshop or event, or to download teaching resources, please visit [rac.com.au/education](http://rac.com.au/education)

RT7792

# Road safety education for schools

**RAC can help you teach students about road safety in a fun and informative way. Our free programs and resources link to the WA Curriculum and suit primary and secondary school students.**

» In-class presentations

» Online resources

» Memorable events

» Metro and regional programs

» Curriculum aligned

» Interactive and engaging

» Real life stories

» Practical skills

Our aim is to keep students safe on the roads by influencing risk reduction, increasing resilience and encouraging responsible behaviour on and around the roads.

Find out more or book at [rac.com.au/education](http://rac.com.au/education)



**For the better**

WARR0013C



# CATCH YOUR CONTAINERS BEFORE SOMETHING ELSE DOES

Drink containers make up almost half of the litter that ends up on roadsides, at parks, and in oceans.

Every eligible drink container is worth 10 cents! Why let money float out to sea when you can raise funds for your school, recover valuable resources and reduce landfill?

This year, teach your kids about the impact of drink container waste, combating the problem and getting involved with Containers for Change - they won't be able to contain their excitement!

To learn more, watch our online videos by scanning the QR code or visit [containersforchange.com.au](http://containersforchange.com.au)

## Here's how easy it is to fundraise for your school:



- 1 Set up a scheme ID for your school. You can also set up a donation point like a cage or bin (refund point operators can help you).



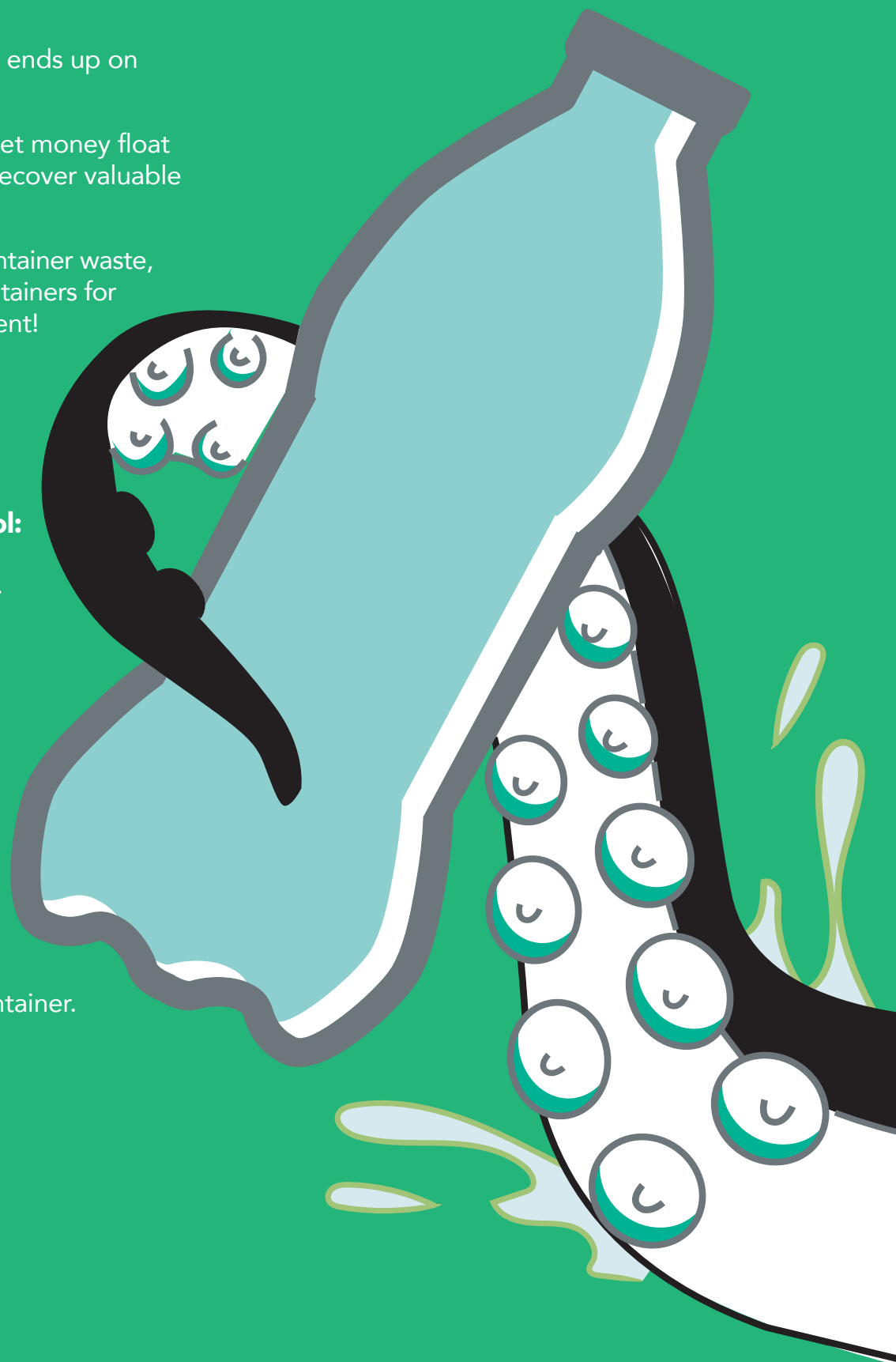
- 2 Share your scheme ID with the school and start collecting eligible containers!



- 3 Take them to a refund point (there are heaps around WA) or to the school donation point if you have one.
- 4 Earn or donate the refund: 10 cents for every eligible drink container.



Discover more







ANIMAL WELLBEING:  
AWARENESS  
RESPONSIBILITY  
EDUCATION

*Achieve learning outcomes while you create generational change in attitudes towards animals.*

### TEACHERS' PORTAL

- **Innovative teaching** and learning resources aligned with the Australian Curriculum to teach responsible and caring behaviour towards animals.
- **Cross curricular, inquiry based programs** for primary and middle school students.
- **STEM units addressing current animal welfare challenges** and dedicated English units providing an authentic context for writing for purpose.
- Meaningful, **real-life animal welfare topics and themes** to support learning.

### STUDENTS' PORTAL

- **Interactive content and games** to teach the "Five Freedoms" for all animals.
- **How to care for pets, wildlife and other animals.**
- **Develop students' Ethical Understanding** by exploring the unique lives of animals.

*Find out more and register for free at:*

[rspcawa.asn.au/aware-program](https://rspcawa.asn.au/aware-program)





# TAKE LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Experience how **TRANSPORT HERITAGE** has transformed the way we live.



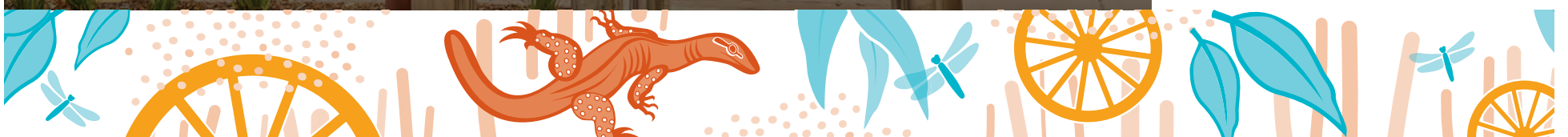
Discover the wonders of the **ENVIRONMENT** amongst our native bushland.



Enjoy the benefits of **HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION** at our all-abilities play space.

With a range of hands-on education programs at Whiteman Park.

@whitemanpark



(08) 9209 6000 | [bookings@whitemanpark.com.au](mailto:bookings@whitemanpark.com.au)  
[whitemanpark.com.au/education](http://whitemanpark.com.au/education)

## Whiteman Park

Combining the best of hands-on heritage and the natural environment, Whiteman Park has designed education experiences for Pre-Primary to Year 3s.

We asked our Education Officer which of our WA curriculum-linked programs they are most excited about in our new range of transport heritage and environmental education programs!

In 'Are we there yet?' your Pre-Primary and Year 1 students get to explore Revolutions Transport Museum, and the stories and objects it holds.

"We will look at how people travelled in the past, using the historic modes of transport in the museum, from buses to camel waggons. Students get to examine the differences and the similarities to see just what has changed and what has stayed the same from the past!"

Props and roleplaying offer an exciting way for your Year 3s to experience how things have changed with the way people have travelled in 'Let's Go!'.

"Using scenarios such as a gold miner travelling to the Goldfields, kids get to compare three transport options from yesteryear. Would you choose the stage coach, horseback or walking to get there? We look at speed, safety, comfort and even the environmental impact to see how and why transport has changed."

In a true sensory exploration of the Children's Forest, your Year 2 students will look at different types of seeds and the adult trees which they belong to in *Miraculous Seeds*.

"Here we look at the lifecycles of our native trees, looking at how their seeds travel, germinate and sprout. Including seed pod sorting to discovering the various adaptations for seed dispersal and protection, this is a hands-on bushland experience for all!"

Joining our environment team for *Conservation Calculators*, Year 3s will find out what it takes to keep endangered wildlife safe and healthy at Woodland Reserve. From preparing animal food, to building shelters and monitoring the animal's health, your students will experience hands on learning with natural materials and wildlife!

"But Year 4 to 6 teachers shouldn't miss the Children's Gngangara Groundwater Festival either! This amazing environmental event is a must-do full-day excursion but books out every year."

We are excited to share these with you and more, including Pia's Place our fully enclosed all abilities playspace. We look forward to welcoming your students to the Park soon!

For more information visit [whitemanpark.com.au](http://whitemanpark.com.au) or speak to our Education Officers on 9209 6000.







Skin cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure during childhood and adolescence has a big impact on future skin cancer risk. Reducing UV exposure reduces skin cancer risk.

**The SunSmart message is to protect yourself and your students when the UV Index is 3 or above.**

Cancer Council WA supports your school with:

- the SunSmart Schools membership program
- online professional learning modules - Generation SunSmart
- resources, policy development and support - online and in person

Contact the SunSmart Education Program Coordinator on **08 9388 4351** or email [sunsmart@cancerwa.asn.au](mailto:sunsmart@cancerwa.asn.au).

[generationsunsmart.com.au](http://generationsunsmart.com.au)



# Crunch&Sip®

Hungry kids can mean irritable kids! Create the best learning environment for your students and register your school to join the FREE Crunch&Sip® program.

Crunch&Sip® allows students the opportunity to eat vegetables or fruit and drink water in the classroom. Along with the many health and learning benefits associated with Crunch&Sip®, certified schools receive free resources and ongoing support.



## Packed with Goodness.

Have you considered hosting a FREE healthy lunchbox session for your school community? Sessions are available to parents and carers of WA primary school kids to learn about boosting vegies in the lunchbox, choosing healthy snacks, label reading and lots more.

For more information about Crunch&Sip® and Packed with Goodness or to access a range of fantastic nutrition education resources head to our website.



### For more information:

**E:** [schools@cancerwa.asn.au](mailto:schools@cancerwa.asn.au) | **P:** 08 9212 4333 | **W:** [crunchandsip.com.au](http://crunchandsip.com.au)

Supported by





FREE  
SCHOOL  
EXCURSIONS



## RESOURCES TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE JUNE 21 & 22, 2021 PERTH

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

### Bringing STEM to life Mining, oil and gas like you never imagined

See first-hand how the technology driving Australia's resources industry is world-class. For two days in June the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre will be transformed by futuristic and thoroughly interactive displays of world-class robotics, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, autonomous vehicles and remote operations centres. Students and teachers will experience a behind-the-scenes look at the technology which is transforming the resources sector - and shaping the jobs of tomorrow. This excursion supports the WA Curriculum: Science, Technologies and HASS.

#### WHAT TEACHERS SAID ABOUT RTS 2019

"Our school had a fantastic time. All students wrote in their recounts about how engaging it was and how they didn't get to see everything. To not see everything is awesome because it left them wanting more and it also meant they were definitely engaged and not bored!"

"Our students had a wonderful time. They all didn't want to leave... The people at each activity were fantastic. We had year 3 students and every activity was very well explained and all questions were answered at the student's level. Overall this was a fantastic event and I would love to go next year. Thanks."

"Fantastic opportunity and so much connection to STEM and the real world and sustainability. Would happily attend again."

"I have absolutely raved about this expo to my colleagues, it is pretty much all I have talked about all week."



SUITABLE  
FOR YEARS  
3-10

**7M media education**

BOOKINGS OPEN TERM 1. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, GO TO [MEDIAEDUCATION.COM.AU/EXCURSIONS](https://mediaeducation.com.au/excursions)



# Staff Special

# \$3 BARISTA COFFEE

The Foodary is looking after our WA educators with discounted barista coffee.  
**Simply mention the code word to redeem the offer.**

CODE: TEACHER



**CALTEX**

Valid at The Foodary stores until 31/12/2021



# Unlocking the past



**DOES incarcerating criminals really turn them into better citizens? How can an innocent person be sentenced to jail? Why was capital punishment abolished in WA?**

All of these questions – and more – about justice, society, human rights and our convict past are open for contemplation when students step behind the imposing walls of Fremantle Prison.

The convict-built world heritage site that caged thousands of men over 136 years, from early European arrivals until 1991, has been preserved to educate visitors, young and old, about a dark side of history. Yet despite the razor-wire, tiny cells, shackles and gun towers, school groups emerge far more fascinated than frightened by the fortress.

"The kids don't get scared," explains Luke Donegan, manager of heritage conservation at the six-hectare site. "They are fascinated by the idea of punishment and justice and how it has changed through time."

"The stories here are challenging – particularly the modern era of incarceration and what it was like with segregation of Aboriginal prisoners, the gallows, solitary confinement, and the dark cells where prisoners were kept for 23 hours out of 24 and the executions. The escape stories really spark their imagination and they think 'how would I get out of here?'."

"We talk about prisoners who were here for long periods and were found to be innocent. Students start to think about how society goes about punishing people and also trying to reform people at the same time."

"Seeing a real place is of huge benefit – not to shock them but to get them thinking about the ideas of justice, society and what is right and wrong."

Oral histories provided by ex-prisoners and guards who revisited the prison in recent years add to the authenticity.



**Key learning area: students behind the gates at Fremantle Prison.**

*'Kids are fascinated by the idea of punishment and justice and how it has changed through time'*

"The interesting thing about the prison is that it's a site of contested history. Prisoners and officers remember events very differently," Mr Donegan says.

Mr Donegan says that because the prison was built and used for no other purpose than a prison, it's true to life. "It has retained its look as it did back in 1991 when it closed. The convict areas still look like convict areas. It started out austere and brutal and has stayed that way," Mr Donegan says.

Four different tours are offered to school groups – convict and modern history, tunnels and torchlight. However, the prison will tailor tours to suit specific studies such as justice, indigenous incarceration or general prison culture.

"We're always revising our tours for students and we have an approach with teachers that we encourage them to get in touch and tell us what they want because we're very flexible about what we offer to schools," Mr Donegan says.

**To book a tour for your class, visit [fremantleprison.com.au](http://fremantleprison.com.au)**

## HELP YOUR CLASS ESCAPE THE EVERYDAY

Bring history to life for your students on an educational tour of Fremantle Prison.

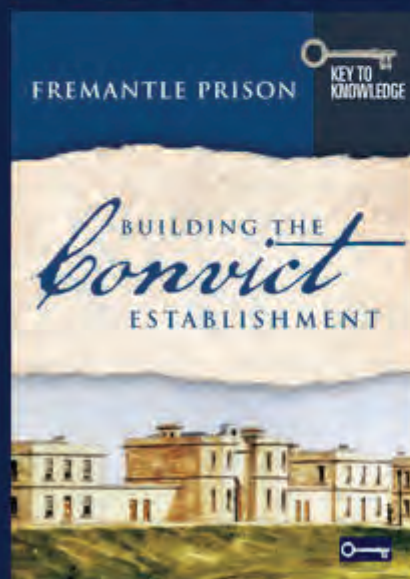
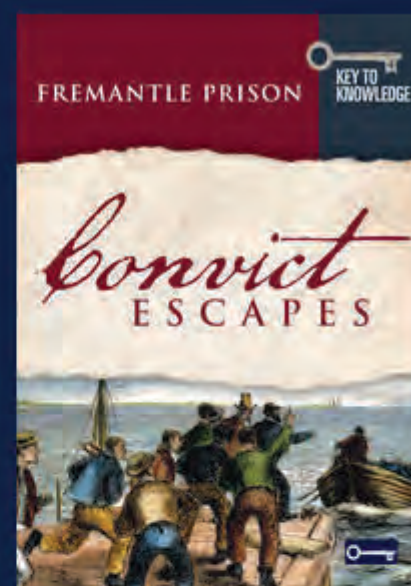
Choose between a fascinating Convict History Tour, entertaining Prison Tour, underground Tunnels Tour or spooky Torchlight Tour.

### ONLINE RESOURCES

Our free online teacher and student resources are custom designed for studies of convict history.

### BOOKINGS

(08) 9336 9210 || [groups@fremantleprison.com.au](mailto:groups@fremantleprison.com.au)  
[www.fremantleprison.com.au](http://www.fremantleprison.com.au)







BOOKINGS AVAILABLE!

# AWESOME DAY OUT

2021 AWESOME Festival - School's Week  
20 - 24 September

Contact [admin@awesomearts.com](mailto:admin@awesomearts.com) or call **9328 9666**

[awesomearts.com/excursions-incursions/](https://awesomearts.com/excursions-incursions/)

Proudly supported by

**BHP**

## Looking for an amazing arts experience for your students?

The AWESOME Festival is a multidisciplinary arts festival, bringing the best international, Australian and local artists into the Perth Cultural Centre for two weeks of high-quality entertainment. In the last week of Term 3, the AWESOME Festival opens exclusively for school groups to explore live theatre, films, workshops, exhibitions, installations and activities that make up the AWESOME Festival.



An AWESOME Day Out excursion aims to engage with primary and early secondary aged students through exciting, inspiring, accessible, and challenging arts activities and programs. Students will gain hands-on experience in the arts through attendance of a live performance and participation

in workshops, creating opportunities for critical thought and reflection on the world around them.

*"In such an isolated city, I think it is especially important that Western Australian children get to experience arts from around the world. I believe these experiences give them greater tools for creativity, self-expression, communication and problem solving and that these will be essential skills for their futures,"* – Teacher participant.

The arts are a useful tool to enhance students understanding of other subject areas and helps overall understanding and skill building. We encourage students to use their creativity everywhere! With AWESOME's cross curriculum activities and assessment suggestions, we aim to empower teachers to continue creating in the classroom well after their AWESOME Day Out has ended.

An AWESOME Day Out excursion package includes a:

- Theatre show
- Workshop with a professional artist
- And schedule of activities highlighting the best that the AWESOME Festival has to offer!



AWESOME Day Out school excursions run from 10am – 2pm during the last week of Term 3 (Monday 20 – Friday 24 September 2021) in the Perth Cultural Centre. We are happy to design a bespoke package that suits the needs of your school and budget.

To book an AWESOME Day Out for your classroom, please contact Nadia [admin@awesomearts.com](mailto:admin@awesomearts.com) or call **(08) 9328 9666**. Visit [awesomearts.com/excursions-incursions/](https://awesomearts.com/excursions-incursions/) for more information.



Students enjoying the 2020 AWESOME Day Out.  
Images by James Campbell.





FIGHTING HUNGER  
IN AUSTRALIA

# SUPERHERO FOODS®

## NUTRITION EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR K-10 CLASSES

### A FUN WAY TO TEACH NUTRITION

Foodbank WA has a range of fun and exciting nutrition education resources for teachers and students which are linked to the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating. Superhero Foods resources support the WA Curriculum: Health and Physical Education and make teaching and learning about food and nutrition fun.



### RESOURCES

There are over 150 free resources available including:

**Lesson plans for K-10** - including achievement standards for each year level

**Recipe booklets** - quick, easy, tasty and healthy!

**Story books** - Let's Eat and Joe's Epic Breakfast Adventure

**Collectable Game Cards** - fun & educational games

**Newsletter inserts** - posters, clip art & much more

**FREE** and easy to access!  
[superherofoodshq.org.au](http://superherofoodshq.org.au)



### WHAT TEACHERS ARE SAYING...

*'We were extremely impressed by the quality of the resources provided, including their suitability for engaging school aged children, who responded extremely well to the concept of 'Superhero vs Zombie' foods.'*

Choose  
Superhero  
Foods



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



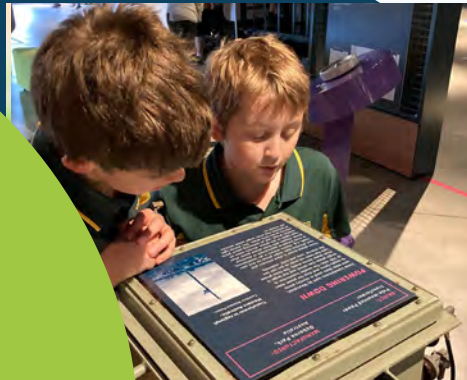


Manjimup  
Heritage Park

# 2021 Education Program

School Museum Membership as low as  
\$250 per annum!

Explore  
history,  
technology,  
nature, arts  
and more  
across this  
12 hectare Park  
including 2  
State museums  
and many more  
exhibitions.



The Manjimup Heritage Park offers a full day excursion venue with capacity to integrate curriculum based pre, during and post excursion activities. The Park is in the heart of the Southern Forests region which offers affordable accommodation, plenty of outdoor activities and learning opportunities.

## During a visit to the Heritage Park, students can:

- Walk through the native south west bushland, compare and contrast the plants within it, search for evidence of animal life and more!
- Explore the State Timber Museum, to learn about the history of forestry in WA.
- Learn about electricity, and how the arrival of electricity has affected the development of the south west and the broader community.
- See early steam powered machinery, and consider how it changed the nature of industry.
- Wander through the historic hamlet and imagine daily life for families in the past.
- Take a break on the world class playground.



SHIRE OF  
MANJIMUP



[manjimupheritagepark.com.au](http://manjimupheritagepark.com.au)



[facebook.com/manjimupheritagepark](https://facebook.com/manjimupheritagepark)



[@manjimupheritagepark](https://@manjimupheritagepark)







Image © West Australian Newspapers Limited



# telethon 7

## Schools and Telethon. Making a difference together.

Getting kids involved in raising money for Telethon is a great way to develop real world understanding about community action, promotion, the importance of charities and scientific research.

The Telethon Student Ambassadors Program is a new initiative for schools, empowering students to lead their school's involvement with Telethon.

See how your school can get involved at [telethon7.com/schools](https://telethon7.com/schools) or email [schools@telethon7.com](mailto:schools@telethon7.com)

# Where the natural world is your laboratory

Green Lab 2030 is a citizen science and action program designed by young people to protect, monitor and increase tree canopy within the Greater Perth area.

**It is the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration and our Green Lab community is growing and coming to a tree near you!**

**Working with Traditional Owners, climate scientists, artists, historians, community stakeholders and Government, kids are teaching us how to love our trees, increase tree canopy and strengthen ecosystems.**



Green Lab is a Millennium Kids citizen science initiative. This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program and supported by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and Trillion Trees. Incursions and excursions are available for K- 12 with curriculum links.



natural resource  
management program



EMPOWERED BY  
**Millennium  
Kids**

For an information pack email:  
[cathy@millenniumkids.com.au](mailto:cathy@millenniumkids.com.au)  
#millenniumkids | [millenniumkids.com.au](https://millenniumkids.com.au)

**greenLAB**



# What's new from Fremantle Press in 2021

INDEPENDENT publisher Fremantle Press focuses on publishing the work of West Australian writers – many of whom pen fiction, literary prose, poetry and children's picture books set in our State. ED! Magazine and Media Education are proud to partner with Fremantle Press again this year to bring the serialisation of four local books to classrooms.

Check out what's new and discover more about Fremantle Press at [fremantlepress.com.au](http://fremantlepress.com.au)

For more information about the ED! Serial Story program and how to subscribe, please visit [mediaeducation.com.au](http://mediaeducation.com.au) or flip over this magazine and look at page 9 of *Discover ME 2021*.



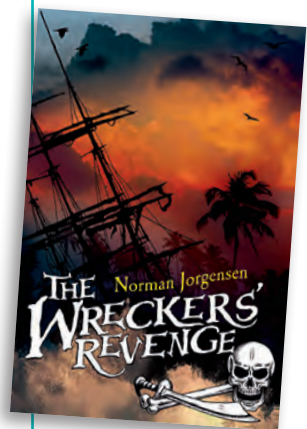
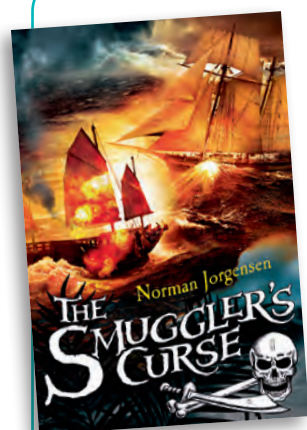
**FREMANTLE PRESS**  
[fremantlepress.com.au](http://fremantlepress.com.au)

## I'm Cristy Burne, author of *Beneath The Trees*.

Three cheers for science, creativity and adventure! I write books that mix these super-ingredients into stories that inspire kids to explore our world – and to create their place in it. I'm a scientist, author, speaker, dog-person and lover of chocolate. And I'm so proud of all that our next generation is achieving.

I can't wait for *Beneath The Trees* to be released in February 2021. It's a cracker of an adventure based on a real-life family holiday when our kids were in Year 2 and Year 4. There are raging rivers, injured platypus, laughs, disasters, surprises – and a trio of cousins who must work together to earn their happy ending.

*Beneath The Trees* is set in subtropical rainforest in Queensland, one of the best places in the universe to see wild platypus. How cool are platypus! Egg-laying mammals with webbed feet, venomous spurs and an extraordinary sixth sense called electroreception ... Mind = blown.



## Meet Norman Jorgensen, author of *The Smuggler's Curse* and *The Wreckers' Revenge*...

### Tell us about your adventure series

My latest books, *The Smuggler's Curse* and *The Wreckers' Revenge*, are adventure stories based in Broome in the late nineteenth century. They are heavily influenced by Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped*, and other books I read as a kid. Even though they may be a little old-fashioned, I have found that modern kids get just as caught up in the hair-raising adventures of my hero, young Red Read, as I did as a kid. I have such fun subjecting poor Red to all sorts of perils, including storms at sea, sharks, headhunters, wild animals and crazed wreckers all determined to kill him.

### Why pirates?

I spent many Saturdays as a kid at the old fleapit Amusu Cinema in Narrogin where they showed an ongoing program of old movies, most often Westerns.

However, one Saturday they also included probably the greatest pirate movie ever made. It was *Captain Blood*, starring Australian swashbuckler Errol Flynn, and seeing him dashing about on his magnificent pirate ship and swinging from the mast with a dagger between his teeth enchanted me for life. I still have the scar from

when I tried swinging from the Hills hoist with a wooden sword in my mouth.

### How much Australian history do you include in your books?

Sometimes it seems far too much history, but I do enjoy it. I find myself researching a lot more than I write, though I love digging up nuggets of history to beef up my stories. All my books are based in real places I have visited, and include events that actually happened. Only the main characters and the adventures they have are fictional. I check out and verify the buildings, places and historical events before I include them. It can be a minefield, though, when you mention something, for instance, that it turns out hadn't been invented until ten years later.

### What's new for Red Read in *The Wreckers' Revenge*?

It is 1898, and young Red is enrolled as a boarder in Christian Brothers College in St Georges Terrace, but when he sees a master beating a small boy, he intervenes forcefully and finds himself charged with assault before spending time in the East Perth lockup. While there, he sees clues to the fabled lost treasure of legendary pirate and explorer William Dampier on his cell walls. The clues point to a chest of gold coins buried on the Cocos Islands, so when he is rescued by his captain, Black Bowen, he and the Black Dragon schooner's crew set off in search of Dampier's gold.

Unfortunately the word 'gold' carries a long way, and they find themselves

pursued by lawless pearlers from the Pilbara town of Cossack on luggers armed with cannons. The Black Dragon is fired on and sinks, and Red and the crew are marooned on one of the small Cocos islands, unarmed and waiting for the Cossack crew to return to ensure there are no survivors. The Dragon's crew must prepare for the upcoming attacks and fight back. And fight back they do, with fire and brimstone and handmade weapons, including gunpowder-packed exploding coconuts.

### Where do you write?

Often I write at my desk with all the lights turned off, so there is just me and the blank page on the screen, then my imaginary characters slowly appear and begin talking to me, and as much as I hate to admit it, I talk back to them. We have such interesting conversations. Other times I will sit under a tree with my old leather-bound notebook and a traditional fountain pen and write, and as I'm back in the nineteenth century in my imagination, that seems right and proper.

### Tortuga or Broome?

Is that a trick question? I was born in Broome, and my hero, Red Read's mother, owns a tavern in Broome called *The Smuggler's Curse*. As much as I'd really like to visit Tortuga, my loyalty has to be Broome, of course, now and back in 1898 when it was a wild and lawless town where people went to get away from the law or their families. Many simply went there to get rich quick, but died trying.





**Hi, I'm Aśka, illustrator of Stars in Our Eyes.**

My next title, *Stars in Our Eyes*, is an exciting collaboration with the writer Jess Walton. This character-driven graphic novel explores the struggle of self-acceptance and the joy of finding other people like you.

It offers a first-person insight into the world of a pop culture-obsessed teenage girl – Maisie. Through the 210 pages of detailed drawings, where memories and fantasies visually interrupt reality, the reader is invited to share in Maisie's ups and downs of adolescence, as well as her self-discovery.



**Hi, I'm Jessica Walton, author of Stars in Our Eyes.**

I wanted to write a story where the queer, disabled character gets to be the main character, as I never read anything like that growing up. A lot of writers from multiple marginalised communities are putting themselves into stories now, and that's exciting!

I am so lucky to be collaborating with Aśka on this project – it's become this really beautiful, detailed visual world. You can try imagining the characters you've written, but actually seeing them interacting together on the page is very moving and powerful.



**Hi, I'm Julia Lawrinson, author of Mel and Shell.**

My name's Julia, and I write books for middle-grade readers. I grew up in Kelmscott, and I was always obsessed with various things – rollerskating, horses, collecting leeches from the Canning River, ABBA and reading. I had terrible handwriting but loved writing stories.

My new book, *Mel and Shell*, also contains rollerskating, horses and ABBA (but no leeches!), and is about the joy and difficulties of friendships. It is set in 1979, and Shell is writing letters to a girl from 1829 in the new colony, explaining what her life is like in 1979. She tells her about all the great things they have, like television and record players and flushing toilets. When Shell's classmates do a re-enactment of the English colonisers landing at Garden Island, what could possibly go wrong?



**Hi! I'm Meg McKinlay, author of Bella and the Voyaging House.**

In July, my twentieth book will hit shelves and I can hardly wait. *Bella and the Voyaging House* is the fantastical story of a girl whose house likes to go on adventures, setting sail across the ocean while everyone sleeps. Bella's parents don't mind as long as the house is back home by dawn, but one night everything changes. When Bella puts on her captain's hat and sends the house on a quest for a special item long lost at the bottom of the sea, she finds that getting home in time for breakfast may not be as simple as she thought. Aimed at ages six to ten, *Bella and the Voyaging House* is a story about family, fathoms and a very friendly seal.



# THRILLING READING ADVENTURES



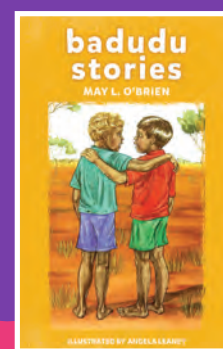
When Sally Tinker's nemesis hatches a fowl and poultry plot to devolve chickens into dinosaurs, there's no room for the lily-livered. Sally and co will need all their pluck to return the world to its rightful pecking order.



Cam and Sophie want to see a platypus, but with the rain tipping down and the river turning wild, they may be in for a bigger adventure than they bargained for.



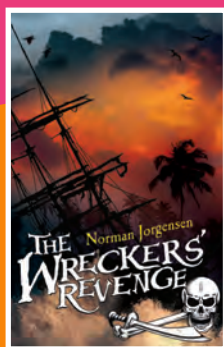
Bella has an idea for her grandfather's birthday – the perfect gift lies at the bottom of the ocean. Bella sets sail for it in her voyaging house, but what's a girl to do when her house won't go.



These true stories share what it's like for an Aboriginal child to move from a remote community college to a mainstream school.



Hopping vampires, drooling neighbours: Mei Ling Pang is kicking her bad luck to the kerb. This fresh take on the Chinese folk legend of the jiangshi is full of humour and heart.



Demon storms, crazed pirates and killer diseases ... Red Read doesn't set out to find trouble, but trouble sure has a way of finding him.



This exciting historical novel is based on the true story of a pioneering 14-year-old who lived and battled alongside the fossickers and fortune hunters of outback Australia.

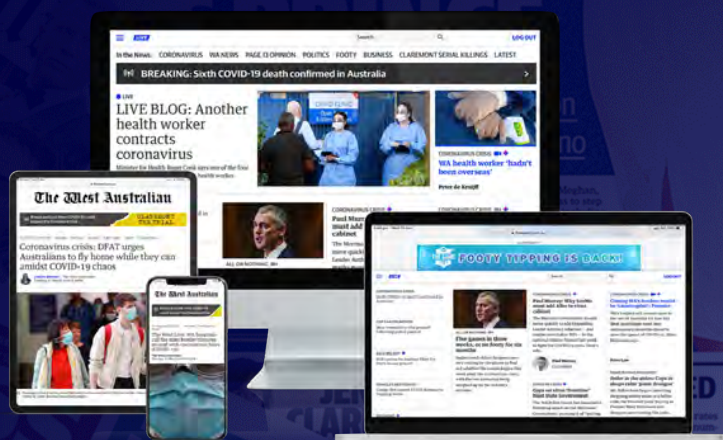


Sally Morgan's rich and moving work is perhaps the best loved biography of Aboriginal Australia ever written.



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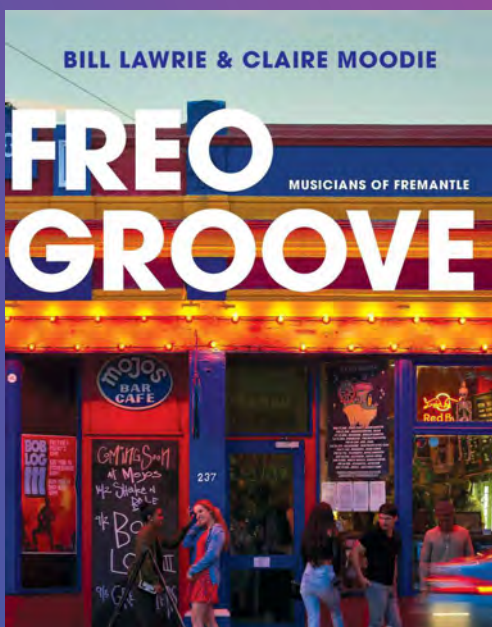
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