

GRASSY BOX WOODLAND ECOSYSTEM GAME

We are all connected!

Work together to build a healthy Grassy Box Woodland. Every plant, animal and habitat has a role to play!



HABITAT CARDS – You are the foundation. Stand still and be the structure of the ecosystem.

MATURE GREY BOX TREE (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) I provide: - Shelter - Nesting hollows - Food (leaves, sap) - Shade Who needs me? - Birds, Possums, Bats, Insects, Koalas Did you know? - Hollow-bearing trees can take 100–150 years to form!	WHITE BOX TREE (<i>Eucalyptus albens</i>) I provide: - Shelter - Nectar & pollen - Nesting sites - Shade Who needs me? - Birds, Insects, Possums, Lizards Did you know? - White Box trees flower in spring and provide important nectar for many insects.	YELLOW BOX TREE (<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>) I provide: - Shelter - Nectar & pollen - Nesting sites - Shade Who needs me? - Birds, Insects, Possums, Lizards Did you know? - Yellow Box flowers in summer and provides nectar for many insects.	NATIVE GRASSES I provide: - Seeds - Shelter - Protect soil - Food for insects Who needs me? - Insects, Small mammals, Birds, Reptiles Did you know? - Native grasses store carbon in the soil and support biodiversity.	WILDFLOWERS I provide: - Nectar - Pollen - Seeds - Colour Who needs me? - Bees, Butterflies, Pollinators Did you know? - Wildflowers support pollinators that help our whole ecosystem.	FALLEN LOG I provide: - Shelter - Moisture - Food for fungi - Habitat for insects Who needs me? - Insects, Lizards, Frogs, Spiders, Microbes Did you know? - Dead wood is home to thousands of tiny living things!	LEAF LITTER I provide: - Food for decomposers - Moisture - Protect soil Who needs me? - Worms, Insects, Fungi, Microbes Did you know? - Leaf litter breaks down nutrients and feeds the soil.	HEALTHY SOIL I provide: - Nutrients - Water storage - Roots support - Habitat for microbes Who needs me? - All plants and animals! Did you know? - One teaspoon of healthy soil can contain billions of living organisms!	SHRUB LAYER I provide: - Shelter - Food (berries, leaves) - Nesting sites - Protection Who needs me? - Birds, Insects, Lizards, Small Mammals Did you know? - Shrubs provide shelter for many species during hot and cold weather!	CREEK / WATERWAY I provide: - Drinking water - Food - Cool places - Breeding habitat Who needs me? - Almost every animal! Did you know? - Clean waterways are essential for healthy woodlands.	TREE WITH HOLLOW I provide: - Shelter - Nesting sites - Protection - Safe space Who needs me? - Owls, Possums, Birds, Bats Did you know? - Many animals rely on hollows, but they can't make their own.
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ANIMAL CARDS – Read your card, take on your role and find where you belong in the ecosystem.

SUPERB FAIRY-WREN I eat: - Insects - Seeds I need: - Shrubs - Grasses - Tree hollows Did you know? - They have complex family groups and help control insects.	EASTERN ROSSELLA I eat: - Seeds - Fruit - Nectar I need: - Tree hollows - Trees - Water Did you know? - They glide spread seeds far and wide.	SUGAR GLIDER I eat: - Nectar - Gum - Insects I need: - Tree hollows - Mature trees Did you know? - They glide between trees to find food and shelter.	ECHIDNA I eat: - Ants - Termites I need: - Leaf litter - Logs - Native vegetation Did you know? - Echidnas have spines for protection instead of fur.	BLUE-TONGUE LIZARD I eat: - Insects - Fruit - Flowers I need: - Rocks - Logs - Leaf litter Did you know? - They have a blue tongue to scare predators!	EASTERN BROWN SNAKE I eat: - Rodents - Frogs - Lizards I need: - Rocks - Logs - Native vegetation Did you know? - Snakes help control pest animals.	WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE I eat: - Mammals - Birds - Reptiles I need: - Large trees - Open areas Did you know? - They can see prey from up to 2 km away!	POWERFUL OWL I eat: - Possums - Birds - Reptiles I need: - Large trees - Tree hollows Did you know? - They hunt at night in the woodland.	NATIVE BEE I eat: - Nectar - Pollen I need: - Flowers - Water - Nest sites Did you know? - Native bees don't sting and are vital pollinators.	BUTTERFLY I eat: - Nectar I need: - Host plants (caterpillars) - Flowers Did you know? - Butterflies help pollen, snoring.	GRASSHOPPER I eat: - Grasses - Leaves I need: - Grasses - Shelter Did you know? - They are an important food source for many animals.	CATERPILLAR I eat: - Leaves I need: - Host plants - Shelter Did you know? - They grow a lot before turning into butterflies or moths.	HUNTSMAN SPIDER I eat: - Insects I need: - Bark - Rocks - Leaf litter Did you know? - They are not dangerous and help control insects.	NATIVE ANT I eat: - Dead leaves - Organic matter I need: - Host soil - Leaf litter Did you know? - They aerate soil and help recycle nutrients.	KANGAROO I eat: - Seeds - Insects - Nectar I need: - Soil - Leaf litter - Shelter Did you know? - Frogs are up to healthy environment.	MICROORGANISMS (BACTERIA & FUNGI) I eat: - Dead matter - Organic material I need: - Moisture - Organic matter - Soil Did you know? - They break down dead plants and recycle nutrients.
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HOW TO PLAY

- Build**
Habitat cards stand still. Animals find where they belong.
- Play**
Listen to the scenarios. If your habitat is taken away, you must sit out.
- Rebuild**
Work together to recover and create a healthy ecosystem.

KEY CONCEPTS

- Habitat**
Where living things live.
- Diversity**
Lots of different living things.
- Structure**
The physical parts that make up an ecosystem.
- Function**
The roles and jobs living things do.
- Composition**
The mix of living and non-living things.

EVENT CARDS – Change the ecosystem. Remove the habitat shown.

FIREWOOD COLLECTION Remove Fallen Logs. 	OLD TREE REMOVED Remove Tree Hollow. 	OVERGRAZING Remove Native Grasses. 	WEEDS INVADE Remove Wildflowers. 	DROUGHT Remove Waterhole. 	HOT BUSHFIRE Remove Shrubs and Leaf Litter. 	FERAL CAT One small animal sits down. 	FOX One ground-dwelling bird sits down.
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RECOVERY CARDS – Rebuild and restore the ecosystem.

TREE PLANTING / WILDLIFE CORRIDORS Bring back trees to connect woodland habitats and create wildlife corridors. 	LEAVE FALLEN TIMBER Return a Fallen Log. 	RESTORE NATIVE WILDFLOWERS Return Wildflowers. 	PROTECT WATERWAYS Return the Waterhole. 	REGENERATIVE GRADE CONTROL Return Native Grasses. 	WEED CONTROL Return Shrubs.
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Every choice we make can create a better future for our Grassy Box Woodland. We have the power to create or destroy – let's choose to care!

