

The useful kurrajong

Plant part	Use
Seed	food
Roots	food
Exudate (brownish substance which weeps from the trunk and branches)	food
Bark	Fibre to weave for nets bags and body decorations
Trunk and branches	• a source of water • a vantage point
leaves	• shade • a hiding place

The kurrajong was often one of the few woodland trees left standing in cultivation paddocks when land was cleared for farming purposes. This was because the leaves are useful, high-quality fodder for stock during times of drought. Also, as the tree relies on a single deep root, it does not compete as much as many other woodland tree species, with the shallow rooted cereal crops, that replaced the deep-rooted native grasses and understorey plants. It was the seeds from these plants, which Aboriginal people harvested, ground, and made into cakes/bread. And of course, by just being there it does all the useful things plants do for our environment, plus being endemic (native to the white box woodlands), it adds habitat value for many other creatures. Ants for one just love them!

The useful kurrajong

Think-pair-share the parts of the plant/resources a kurrajong could be divided into. Write your responses in the box.

--

When your class has talked about the uses of these various plant parts/resources, complete the following table.

Plant part	Use

- Think about something you have eaten today. What plant did it come from? _____

Part 2 Activity 6 Student worksheet

- Now complete the box and table below the way you did for the useful kurrajong. You may need to discuss this or do some research.

Think-pair-share the parts of the plant/resources a _____ could be divided into. Write your responses in the box.

Plant part	Use

Is the plant you selected native or introduced? _____

Does it have habitat value too? _____

List: