

Junior Ranger Worksheet

Warril Parkland - the environment



Warril Parkland is home to 84 hectares of bushland. This bushland is part of the largest remaining continuous stretch of open eucalypt forest in South East Queensland, known as the Flinders-Karawatha Forest Corridor.

Oxley Creek runs along the western edge of Warril Parkland and is one of the Brisbane River's major tributaries. Beginning in the forest-covered slopes of Mount Perry, south of Ipswich, Oxley Creek joins the Brisbane River approximately 70 kilometres downstream.

Within the parkland there are four man-made lakes which were formed on land that was originally a part of the eucalypt forest. Between the 1960's and the 1990's this land was dug up and the soil was used to make construction materials like concrete and mortar. Water washed from Oxley Creek, and its surrounding waterways, into the large dug-out holes creating the lakes. These lakes are now home for a range of aquatic animals, such as prawns, fish, turtles and frogs.

Read the information above and then answer the questions.

Questions

a) How many hectares of bushland are within Warril Parkland?

b) Where does Oxley Creek begin?

c) What construction materials were made with the soil that was removed from Warril parkland?

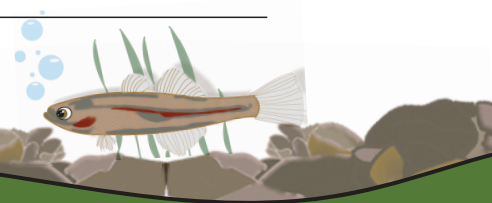
d) Name four aquatic animals that can be found in the lakes of Warril Parkland.

1.

2.

3.

4.



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Warril Parkland - the animals



The bushland of Warril Parkland is home to many animals such as koalas, echidnas, possums, gliders, wallabies, snakes and lace monitors. Some of these animals are active during the day, while others sleep during the day and move around at night. Animals that are awake during the day are called 'diurnal', while those that are awake during the night are known as 'nocturnal'.

Native frogs, turtles, yabbies, fish, shrimp and prawns inhabit the lakes of Warril Parkland. One of the types of frog that lives along the edges of the lakes is called the Tusked Frog. Its name comes from the large pair of teeth that can be found in the lower jaw of male frogs. These teeth are so long that they look like tusks. The frogs use their tusks to fight with other males during mating season. The Tusked Frogs build their nests under leaves, plants or logs at the water's edge.

The skies and bushland of Warril Parkland are home to around 100 different bird species, including the White-bellied Sea Eagle. The White-bellied Sea Eagle is known to local First Nations (Aboriginal) People as the *Dibpil Dew air*. Sea Eagles are raptor birds which means that they hunt living prey. The Sea Eagles of Warril Parkland are known eat both native and non-native animals including fish, possum, duck, cat and turtle.

Read the information above and then answer the questions.

Questions



a) What is the name for animals which sleep during the day and are active at night?

b) Where are the Tusked Frog's 'tusks' located?

c) Name the five types of animals that the White-bellied Sea Eagles in Warril Parkland are known to eat.

d) What is the local First Nations Peoples name for the White-bellied Sea Eagle?

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Warril Parkland - the First Nations People



Running along the western boundary of Warril Parkland, Oxley Creek is known by the First Nations (Aboriginal) People as *Benarrawa*. For centuries, the First Nations People used Oxley Creek as a connecting pathway between their homelands around Moreton Bay and their tribal meeting places in the ranges and mountains to the west of Brisbane. Walking and camping beside the creek gave First Nations People direct access to fresh water. The fresh water of the creek also attracted animals, which provided a food source for the travellers.

Children often camped together with their families as they travelled along Oxley Creek. The children were taught games that would help to develop their skills and abilities for use later in life. *Purru Purru* was a game played with a kangaroo skin ball. The ball would be rolled along the ground and players would take turns throwing their spears at the ball. This game was used to improve children's spear throwing skills on a moving target. As the children became older they could use their spear throwing skills to hunt for food.

Warril, in local First Nations Peoples language means creek or watercourse. The name - Warril Parkland - acknowledges the unique cultural and spiritual relationship of past and present First Nations People to Oxley Creek and the lands within the park.

Read the information above and then answer the questions.

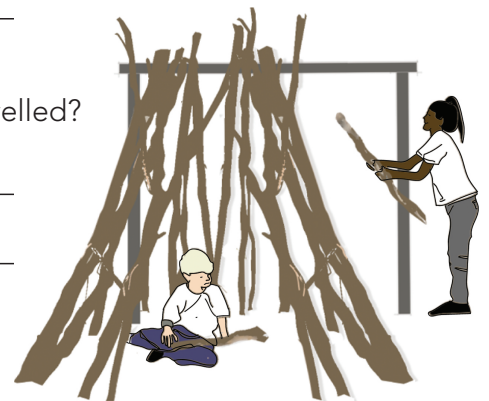
Questions

a) What name do First Nations People give to Oxley Creek?

b) Why did First Nations People camp beside Oxley Creek as they travelled?

c) What skill did the game *Purru Purru* help children improve?

d) What is the name for creek or watercourse in the language of the local First Nations People?



Junior Ranger Worksheet

Tributaries, catchments and flood plains



Oxley Creek is one of the longest tributaries of the Brisbane River. A tributary is a smaller creek that feeds water into a larger creek or river.

Oxley Creek also has one of the largest catchments of any creek within Brisbane. A creek's catchment is the area of land that captures and channels rainwater into the creek. Channelling of rainwater into a creek is usually done by a combination of landforms such as mountains, hills and valleys.

When large populations of people live within a creek catchment there are sometimes negative effects on the creek. Often discarded litter and chemicals from industries will wash into street stormwater drains and travel in underground pipes to the creek. These pollutants can harm living things such as fish, birds and aquatic plants.

Some creeks, such as Oxley Creek, also have flood plains. A flood plain is a generally flat area of land located on each side of a creek or river. The width of a flood plain varies depending on the distance between the creek bank and the point where the flat land begins to rise up and become hills or mountains. Flood plains are useful when the creek overflows and a flood occurs because lots of rain has fallen over the catchment. Flood plains store stormwater, slowing down its movement along the creek. Slowing down and storing the flood water within the flood plain can help protect roads, homes and other buildings from becoming flooded.

Read the information above and then answer the questions.

Questions

a) What is the name for a smaller creek that feeds water into a larger creek or river?

b) What is the name for an area of land that captures and channels rainwater into a creek?

c) What living things might be harmed if litter and chemicals wash into a creek?

d) What two things do flood plains do with stormwater during floods?

