

Canning River Eco Education Centre

Teacher Resource  
**Hotel Hollows**

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**Overview:** Hotel Hollows is a floor board game which introduces students to Western Australia's black cockatoo species and reinforces the importance of tree hollows as vital breeding habitats for these threatened birds.

**Year Levels:** Year 3 to 6

**Duration:** Approximately 60 minutes

**Cost:** Free

**Enquiries:** Booking form to be completed prior to loan of Hotel Hollows. Pick-up and delivery is the borrower's responsibility. Maximum loan period is three weeks.

Contact CREEC: phone: 9461 7160  
Email: [creec@canning.wa.gov.au](mailto:creec@canning.wa.gov.au)





### Hotel Hollows kit checklist:

- 1 large yellow dice
- Information pack on black cockatoos
- Bag of Marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) honky nuts
- 7 laminated question cards in envelope
- 1 start piece
- 1 finish piece
- 7 yellow question pieces
- 8 green behaviour pieces
- 6 red behaviour pieces
- 6 blue picture pieces
- Several feathers – red-tailed black cockatoo



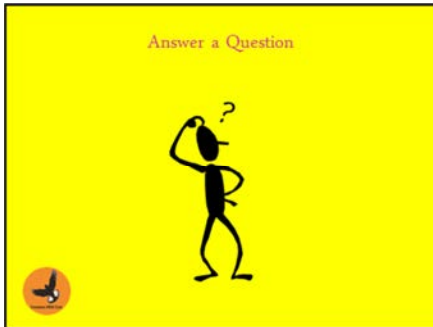
## Hotel Hollows board game instructions

- STEP 1: Place the board game pieces on the floor in any way you like (ex. in a spiral, circle or square)
- STEP 2: Divide the class into four to six teams and number each team. One person from each team will line up behind the 'start' piece.
- STEP 3: Players take turns to roll the dice and move the appropriate number of spaces. They will then follow the instructions depending on where they land ('picture', 'question' or 'behaviour' piece). After each player takes his/her turn, they will swap with another member of their team.  
If a player lands on a 'behaviour' piece and moves forward or back and lands on a 'question' or another 'behaviour' piece, they do not need to follow instructions associated with that piece (i.e. they should treat the piece as if it were a 'picture' piece)
- STEP 4: To win a participant must land on the 'finish' piece and answer a question. There is no need for a player to roll an exact number to land on the piece.





**Picture piece** – the player stays where they are.



**Question piece** – the player must answer a question from the selection of question cards. They are permitted to ask help from their team members when answering. If they get the question correct, they move forward one space and if they get it wrong, they stay where they are.



**Behaviour piece** – *Move backward behaviour card*: the player must explain why the behaviour depicted on the card is negative. If they answer incorrectly, they move back the specified number of squares. If they answer correctly, the player stays where they are.



**Behaviour piece** – *Move forward behaviour card*: the player must explain why the behaviour depicted on the card is positive. If they get it correct, they move the specified number of spaces. If they get it wrong, they stay where they are. Players can ask for help from their team members.



## Detailed explanation of positive behaviour cards

GAME PIECE	EXPLANATION
<p data-bbox="277 428 802 499">A family decides to plant a native tree in their home garden</p> <p data-bbox="483 541 592 569">Go forward 2</p>  	<p data-bbox="889 386 1425 680">Planting native plants in your garden supports local birdlife and insects by providing the food and shelter they depend on. The Black Cockatoo likes to eat seeds from hakeas, banksias and eucalyptus.</p>
<p data-bbox="305 953 764 980">A local school joins in on a Cockatoo Count</p> <p data-bbox="483 1022 592 1050">Go forward 1</p>  	<p data-bbox="889 917 1419 1211">Participating in the annual Cockatoo Count involves surveying roosting cockatoos at designated locations. This allows students to learn about black cockatoo roosting sites and numbers, and a chance to be citizen scientists.</p>



You find a old tree with a deep hollow in it

Go forward 1



Old growth forest provides key nesting and roosting sites for black cockatoos.

*What can you do?*

Encourage your local council to protect old trees in your neighbourhood. Put up a nest box at school or home.

You discover a giant Marri tree full of honky nuts

Go forward 3



Marri tree honky nuts are an important part of a black cockatoo's diet. Each honky nut contains 4 seeds. The Black Cockatoo uses its strong, sharp beak to chew the hard outer nut to gain access to the seeds.

A local community group builds cockatoo nest boxes

Go forward 1



Black cockatoos depend on tree hollows for nesting. Supporting local groups help provide important habitat for the birds.

*What can you do?*

Volunteer with a local conservation group.



A conservation group has saved a forest from being milled for paper

Go forward 3



Every year thousands of hectares of forest are logged in WA, destroying cockatoo habitat. Students can consider why government policy might support logging and might be some alternative solutions.

*What can you do?*

*Write some persuasive text to your local member of parliament expressing an opinion on forest management.*

You have a lucky escape from being shot for feeding on a farmer's crops

Go forward 2



Black cockatoos can inflict great damage to farmers' crops. Farmers are encouraged to use deterrents such as netting, scare guns, vehicle harassment and silhouettes of raptors that in turn will scare off cockatoos.

A local primary school plants a native garden

Go forward 3



By planting natives, students gain a hands-on understanding of plant growth, gardening techniques and the importance of native plants.



## Detailed explanation of threat cards

GAME PIECE	EXPLANATION
<p data-bbox="347 491 727 520">Your mate was hit by a speeding car</p> <p data-bbox="493 569 581 590">Go back 3</p> 	<p data-bbox="894 453 1422 737">As a large-winged bird, black cockatoos usually take off into the wind, often putting them in the path of vehicles. Motorists are urged caution and to slow down when they see a cockatoo near the road.</p>
<p data-bbox="289 1035 797 1098">Someone captures you in a net to sell you as a pet bird</p> <p data-bbox="331 1188 418 1209">Go back 3</p> 	<p data-bbox="894 1003 1341 1136">Illegal trade in wild-caught birds contributes to the decline of some cockatoo species in the wild.</p>





A bush fire damages your nesting tree



Go back 1



Bush fires can have a devastating effect on cockatoo habitat, especially when crucial old growth trees are burned.

The Banksia flowers you often feed on did not grow well this year because of drought

Go back 1



Drought impacts on the growth and survival of native vegetation, which cockatoos depend as a food source.





On the Swan Coastal Plain, where many black cockatoos spend the non-nesting season, urban development has replaced much of the natural bushland.



In addition to human threats, birds face natural hazards such as storms, bush fires and drought.

Climate change trends indicate a likely increase in extreme weather events.



**Links to Australian Curriculum  
Learning Areas**

SCIENCE: SCIENCE UNDERSTANDING	YEAR
<p><b>Biological sciences</b></p> <p>Living things have life cycles (ACSSU072)</p> <p>Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive (ACSSU073)</p> <p>Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment (ACSSU043)</p> <p>The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment (ACSSU094)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p>

GEOGRAPHY: GEOGRAPHICAL KNOWLEDGE & UNDERSTANDING	YEAR
<p>The importance of environments to animals and people, and different views on how they can be protected (ACHGK022)</p> <p>The types of natural vegetation and the significance of vegetation to the environment and to people (ACHGK021)</p> <p>The natural resources provided by the environment, and different views on</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4</p> <p>4</p>



how they could be used sustainably (ACHGK024)	
The influence of the environment on the human characteristics of a place (ACHGK028)	5
The impact of bushfires or floods on environments and communities, and how people can respond (ACHGK030)	5
The effects that people's connections with, and proximity to, places throughout the world have on shaping their awareness and opinion of those places (ACHGK036)	6

## Cross-curricular Priorities

### **SUSTAINABILITY**

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#### Organising ideas to be addressed:

##### Systems

- The biosphere is a dynamic system providing the conditions that sustain life on Earth
- All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival
- Sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems

##### Futures

- Actions for a sustainable future reflect on values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments
- Sustainable futures result from actions designed to preserve and/or restore the quality and uniqueness of environments



## General Capabilities

- Ethical Understanding
- Critical and creative thinking
- Literacy

## Key Inquiry Questions

- *What species of black cockatoos live in WA?*
- *What are their requirements for survival?*
- *Why are they under threat?*
- *What can we do to help their survival?*

## Related Classroom Activities

- Develop students' awareness of the outdoor environment by inviting them to draw a mud map of an outside area, playground space, local park or natural environment. Encourage the inclusion of both the natural and constructed features. Discuss bird's eye view maps.
- Bird talk – Play bird sounds of common birds in your area. *The Michael Morcombe and David Stewart eGuide to the Birds of Australia* is available as an APP to suit various mobile phones.
- Build a bird's nest using materials found on your school grounds (feathers, hair, twigs, moss, dust, etc.). Compare your bird building skills with actual examples of bird nests.
- Go bird watching on your school grounds or at a nearby park. Record the number and types of birds you see. Record on different days/times. How do the results vary?
- Make a bird bath for your school – discuss how birds bathe and then plan, design and construct a bird bath. What materials will you use? How will you test the materials to see if they are waterproof? Checkout a bird bath survey at <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/Bathing-Birds>
- Ask students to write a short narrative on a black cockatoo's life. Give the bird a name and describe its home, diet and distinguishing features.



## Useful Links

Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre  
<http://www.blackcockatoorecovery.com/education/>

Perth Zoo  
<http://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/animals-plants/australia/>

Department of Parks and Wildlife  
<http://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/threatened-species-and-communities/threatened-animals/208-saving-carnaby-s-cockatoo>

Birdlife WA

<http://www.birdlife.org.au/>

Great Cocky Count

<http://www.birdlife.org.au/projects/carnabys-black-cockatoo-recovery/great-cocky-count>

Ebird.org

<http://ebird.org/content/ebird/>

