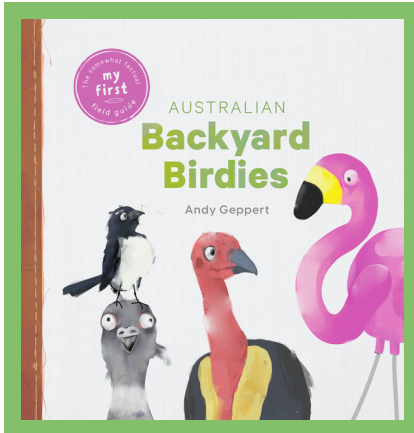


Backyard Birdies



How does a chicken say "I love you"? Do kookaburras actually enjoy dad jokes? What do a bush turkey and a car have in common?

Written and illustrated by the extraordinarily talented **Andy Geppert**, *Australian Backyard Birdies* is a fun, mostly true book that introduces children to the wonderful world of our local birds.

Curriculum Links: HASS, Literacy, Visual Arts, Sustainability, Science, Geography **Age Range:** Years K-6

Activity: Habitat Heroes

How can we help our backyard birdies?

This activity invites students to investigate their local environment and consider how they can make it more welcoming for local birds.

Read



Read *Australian Backyard Birdies*. Take time to **explore** each double page spread and encourage students to identify birds they have seen before and where they might have been spotted.

Survey



As a class, take a walk around the school. Invite students conduct a survey of how many birds they see or hear. Encourage them to share any **observations** including favourite trees, food sources etc. Record and discuss the findings. Did students discover any birds that were not present in *Australian Backyard Birdies*?

Extension Opportunity:

Codesign a survey template with students that they can use at school or take home. Allow time for the students to connect with their local environment outside of school and complete their survey. Students can then share their findings with each other.

Take Action



Support and encourage students to consider some additions or changes they can introduce to make their school environments more welcoming for birds. What are some ways students can raise awareness and share changes they make?

