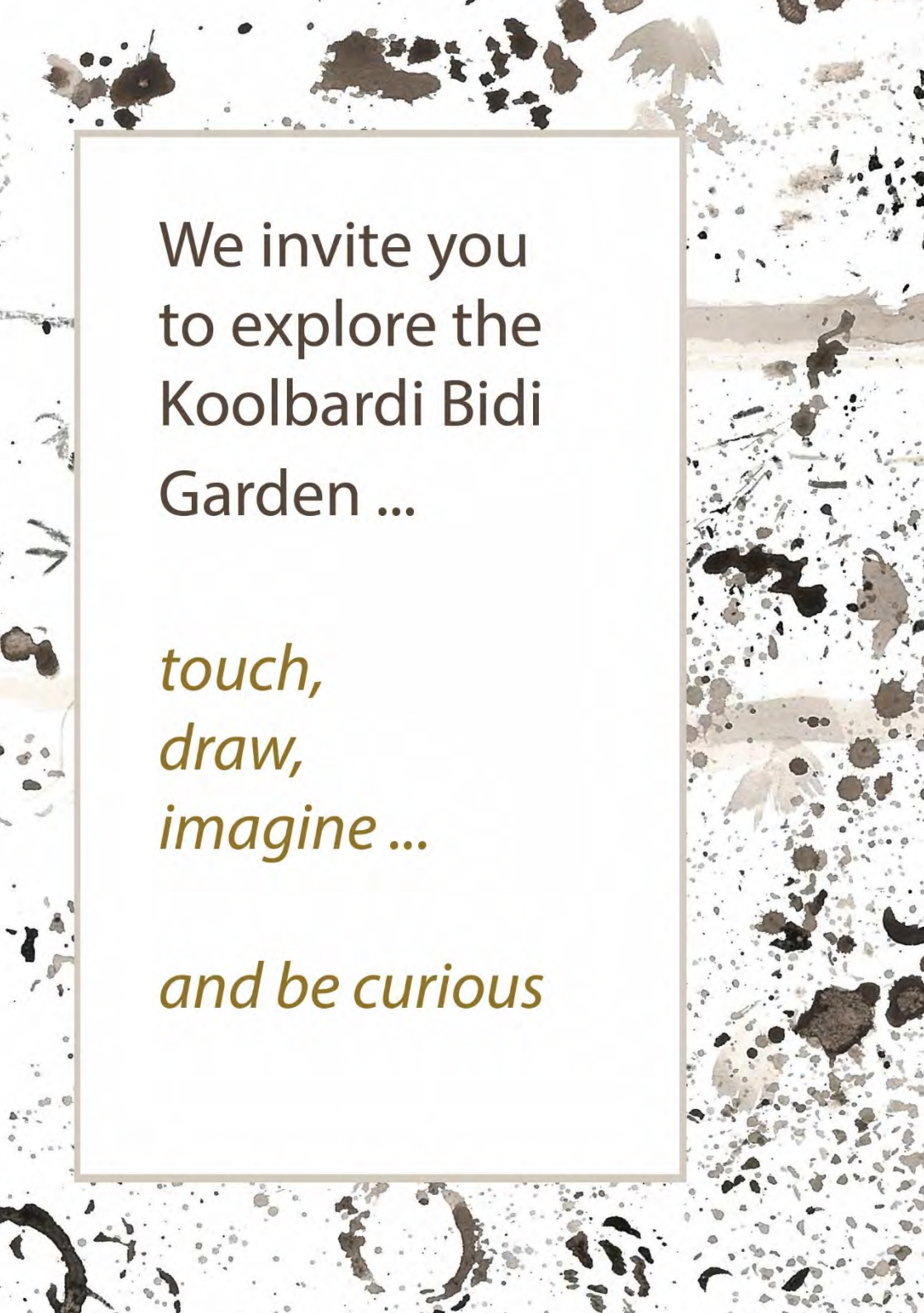




Walking with Magpies

*Koolbardi Bidi Garden
Response Journal*

The background features a white surface with various brown and black watercolor splatters and stains. A thin, light brown rectangular border frames the central text area.

We invite you
to explore the
Koolbardi Bidi
Garden ...

*touch,
draw,
imagine ...*

and be curious

Wandjoo! (Welcome!)

The City of Mandurah acknowledges and pays respect to the Bindjareb people, who are the Traditional Owners and First Peoples of this land.

We pay respect to the Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge the continuing contribution they make to the life of this City and this region.

Welcome to the Koolbardi Bidi Garden at Contemporary Art Spaces Mandurah. This garden celebrates the cultural heritage of Mandurah, featuring plants that have been used for tens of thousands of years by the Bindjareb people for food, medicine, textiles, tools and shelter.

Sharing stories about our plants can strengthen our connection to the land and our community. We hope that in using this book to explore the garden you will feel a stronger connection to this place ...

Mandjoogoordap, meeting place of the heart.



Mindfulness

Find somewhere comfortable,
close your eyes and listen.

Feel the wind or the sun on your skin.


Use this page to draw or write what
you hear, turn sounds into marks.





Speaking Noongar

What words would you like to
know how to say in Noongar?



Find the wall with Noongar words.
Say some words out loud,
think about the meaning.

Make a list of words you can say in Noongar.

1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- 

Looking

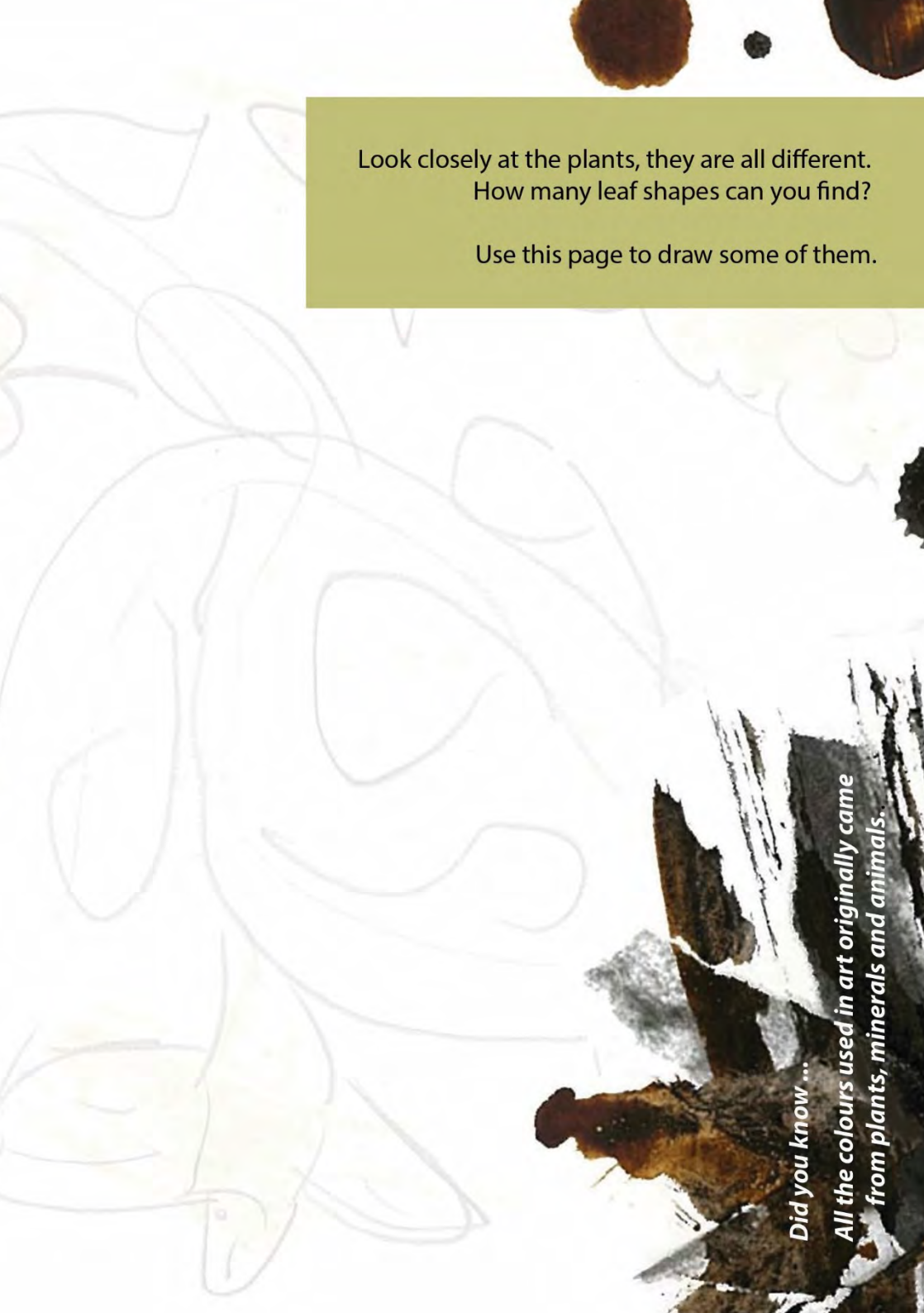


*Find a plant called Pigface (*Carpobrotus virescens*).
You can peel the fleshy leaves of this plant and rub them
on your skin to relieve mozzie bites and sunburn.*

Pick a leaf - smooch it with your fingers and smell it.

Now rub the leaf on your page – what happens?

Does dirt give a colour too?



Look closely at the plants, they are all different.
How many leaf shapes can you find?

Use this page to draw some of them.

*Did you know ...
All the colours used in art originally came
from plants, minerals and animals.*



Imagining



The garden is home to Trevor, the Motorbike Frog -
he is usually hiding in the plants near his pond.
In Noongar, frogs are **Kooya**.

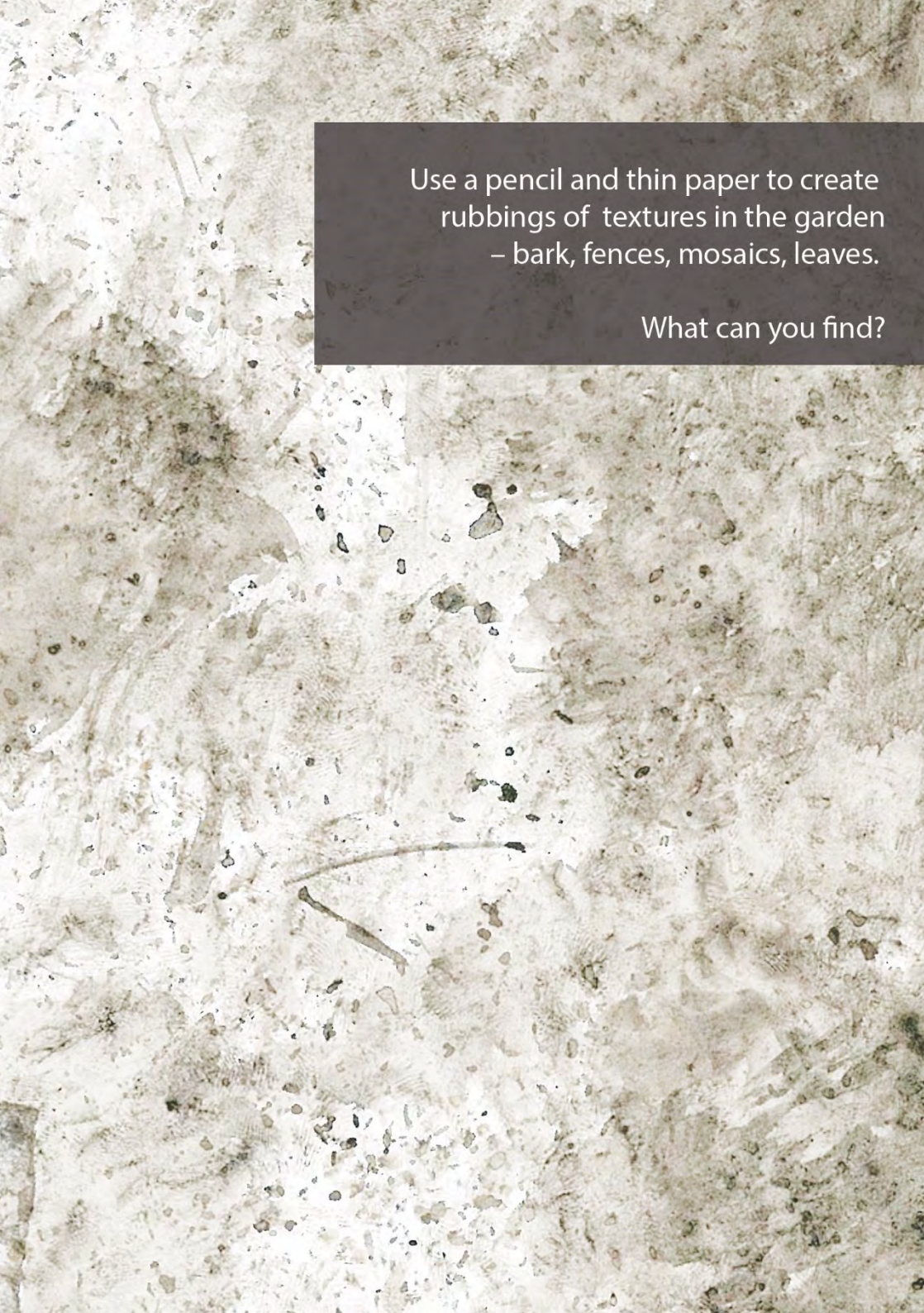
Find a vine climbing up something in the garden.
Imagine the vine climbing up you and onto your page.
What would the vine do? Where would it go?

Draw what you see in your mind.



Touching



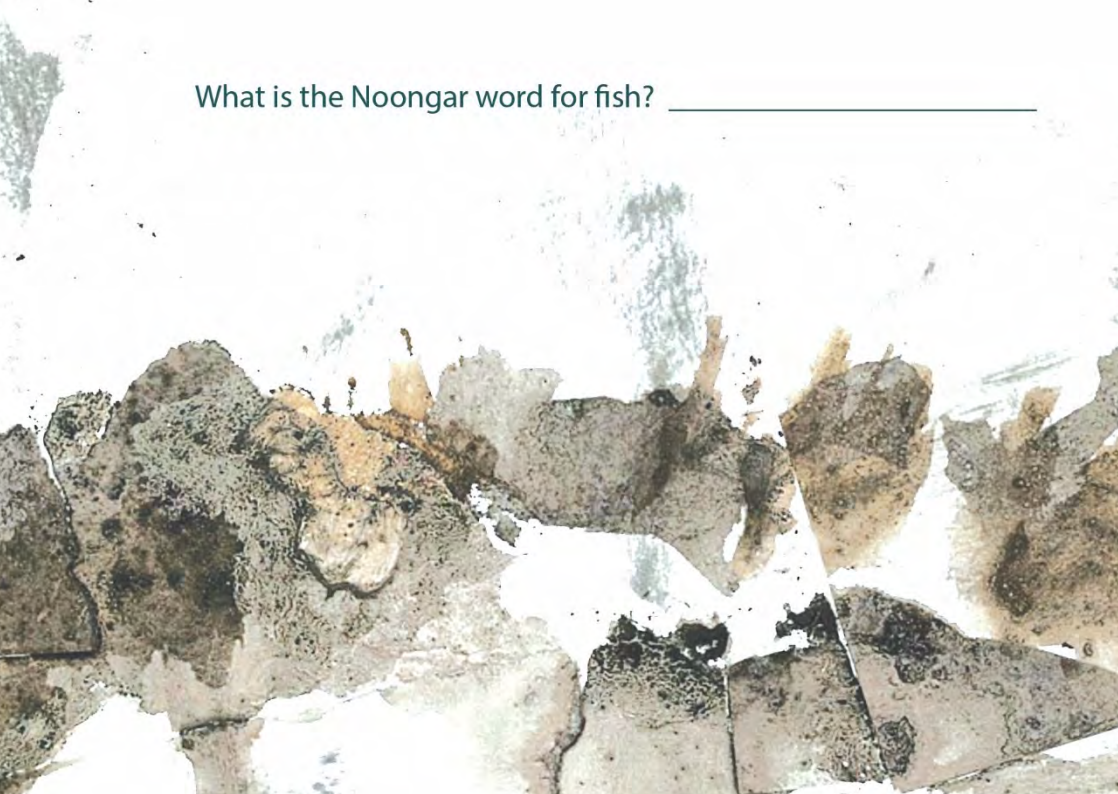


Use a pencil and thin paper to create
rubbings of textures in the garden
– bark, fences, mosaics, leaves.

What can you find?

Fishing

What is the Noongar word for fish? _____



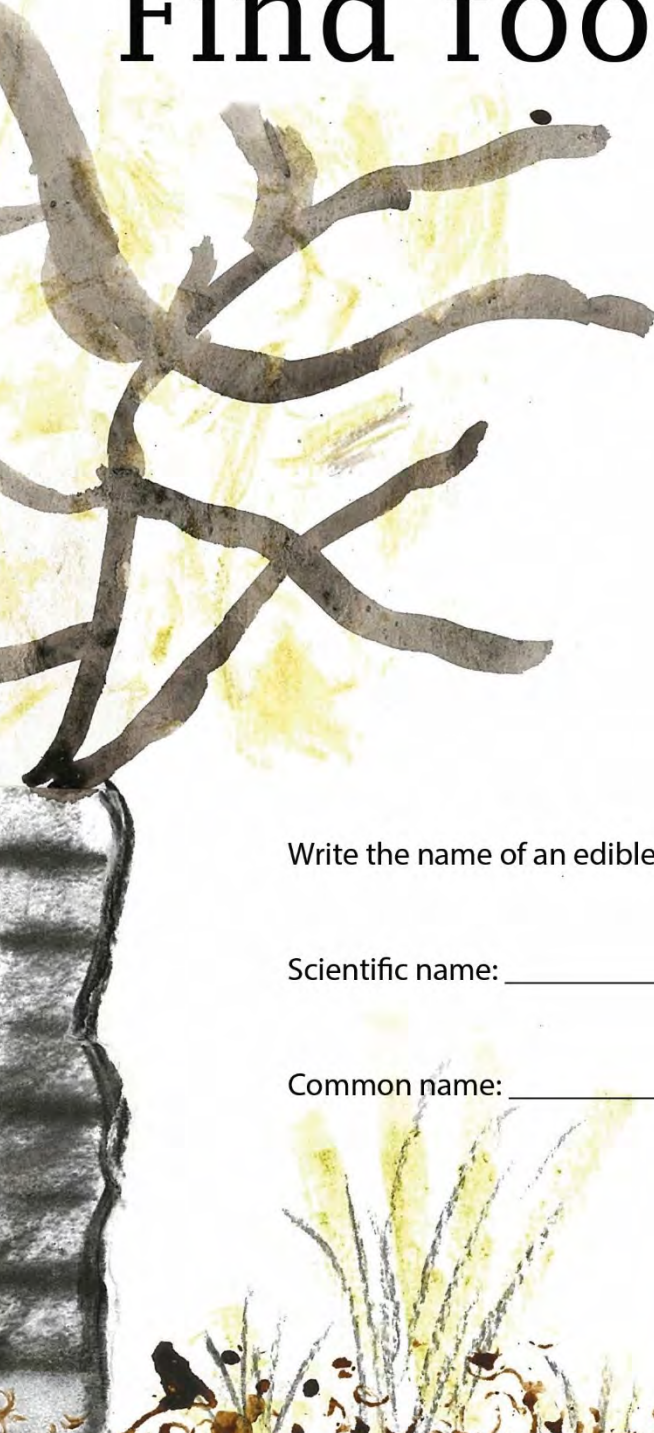
Find a plant called *Acacia pulchella* (or 'Prickly Moses') - it's very spiny so watch out!

Noongar people used this plant to herd fish, walking together with the branches underwater so the fish would swim away from the sharp spines. By driving the fish into shallow water, it made them easy to catch.

Imagine yourself doing this.
Draw or describe what you do.



Find food



Write the name of an edible plant here:

Scientific name: _____

Common name: _____



Noongar people gathered all their food from the bush, the rivers and the ocean.

Lots of plants in the Koolbardi Bidi garden are edible – you can eat the leaves on some, others have tasty berries.

The signs show which part you can eat.

Draw something you could eat in the bush.

The Six Seasons



Boonaroo ... Djilba ... Kamberang ... Birak ...
Djiran ... Moekaroo ...

The Noongar calendar has six seasons.
Nature shows us when seasons change.

Think about the weather lately
and look at what the plants are doing
– are some flowering or fruiting?

Write or draw what is
happening today that shows
which season we are in.



Magpie Path



*Our garden was given its name by Noongar elder
Iris Woods - thank you, we love it!*

*Koolbardi Bidi means 'magpie path', representing
Indigenous and non-Indigenous people walking
together.*





Magpies wander through the garden,
looking for insects to eat.

There are other animals here too
– frogs, lizards, bobtails, insects
and birds.

Make a list of the animals you can find,
or draw their tracks on your page.



Your space



Acknowledgements

The Koolbardi Bidi Garden Response Journal has been produced in collaboration with the Mandurah community. CASM would like to thank George and Lee-Anne Walley, Barbara Pickett, Iris Woods and the Koolbardi Talking Group for their support and assistance with cultural content.

This journal features artwork created by young people as they responded to the Koolbardi Bidi Garden. Special thanks to Cindy Wright and the 2020 RT Kids: Alyssa Greay, Abigail Thomas, Chloe Gaw, Brooklyn Dicker, Slade Ryland, Benjamin Saj, Dominika Sajova, Chloe Craig, Bodhi Hosking, Addison Zanic, Evie Major, Benn Buckland, Hannah O'Keeffe, Lukas Raymond, Jayde Franks, Giaan Bartley, Emily Beeson, Amy Stockdale, Juliana McDonnell, Eden Chung, Haylee Patchett, Samantha Samuels, Hannah Paton, Mia Hart, and Lilli Hunt.

This Response Journal was inspired by aesthetics and concepts developed by Lilly Blue (Manager, Learning and Creativity Research) at the Art Gallery of Western Australia, in partnership with Dr Jo Pollitt and Professor Mindy Blaise at Edith Cowan University School of Education. To experience the original Response Journals and research, and to find out more about the Art Gallery of WA's resources and creative learning programming visit artgallery.wa.gov.au.





Contemporary Art Spaces Mandurah - 63 Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah
Open hours: Wed - Sun, 10am - 4pm
artspacesmandurah.com.au E: casm@mandurah.wa.gov.au P: (08) 9550 3989

CASM
CONTEMPORARY ART SPACES MANDURAH

 **CITY OF
MANDURAH**