

School Holiday Activity Pack

Follow your curiosity, explore, and earn hours!

TERM
1





Hello 2025!



Welcome to Children's University!

We can't wait to see what you achieve this year. Keep trying new things, earning hours in your passport and working towards graduation.

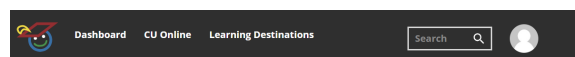
If you need help, talk to your CU Coordinator.



CUA Portal

Earn more hours in your passport. Log in to the Portal to discover online activities and Learning Destinations.

1. Go to cuportal.com
2. Login with the details listed on the inside cover of your Passport.



Welcome to the Children's University Australasia & Africa (Indian Ocean) Student Portal!

Login

Your Username

Your Password



How to earn hours in your passport

| | |
|--|---|
|  <h2>Lunchtime and before and after school clubs</h2> <p>Examples: Earn unlimited hours for activities outside of class time. Examples: lunchtime clubs, school sport teams, choir, volunteering in the library/canteen, etc.</p> |  <h2>Learning Destinations</h2> <p>Get your passport stamped each time you visit a CU Learning Destination listed on cuaportal.com. Examples: museums, zoos, libraries, botanical gardens, etc.</p> |
|  <h2>Outside school</h2> <p>Earn up to 10 hours for regular clubs or classes every year. Complete a 10-hour reflection form on cuaportal.com or with your School Coordinator. Examples: sports clubs, martial arts, drama or dance classes, orchestra, etc.</p> |  <h2>Portfolio of Learning</h2> <p>Reflect on new learning experiences not listed on cuaportal.com. Complete a reflection to earn 30 minutes in your passport. Examples: mowing the lawn, cooking a meal, building a cubby, grooming your pet, caring for injured wildlife, learning to knit or sew, babysitting, etc.</p> |
|  <h2>cuaportal.com</h2> <p>Login details for the portal are found on the inside of your passport. Discover hundreds of fun activities, covering topics like cooking, science, art, dance, nature, and animals.</p> |  <h2>Visit Diary</h2> <p>If you visit a place not listed as a CU Learning Destination, complete a Visit Diary form on cuaportal.com to earn hours.</p> |
|  <h2>Holiday activities</h2> <p>Children's University hosts on-campus days at the University of Tasmania during school holidays. Some Learning Destinations also have holiday activities you can attend.</p> |  <h2>Holiday activity packs</h2> <p>Children's University creates an activity pack for you to use each school holidays. You will receive it from your CU Coordinator.</p> |

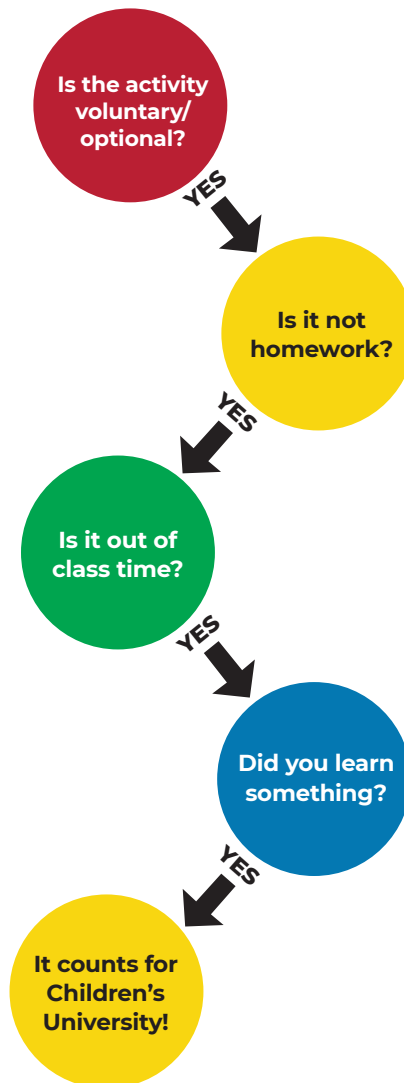


How to collect stamps in your passport

You can collect stamps at your school or community hub, or at a Learning Destination. Show your CU Coordinator proof of each activity you complete. You can use photos, drawings, write something, make a presentation, or have a conversation, etc.

The activity is:

- At school
- Outside school
- Learning Destination
- cuaportal.com
- CU holiday activity
- CU holiday pack
- Portfolio of Learning
- Visit Diary



Important!

CU is all about trying new things. To encourage this, we have the '1/3 Rule'. A maximum of 1/3 of your total hours for the year can be earned in any single activity. For example, if you earn 10 hours from soccer, you need 20 hours from at least two other activities to reach your first graduation milestone of 30 hours.

Who can stamp passports?

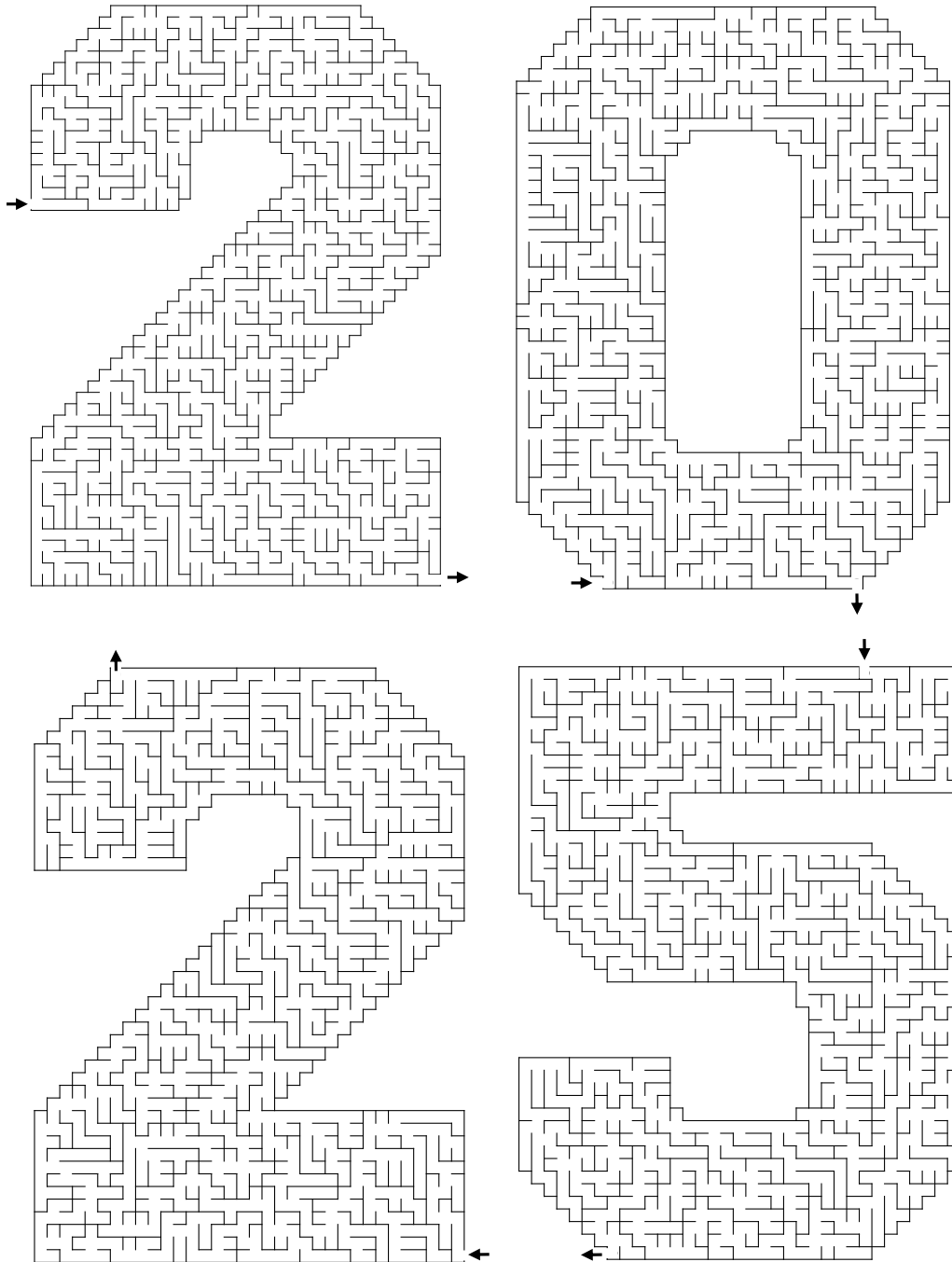
Only Learning Destinations, CU Coordinators, or the CU team can allocate hours and stamp your passport.

Your hours are recorded in your passport, so there's no need for a separate list or log.



2025 Maze

PASSPORT
Earn up to 30 mins
in your passport!



✓ Earn your passport stamp!

- Show your CU Coordinator.
- To earn an additional 30 mins in your passport, make your own maze and show your CU Coordinator.

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Pasta salad

PASSPORT
Earn up to 1 hour in your passport!

Preparation: 15 mins

Cooking: 12 mins

Serves: 4

You will need

200g dried mini bow-tie pasta

2 sticks celery, trimmed and chopped

2 Lebanese cucumbers, diced

1 green onion (shallot), trimmed and thinly sliced

350g mixed small tomatoes, halved

200g sliced leg ham, chopped

1 baby cos lettuce, trimmed and chopped

Yoghurt mayo dressing:

¼ cup Greek-style natural yoghurt

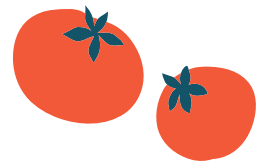
¼ cup kewpie mayonnaise



Instructions

1. Cook pasta in a medium saucepan of boiling water, following packet directions, until just tender. Drain and refresh in cold water. Set aside in a colander to dry.
2. Combine pasta, celery, cucumbers, green onion, tomatoes, ham and lettuce in a large bowl.

3. To make the yoghurt mayo dressing, whisk yoghurt, mayonnaise and salt and pepper to taste in a bowl. Drizzle mixture over pasta salad. Gently toss to combine and serve.



✓ Earn your passport stamp!

- Show your CU Coordinator a photo or drawing of your cooking.
- Tell your CU Coordinator about your experience and thoughts, e.g. How did the recipe work? Did you make any changes to the recipe? Did you substitute any ingredients? How did it taste? What would you do differently next time? Would you make it again?

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



UCTV Alive for Kids

PASSPORT
Earn up to 1 hour
in your passport!

Species that Like it Hot

Dr Paige Kelly from the University of Tasmania talks about species survival in Antarctica.



Visit: cuaportal.com
and search 'UCTV 36'

UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA
— Peter Underwood Centre

UCTV ALIVE FOR KIDS

EPISODE 36

Species That Like it Hot

Dr Paige Kelly

Mobile Antarctic Classroom

Laylah Conroy from the Mawson's Huts Foundation shares lots of cool information about Antarctica.



Visit: cuaportal.com
and search 'UCTV 37'

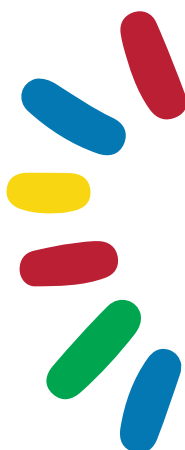
UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA
— Peter Underwood Centre

UCTV ALIVE FOR KIDS

EPISODE 37

Mobile Antarctic Classroom

Layah Conroy





Balancing act

PASSPORT
Earn up to 1 hour in your passport!

Try balancing different objects to see which shapes are easiest to balance.

You will need

Various balancing objects, such as:

- balancing poles (made from rolled up newspaper and sticky tape)
- feathers (easier)
- shoes
- balloon
- baseball caps
- broom handles (harder)



Instructions

- Balance various objects to see which shapes are easiest to balance.
- Use different body parts to balance the objects, such as the palm or back of your hand, or your knee, foot, elbow or chin.

Change it

- Try walking or lying down and getting back up again while trying to balance their object.
- Try to 'jump' the balancing object from one body part to another, e.g. one hand to another.
- Work with someone else to pass balanced objects to each other using the 'jump' method.
- Try making your balancing look exciting, e.g. pretend an object is heavy or precious and cannot be dropped.

✓ Earn your passport stamp!

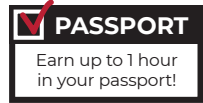
- Show your CU Coordinator a photo or drawing of you balancing objects.
- Tell your CU Coordinator about your experience and thoughts, e.g. What objects balance the best? What objects balance the worst? How did you 'act' to make your balancing look exciting? What strategies did you use when you found balancing difficult, e.g. positive self-talk? What can affect your focus?



Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Butterfly cupcakes



Preparation: 30 mins

Cooking: 20mins

Makes: 12

You will need

125g butter, softened

3/4 cup caster sugar

1 tsp vanilla extract

2 eggs

1 cup mashed ripe banana (about 3 bananas)

1½ cups self-raising flour

½ tsp bicarbonate of soda

1/3 cup milk

Topping

250g spreadable cream cheese

1 cup icing sugar mixture + extra for dusting

12 strawberries, hulled and halved lengthways

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 180°C/160°C fan-forced.
2. Line a 12 hole muffin pan with patty cases.
3. Using electric beaters, beat butter, sugar and vanilla in a large bowl until light and fluffy.
4. Beat in the eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition.
5. Add mashed banana and beat until combined.
6. Sift flour and bicarbonate of soda over the banana mixture. Add milk. Using a large metal spoon, gently stir until combined.
7. Spoon evenly into prepared pans.
8. Bake for 18-20 mins until golden and cooked through when tested with a skewer.
9. Cool in pans for 5 mins, then turn out onto a rack to cool.
10. To make the topping, combine cream cheese and icing sugar in a bowl and beat until well combined. Top each cake with a dollop of cream cheese mixture. Decorate with strawberries and serve.



✓ Earn your passport stamp!

- Show your CU Coordinator a photo or drawing of your cooking.
- Tell your CU Coordinator about your experience and thoughts, e.g. How did the recipe work? Did you make any changes to the recipe? How did it taste? What would you do differently next time? Would you make it again?

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Origami cupcakes

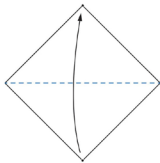
PASSPORT
Earn up to 1 hour in your passport!

You will need

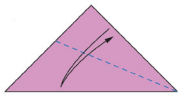
- Different coloured squares of paper
- Textas
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Ribbon
- Glue



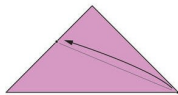
Instructions



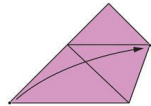
1. Start with the white side up. Fold the paper in half, forming a triangle.



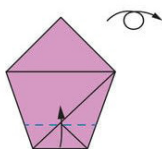
2. Bring the right diagonal edge to meet the bottom edge, crease and unfold.



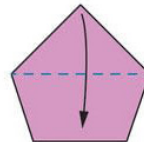
3. Bring the right corner to meet the left end of the crease you made in.



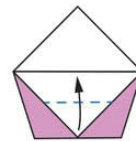
4. Bring the left corner to the upper right corner and fold.



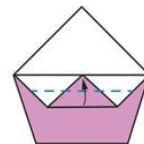
5. Fold the bottom edge up, about half an inch. Turn over.



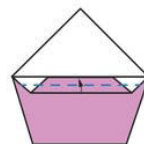
6. Fold the top corner down, top layer only.



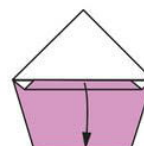
7. Fold the corner of the triangle flap up to the edge.



8. Fold the folded flap in half.



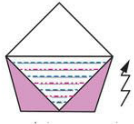
9. Fold the folded flap in half again.



10. Unfold the entire triangle flap back to step 6.



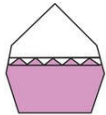
Origami cupcakes






11. Pleat-fold the creased triangle flap.



12. Blunt the upper right and left corners with small mountain-folds.



13. Glue loose parts as desired.

-  Decorate the cup lining. You could use textas, ribbon, washi tape, etc.
-  For the topping, use textas, stickers or find your own topping.
-  Origami cupcakes would make cute birthday cards, gift tags or a garland.



Earn your passport stamp!

- Show your CU Coordinator.
- Tell your CU Coordinator about your experience and thoughts, e.g. How was it making your origami? What was easy? What was hard? How did you decide to decorate your origami?

Rate your experience out of 5  (colour in the stars)



Book review



Have you read or listened to a book lately? Tell us about it!

What book did you read/listen to?

Who is the author of the book?

List the main characters in the book:

Why did you choose to read/listen to this book?

What was your favourite part of the book? Why?

Who was your favourite character? Why?

If you could change one thing about the book, what would it be?



Book review

TIP

Join your local library to earn 2 hours in your passport!

Draw your own cover for this book!

 **Earn your passport stamp!**

Show your School Coordinator your book review.

Rate book out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Movie/TV show review



Have you watched a movie or TV show lately? Tell us about it!

What movie/TV show did you watch?

What is the movie/TV show genre (e.g. comedy, action, romance, etc)?

List the main characters in the movie/TV show:

Tell us about the plot of the movie/TV show:

Why did you choose to watch this movie/TV show?

Give three reasons you liked this movie/TV show:

Who was your favourite character? Why?

If you could change one thing about the movie/TV show, what would it be?



Movie/TV show review

Draw a picture of your favourite character!

 **Earn your passport stamp!**

Show your School Coordinator your movie/TV review.

Rate movie/TV show out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)

Please note: A maximum of 10 movie reviews per year can count towards your Passport hours.



Learning Visit Diary

Did you visit an organisation or place and have a great learning experience?
Tell us about it to earn 30 minutes in your passport.

I visited _____ (name of organisation or place)

in _____ (town, city, country)

on ___ / ___ / ___ (date) with _____ (name of person).

I arrived at _____ (time) and left at _____ (time).

While I was there, I learnt these three things:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

The best thing about this learning visit was:



Learning Visit Diary

One thing I would like to learn more about after the visit is:

Here is a drawing/photo of my favourite part of the visit:

One thing I would do to improve this visit would be:

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Portfolio of Learning

Are you finding new and fun learning opportunities?

Did you know you can earn hours by starting a Portfolio of Learning?

How does it work?

1. Find a new learning activity that's not on the Children's University Facebook page or Portal.
2. Do the activity.
3. Complete a reflection entry for your Portfolio of Learning.
You can handwrite it or enter it in the Portal.
4. Show your School Coordinator for approval.
5. Earn 30 minutes in your passport. You can include up to 5 hours of learning in your portfolio each week.



Start your Portfolio of Learning today!

Portfolio of Learning – Reflection Entry

Name: _____

Description of activity: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____



Portfolio of Learning

Reflection part 1 (You must answer at least four of these questions)

- Why did you choose this learning activity?
- What was the most challenging part of this activity?
- Who would you recommend this activity to and why?
- What is the most interesting part of this activity?
- How would you improve this activity?
- Is this new learning, or is it similar to something you have learned or completed before?
- Why is this a successful learning activity for you?
- How could you change this activity to make it more challenging?

Reflection part 2

Example:

I would recommend this activity to _____

with _____

The most interesting part of this activity was: _____



Portfolio of Learning

Reflection part 3

Example:

This was successful learning for me because...

To make this activity more challenging, I would...

Reflection part 4

Example:

I would improve this activity by...

This was new learning because...

This was similar to...



Summer fruit toast toppers

PASSPORT
Earn up to 1 hour
in your passport!

Preparation: 20 mins

Serves: 4

You will need

Cream cheese

Bread, e.g. sourdough or your favourite type of bread

Your choice of fruit combos, e.g.

- Sliced banana and a drizzle of honey
- Fresh mango slices and sliced strawberries
- Sliced ripe peaches and apricots with raspberries or blueberries

Instructions

(with an adult supervising)

1. Toast your bread until golden
2. Spread with cream cheese.
3. Top with your favourite seasonal fruits.



✓ Earn your passport stamp!



- Show your School Coordinator a photo or drawing of your cooking.
- Tell your School Coordinator about your experience and thoughts, e.g. How did the recipe work? Did you make any changes to the recipe? Did you substitute any ingredients? How did it taste? What would you do differently next time? Would you make it again?

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Feelings and Emotions Word Search

PASSPORT
Earn up to 30 mins in your passport!



A N E R V O U S C V E P Q T C
 N A J J L M I S E R A B L E X
 N I I M H F I S H G R U M P Y
 O Y M Z A E K D D I J Q D Y O
 Y S H Q P N B E S I O J E M A
 E J I J P T J L M O Y E C T N
 D S F E Y H P I L P F N S X X
 X L U N C U R G T E U Y T S I
 Y Z R T Q S E H F A L L A K O
 X L I M E I L T U C N F T A U
 U U O L O A A E Z E N X I L S
 C W U X P S X D S F S X C B I
 J X S D T T E C A U S A D E D
 A N G R Y I D Y K L I A L B M
 K Q Z E X C I T E D L N T Y C



Find the emotions and feelings listed below:

Angry

Annoyed

Anxious

Delighted

Ecstatic

Enthusiastic

Excited

Furious

Grumpy

Happy

Joyful

Miserable

Nervous

Peaceful

Relaxed

Sad

✓ Earn your passport stamp!

- Show your CU Coordinator.
- To earn an additional 30 mins in your passport, make your own word search and show your CU Coordinator.

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)

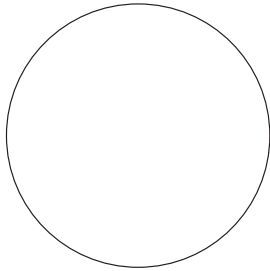


Emotion emojis

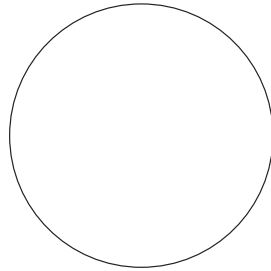


Can you design an emoji for each of the feelings and emotions?

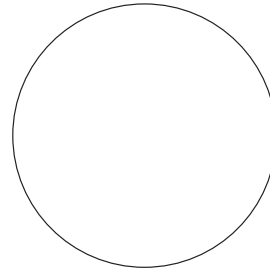
Use lots of colour to show how different emotions can feel.



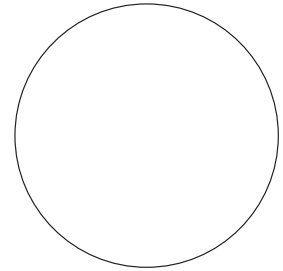
Angry



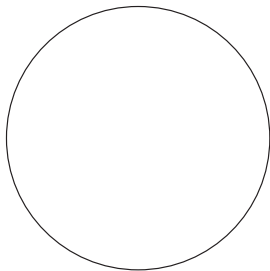
Annoyed



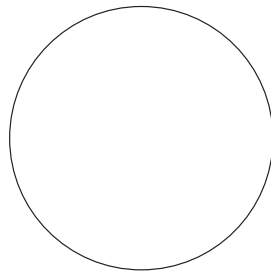
Anxious



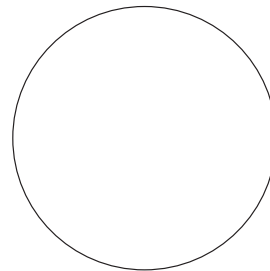
Delighted



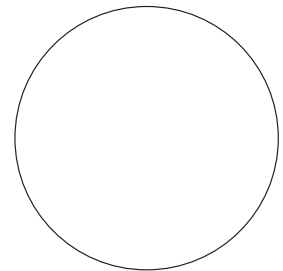
Ecstatic



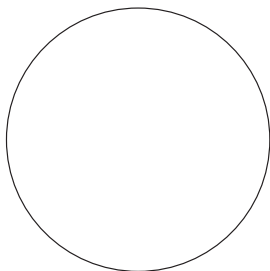
Enthusiastic



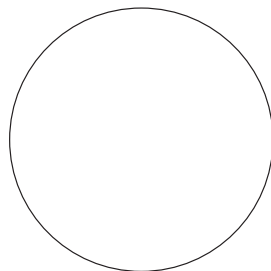
Excited



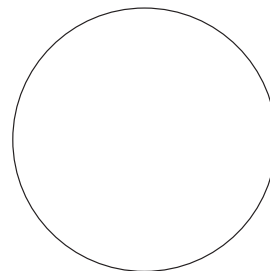
Furious



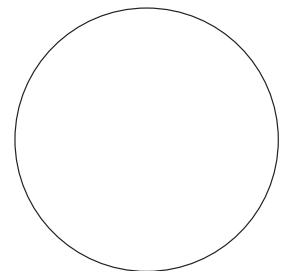
Grumpy



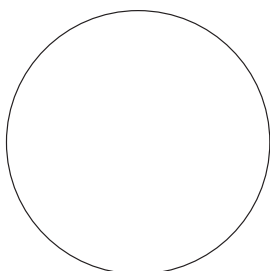
Happy



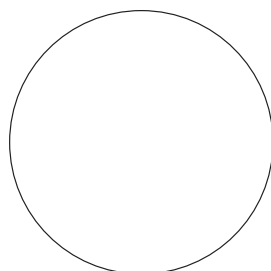
Joyful



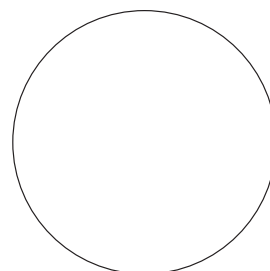
Miserable



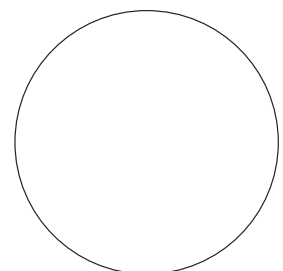
Nervous



Peaceful



Relaxed



Sad



Emotion emojis

✓ Earn your passport stamp!



- Show your CU Coordinator.
- To earn an additional 30 mins in your passport complete the following:

1. Can you tell me about a time you felt nervous?

Start your sentence with "I felt nervous when..."

Prompts: What were you doing? What did it feel like to be nervous?
Was there anything you did to feel better?

2. Can you tell me about a time you felt happy?

Start your sentence with "I felt happy when..."

Prompts: What were you doing? What did it feel like to be happy?
What are some other things that make you feel happy?

3. Use your research skills to find a definition for enthusiastic.

Write it down here, then write a list of things you feel enthusiastic about.

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



Imagine your future!

PASSPORT
Earn up to 2 hours
in your passport!

1. Draw a picture!

Draw a picture below of you in your dream job when you are older.



2. Dress up!

Dress up in an outfit you could wear to your future career! Take a photo of yourself. Find things around the house to use as props. For example, if you would like to become a vet, you could include your pet or a stuffed toy in the photo.



3. Pretend!

Pretend you have a job interview. What kind of questions do you think they would ask? Write them down. Ask a parent, family or friend to help you with your interview. Take a photo of your interview setup. Or you could film your interview.

4. Make something!

Make something out of things at home to reflect on a career you are interested in. For example, if you are interested in becoming a builder, you could make a house out of boxes or LEGO. Take a photo!

Me in my dream job!

Draw a picture here of you in your dream job when you are older!



✓ Earn your passport stamp!

Tell your CU Coordinator about your dream job. Show them your photo, interview questions, and video.

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



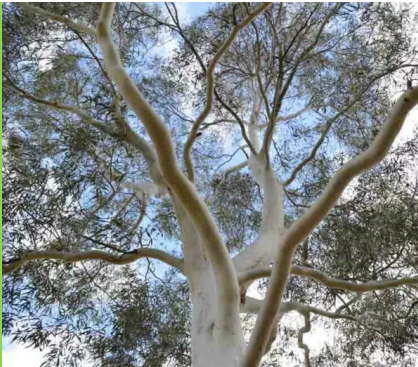
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EXPLORE. DISCOVER. LEARN.

Empowering future champions of our wild places and wildlife

OUR TASSIE EUCALYPTUS TREES



Common names: Eucalyptus trees are often called bum trees, because if there are breaks in their bark, a lot of sap comes out.

Height: From around 5 metres to over 90 metres.

Lifespan: This depends on the species of eucalyptus. Most eucalyptus trees can survive more than 250 years in the wild.

What is the scientific name for a eucalyptus tree?

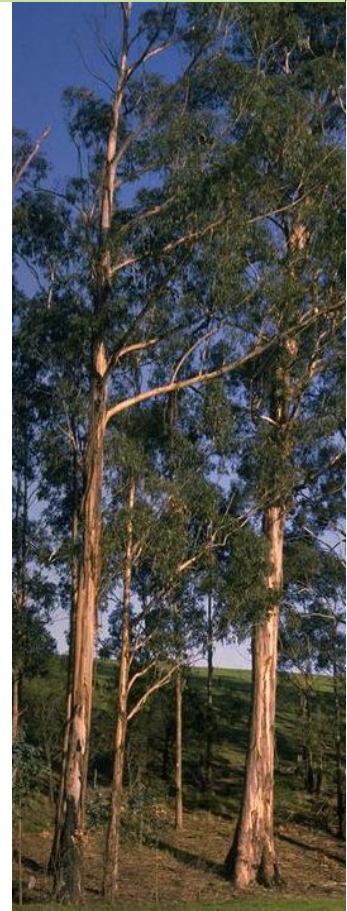
The scientific name of a plant (flora) or animal (fauna) is made up of its genus and species names. Plants and animals of the same genus are closely related and share characteristics.



Eucalyptus is the genus name for all eucalyptus trees.

Two examples are:

- **Eucalyptus globulus** or Tasmanian blue gum. This native tree provides food for critically endangered nature swift parrots (*Lathannus discolor*).
Pictured right.
- **Eucalyptus coccifera** or Tasmanian snow gum. This tree grows best in high, cold places and is endemic to Tasmania, which means that it naturally occurs nowhere else on Earth.
Pictured left.



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Why are trees and plants so important?

- Trees and plants are home to reptiles, mammals, birds and insects.
- Trees help fight erosion by their roots holding soil in place.
- Trees protect against floods and landslides.
- Trees and plants provide food for many animals including endangered species.
- Many plants and fungi also rely on trees to survive.
- Trees and plants remove and store carbon dioxide and produce oxygen into the atmosphere for animals to breathe, including us!

Forests and woodland areas need both big and small trees, along with native grasses, shrubs and trees to stay healthy. We need to protect these from weeds and invasive species.

Did you know?

The Tasmanian Blue Gum, *Eucalyptus globulus*, is the floral emblem for Tasmania. It was proclaimed this in 1962



Taking care of forests and woodlands helps our endangered flora and fauna survive. When we protect and grow more native trees, we help give homes and food to our native and endangered species that depend on it.

Protecting trees is important for our environment, our wildlife and for us!

Let's look at one of our great trees: the eucalyptus

Tasmania has 29 native species of eucalyptus, and there's over 500 species in total, most are native to Australia.

Eucalyptus trees are adapted to the conditions of their environment. They can be short shrubs or a giant tree.

The smallest eucalyptus tree is the varnished gum (*Eucalyptus vernicosa*), which grows to about one metre when fully grown, while the swamp gum or mountain ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*), one of the tallest trees in the world, can reach heights of over 100 metres.

The swamp gum is the world's tallest flowering plant!

As eucalyptus trees grow older, they drop their branches, creating nesting hollows for birds and small tree-dwelling mammals to live in.

Fossils and DNA samples show that eucalyptus trees have grown on Earth for about 60 million years!





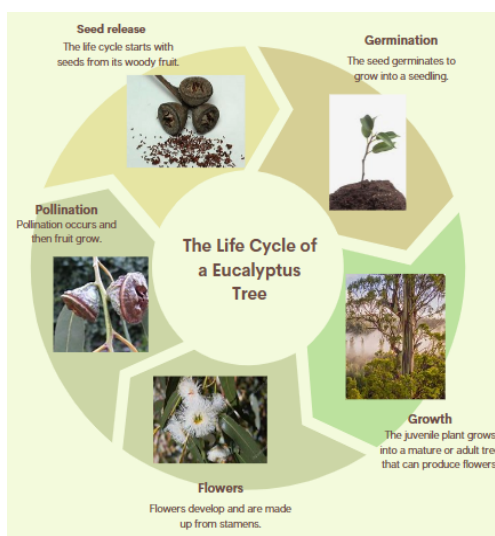
The life cycle of a eucalypt

- Eucalyptus begin life as a seed. The seed has an outer layer or coat and inside the seed coat is a young plant and a food store to help it grow.
- A eucalyptus seed germinates (starts to grow) when it has heat, light, warmth, oxygen, nutrients and water or moisture.
- The seed grows roots into the soil and a shoot grows up towards the sunlight. With enough light, the seed grows into a seedling, and then into a young plant called a sapling. The sapling must keep growing quickly before other plants block out the sunlight.
- When the plant grows into an adult it can produce flowers. Eucalyptus trees need to be a few years old before this happens.
- Eucalyptus trees have flowers or blossom that look like a fluffy brush made up from stamens of the flower.
- The flowers need to be fertilised before they can grow into fruit. Pollination is the process of the pollen from a male cell of the plant reaching the stigma on the female part of the plant.



Eucalyptus sieberi capsules (photo: UTAS)

- The flowers are pollinated by a range of animals including microbats, mammals, insects as well as being wind pollinated. The tree attracts animals with their colourful flowers and for the nectar (food) inside them. Insects, birds and mammals such as bats and possums help to pollinate eucalyptus trees.
- These animals collect pollen on their bodies as they eat the nectar and then move between flowers. So, the pollen travels with them to new flowers.
- Once the flower sheds, gumnuts develop. These are woody capsules and are the fruit of the eucalypt.
- Eucalyptus trees are adapted to survive and thrive in fire-prone environments. They shed bark and leaves, creating a layer of flammable material on the ground, which encourages fire. Fires help open the woody capsules (gumnuts) to release seeds, allowing new trees to grow.





Eucalyptus leaves

- Eucalyptus trees are scleromorph, meaning they have tough, thick, leaves that help them survive in dry, poor soils by holding onto water and protecting themselves from harsh conditions.
- Most eucalyptus trees have leaves that hang down. This helps them avoid direct sunlight so they can save water.
- The leaves come in many varieties and shapes and have a waxy outer layer to protect them from drying out.
- Some eucalyptus trees have leaves that change colour based on their age.
- The leaves, especially older ones, contain oils that give off a strong smell. Some smell like peppermints, others smell more like lemon, and some have a minty pine smell.



Photo: Types of Eucalyptus Trees: Leaves, Flowers, Bark (Pictures) (leafyplace.com)

Eucalyptus bark

- Eucalyptus trees also protect themselves with a layer of dead, dry bark. This helps them save water.
- Most species of eucalyptus trees shed their bark once per year.
- The bark on many eucalyptus species peels away in long strips, revealing smooth, fresh layers underneath.





Eucalyptus flowers

- Eucalyptus flowers have a fuzzy look. This is because of all the stamens that grow in circle.
- Flowers have a range of shapes and sizes. Colours range from white, cream and yellow to pink and bright red.



Photo: Types of Eucalyptus Trees: Leaves, Flowers, Bark (Pictures)

Eucalyptus oil and medicine¹

- When the leaves are crushed, oil is released. Oil, as well as leaves and bark are used in some medicines and in disinfectants for cleaning.
- It is important to remember that eucalyptus products can be good, however they can be poisonous if not taken or used correctly.

¹ Source: Among the Gum Trees, Primary Connections, Australian Academy of Science.





Why are some eucalyptus trees in danger?

Eucalyptus trees are threatened by climate change, invasive species and human activity. Some of these threats are explained in more detail below.

Threats to the eucalyptus tree

- **Changes in environment conditions:** Climate change is playing a part in this. Climate change impacts the trees with rising temperatures and changes in rainfall causing stress to trees. If a tree is under stress, it has fewer defenses against insects and pathogens. A pathogen is an infectious thing such as a virus, bacterial fungi or parasite, which causes a disease. As an example, huge patches of forest in Tasmania had many trees dying after a long dry summer with very low rainfall between February and April 2024. As a result, there was sudden tree death due to a dieback. Dieback can be caused by stress due to drought like this, and also by fungus and other diseases.
- **Plant diseases:** Most eucalyptus tree problems take place when the tree is stressed. This can be the result of disease or insects. Some fungi can cause disease in stressed trees. It can infect the bark and cause the leaves and branches to drop off. Other fungi can destroy the tree from the inside.
- **Humans:** Poorly managed fires in eucalyptus forests, and land clearing for agriculture, mining and housing threaten eucalyptus trees. If large areas of forests are destroyed, it also affects the animals and plants that depend on the eucalyptus tree for survival.



More fun facts:

- Some eucalyptus species are among the fastest-growing in the world.
- Bees are especially attracted to eucalyptus flowers. The honey they make from eucalyptus nectar is unique and full of flavour.
- Koalas have a special diet and eat about 500 grams of eucalyptus leaves daily. However, they only eat leaves from some eucalyptus trees, not all.
- Some insects and other animals don't like eucalyptus trees because the leaves contain oil that can be toxic and acts as an insect repellent.

Did you know?

Trees have a special day in Australia. **National Tree Day** is held during July. It's one of the biggest tree-planting and nature care events in every state and territory. Many schools also take part in **Schools Tree Day**, which is also in July. Ask your teacher if your school does and if yes, what do they do?





EUCALYPTUS TREE QUIZ

Check what you've learned about eucalyptus trees!

1. How tall can some eucalyptus trees grow?

- a. 60 cm
- b. Over 150 metres
- c. Up to 100 cm
- d. Over 90 metres

2. How old can most eucalyptus trees live to?

- a. About 5 years
- b. Less than 20 years
- c. More than 250 years
- d. More than 500 years



Eucalyptus vernicosa foliage

3. How many native species of eucalyptus are found in Tasmania?

- a. 5
- b. 43
- c. 17
- d. 29

4. Most eucalyptus trees shed their bark...

- a. At least 3 times a year
- b. About once every 10 years
- c. At least once a year
- d. Once in their lifetime

5. Which of the following is a threat to the eucalyptus tree?

- a. Controlled fire
- b. Koalas
- c. Some fungi
- d. Snakes



Eucalyptus ovata

6. Which of the following is correct?

- a. Trees and plants provide food for many birds and animals
- b. Trees can protect against landslides
- c. Trees and plants produce oxygen
- d. All of the above



DESIGN A POSTER

Feature one of our native Tassie eucalyptus tree species



Choose one of the native eucalyptus tree species from the list below.

Your poster can include:

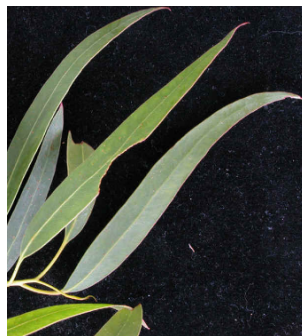
- species and common name of the eucalyptus you chose
- at least 5 interesting facts
- a photo or drawing of the tree or a part of the tree such as the leaves, fruit or flower
- why it is important to look after our eucalyptus and other native trees in Tasmania.
- anything else that you find interesting about the tree you have chosen.

Hint: If you need some help a good website to look at is kids.kiddle.co and then type the species name in the search box (i.e. type in 'E. archeri')."

| Species | Common name in Tasmania |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| E. archeri | Alpine cider gum |
| E. coccifera | Snow gum |
| E. globulus | Blue gum |
| E. ovata | Black gum |
| E. regnans | Swamp gum or giant ash |
| E. sieberi | ironbark |
| E. vernicosa | Varnished gum |
| E. viminalis | White gum |



Eucalyptus viminalis (juvenile leaves)
Photo: UTAS.



Eucalyptus viminalis (adult leaves)
Photo: UTAS.



Eucalyptus regnans flower





LEAF & BARK RUBBINGS

Follow the steps below:

- You will need paper, a selection of leaves or difference bark, crayons or charcoal.
- Place your leaf or piece of bark under your paper. The underside of a leaf facing upwards is best, so the veins are clearer.
- Hold the paper and leaf or bark in place with one finger or hand, and then use your charcoal or crayon to rub over the leaf or bark.
- Now experiment and use different colours or different crayon strokes, and different leaves and bark.



More WILD fun activities

- Write a story or a poem about the life of a eucalyptus tree in the bush.
- Write an acrostic poem. Choose one of the eucalyptus tree species. You can choose its species or its common name. Or just choose the word 'tree' or 'eucalyptus'. Here's an example using 'tree'.
 - Tall and proud
 - Reaching for the sky
 - Each one is special
 - Everyone needs trees to stay alive
- Enjoy sketching outdoors. Take paper and a pencil, and find a tree or part of one, such as a leaf, nut or flower.
 - Spend time looking closely and include as much detail in your drawing as you can.
 - Now you've done one sketch, you could start a 'tree journal' and do a different sketch every day or week."

Get involved!

- **Join a group:** Wildcare groups take care of our environment and wildlife. Find out more at wildcaretas.org.au
- **Art projects:** create native tree art to raise awareness about how important they are for us, wildlife and the planet.
- **Community projects:** encourage your family to take part in local environment or beach clean-ups, working bees, or conservation programs.

More info

For more Wildcare Tasmania information and activities to enjoy, check out the Children's University portal





Writing competition

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2025

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Learn more and enter at: whitlam.org/what-matters.

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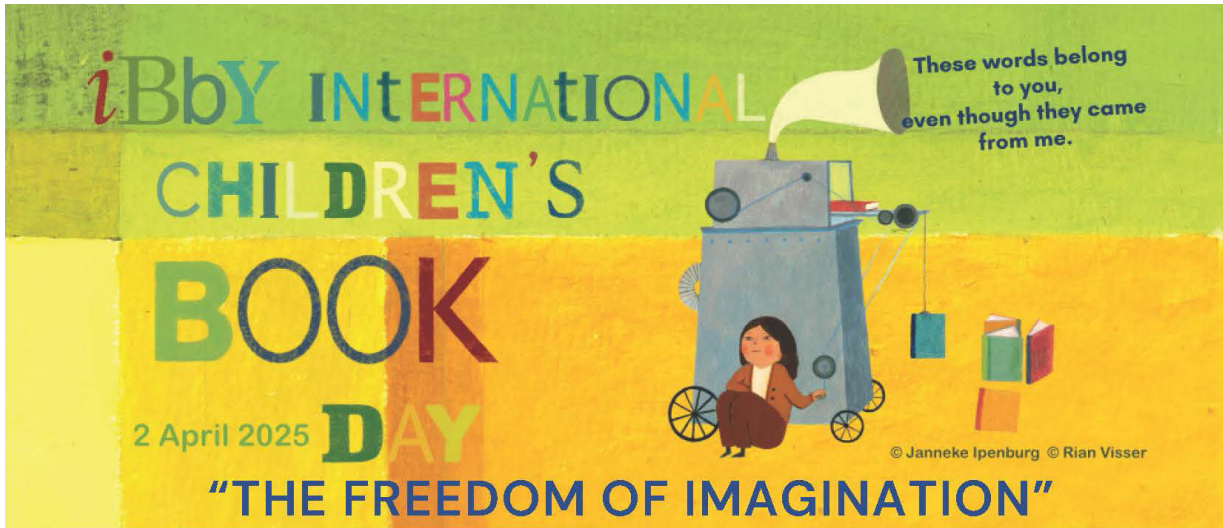
Show your CU Coordinator.

Rate your experience out of 5 ☆☆☆☆☆ (colour in the stars)



IBBY International Children's Book Day

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International Children's Book Day

(Hans Christian Andersen's birthday)

is a day to think about stories and what they mean to us.

IBBY Australia (the International Board on Books for Young People) encourages teachers and parents to set aside 20 minutes on **April 2** for your students/children to share the books they love.

We invite Tasmanian children and teens to submit no more than 50 words about a recent book that is so good, they want others to read and enjoy it.

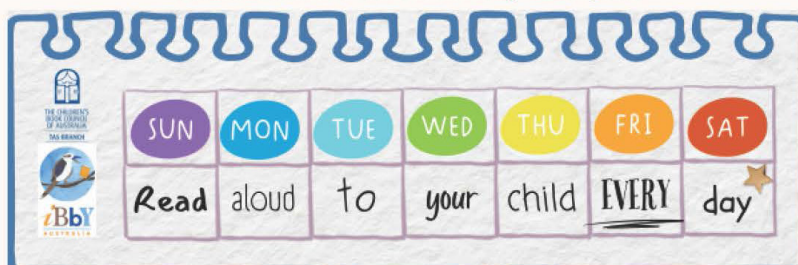
Some suggested prompts:

- Why did you enjoy the book so much?
- What did you find most thought-provoking or compelling about the storyline or characters? (Don't re-tell the story!)
- What is the main reason you'd recommend this book to someone else?
- Who do you think would enjoy reading this book?

Email submission to: ibbyicbdau@gmail.com

Please include the child's *given name*, *age*, and *location*.
Selected reviews will be added to the IBBY Australia website.
<https://ibbyaustralia.wordpress.com/>

Submissions close Friday 11 April.





Children's University wants to hear from you!



Tell us what you think...

- What do you like? What don't you like?
- Do you find the portal easy to use?
- What should we have at the graduation ceremony?
- What should we change?
- What should we keep the same?
- Share your thoughts and ideas!

Likes:

Dislikes:

Ideas:

First name (optional): _____

School (optional): _____

Earn your passport stamp!

Write down your feedback and email it to CU.Tasmania@utas.edu.au or give it to your School Coordinator to send in.

Rate your experience out of 5  (colour in the stars)



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