

Thanks to Springwood Public School stage 2 students who shared their experience in November 2016:

Bok choy Bush Bashers: Sam, Jess, Anna, Jett, Jordan, Harrison, Ella B, Jasmine, Cooper, Wil S,

Fletcher, Will T, Michael, Emily, Lara, Evie

The Big Koalas: Selkie, Talei, Connor, Monique, Chloe, High, Lachie, Aiden, Stuart, Lewis, Summer,

Taleah, Zenana, Jane, Noah W, Daisy

Sunbaking Snakes: Annabelle, Jeremy, Caitlin, Luka, Ezra, Zoe F, Alexander, Andreas, Elizabeth P,

Ella M, Will R, Ben S, Seth, Felix W

And special thanks to Mike Purtell from Blue Mountains Bushcare who shared the importance of this special forest.

DEANEI FOREST RESERVE WALK

SPRINGWOOD

1 HOUR EASY CIRCUIT WALK



Special thanks to project partners for support and funding



nationalparks.nsw.gov.au



NSW GOVERNMENT



NSW Environmental TRUST

Bush Trackers
explore the bush
with guides for kids by kids



DEANEI FOREST RESERVE WALK • 1 hour easy circuit walk

WHAT TO BRING IN YOUR BACKPACK

- a bottle of water •
- plenty of snacks •
- a raincoat •
- pencils for drawing •
- warm clothes in winter •
- small plastic bag for rubbish •
- wear a hat, sunscreen and •
- a small first aid kit could be useful •
- enclosed walking shoes •
- small torch •
- camera •

BUSH TRACKER SAFETY

Safe Bush Trackers are prepared and

- know your track and take your map
- ask permission from an adult and let them know where you are walking and when you return
- don't go near cliff edges and stay behind safety fences.

MINIMAL IMPACT BUSH TRACKING

means you try to do no damage at all to the environment so that someone following you could not tell you had been there.

Take nothing but photos, leave nothing behind:

- always keep to the track & tread softly & quietly
- don't pick the flowers or plants in the bush
- be gentle and careful if you touch things (don't touch snakes and spiders!)
- carry your rubbish out with you
- Bush Trackers walk in small groups (4-15 people)

The Bush Trackers program helps engage children and families in nature. Bush Trackers helps create a child friendly community and grew from support of the Stronger Families Alliance (www.strongerfamilies.co). The Bush Trackers team work with Blue Mountains City Council and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Discovery Rangers to guide school kids aged 8-10 years old on a local bushwalk, enjoying nature play, learning about natural and cultural heritage and encouraging the kids to share their experience through words, poems, drawings and photos. PerformingDesign use these to create the map and guide to encourage other kids and families to safely enjoy the bush.

For more information, tips and maps go to: www.bushtrackers.com.au; www.wildwalks.com; www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au
We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this place.

DEANEI FOREST RESERVE WALK - Easy short tracks - less than 2km

• Spend time exploring these gentle walking tracks in a small pocket of bushland near Springwood's industrial area. Although the sound of cars and industry is never far away, you can hear many birds, maybe see a wallaby or lizard and discover tree hollows that make great homes for the possums and birds that live here.
 • Start at Eucalypt Road and turn right for an off track adventure scrambling over ruins of the old road and explore the caves up to your right. Can you find the old dams along the creek where in the olden days local nuns used to swim? Or start from the Lawson Road entrance and you'll walk through a small but magical forest with ancient Mountain Blue Gums and Turpentine.
 • Did you know that the Deanei Forest Reserve is named after the Mountain Blue Gums that grow here? Eucalyptus deanei was named for Henry Deane, a railway engineer from long ago. Springwood, with special rich soils, was once covered in Mountain Blue Gum forest. The magnificent stands in the reserve are one of the few pockets that remain and are listed as Blue Mountains shale cap forest, Endangered Ecological Communities.
 Take your time to play in the open forest under the glorious trees, relax on the soft grasses, read the information signs to learn more about this magical forest saved from development by the local community.



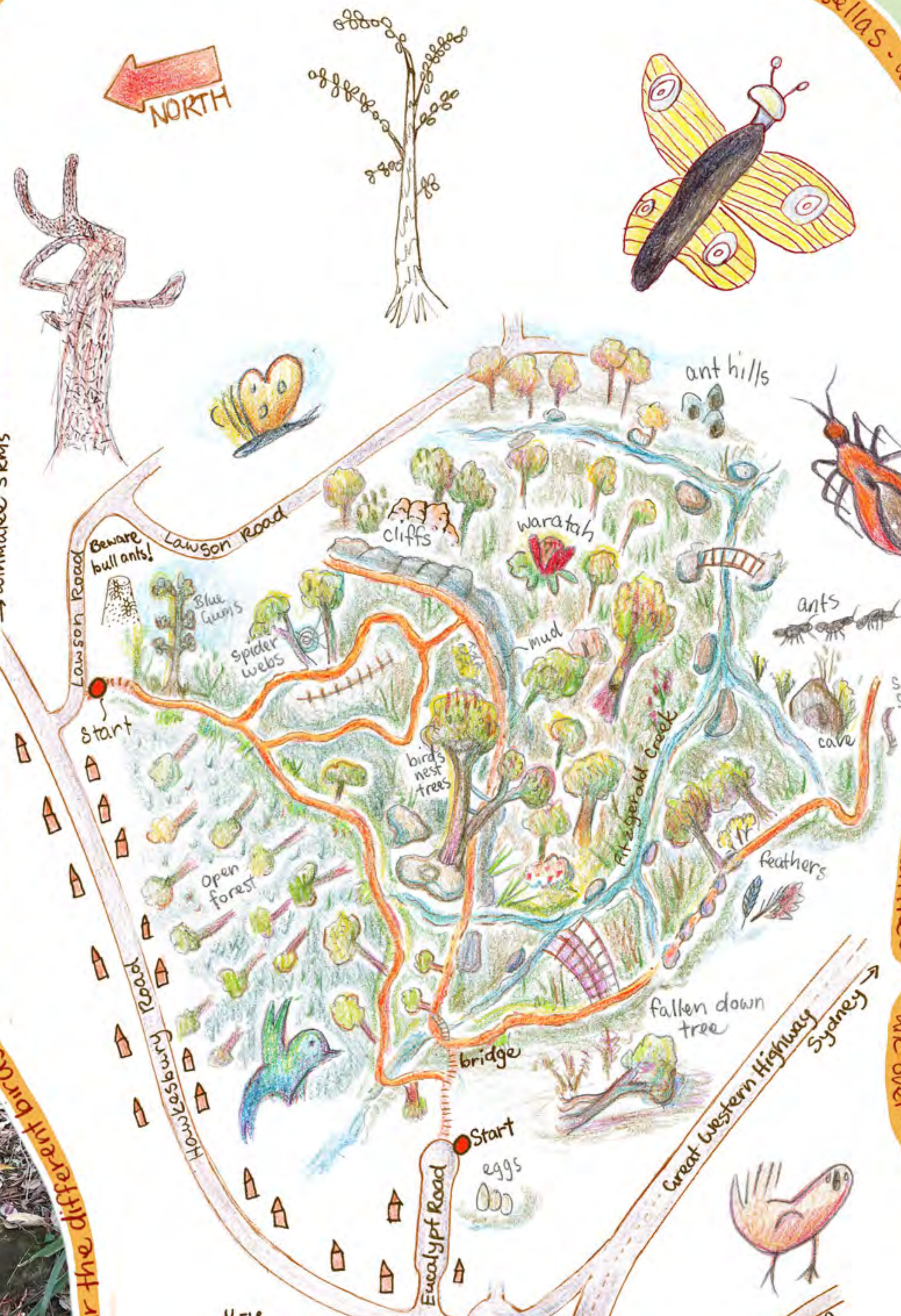
Kingtail possum - Sugar glider - Sacred Kingfisher - Powerful Owl - Rosellas - Witchety grubs

The Springwood area was occupied by clans of the Darug people and was known as Oreang-ora. It was a good hunting place with springs and open grassy forest and evidence remains of a number of camp sites throughout the area. We all give our thanks and respect to the Darug Aboriginal Traditional custodians and their ancestors for looking after this special place.

Look can you find these plants?



Blue Gums grow 1cm wider each year - wimallee 5kms



KEY
 ● Start
 — walking tracks
 ~ creek line
 — road
 ▬ steps
 50m 100m
 Scale

Write words that describe what you see, hear or feel (adjectives)

Listen how many different bird calls can you hear?

Can you guess who lives here?



Look If you are quiet & look carefully you might see some creatures.



Find these animals and tick the box



Feel the stone is it warm or cool?



Touch bark, leaves, rocks, moss, rushes and sedges. Hug a tree
 Things not to touch: snake holes, fungi, spiders, insects



Older trees have hollows where animals live - possums?