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McMAHON PARK NATURE WALK

KURRAJONG

Less than 1 KM - EASY GRADE

20 min - 1 hour

This project has been assisted by the
NSW Government through its Environmental Trust
Special thanks to project partners
for support and funding



nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

Bush Trackers
explore the bush
with guides for kids by kids



McMAHON PARK NATURE WALK • Less than 1 km - Easy grade - 20 min to 1 hour

WHAT TO BRING IN YOUR BACKPACK

- a bottle of water
- plenty of snacks
- a raincoat
- pencils for drawing
- warm clothes in winter
- small 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). Bush Trackers is currently funded by the NSW Environmental Trust. The Bush Trackers team worked with Hawkesbury 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.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au We respectfully acknowledge the Darug Traditional Custodians of this place.

McMahon Park Nature Walk to Little Wheeny Creek, Kurrajong - Less than 1 km. Easy grade - 20 minutes to 1 hour
 Come along and feel the serenity of one of Kurrajong's best kept secrets. But what is the secret? That this magical place could be home to koalas, sugar gliders, feathertail gliders, platypus, bandicoots, goannas and more? Or that there are so many different types of trees in such a small area? Enjoy a short walk through this patch of remnant bushland which has so much to offer.

Start near the playground and follow the interpretive signs which give lots of information about the plants and animals here. As you walk out of the grass sports field and into the bush, the air will feel cooler. This is good in summer. Look for hiding spots for reptiles in the fallen logs and the trees which provide roosting and nesting sites for birds and hollows for possums. Notice the regenerated bushland which means that all the native plants are returning to the places where they use to grow.

Take care climbing down to Little Wheeny Creek through the beautiful ferns and listen to the running water. Can you see the grooves in the rocks where Aboriginal people once sharpened their tools? Imagine the hive of activity by Aboriginal people collecting water, sharpening axes and enjoying, respecting and appreciating this special place, hopefully just like you are today.



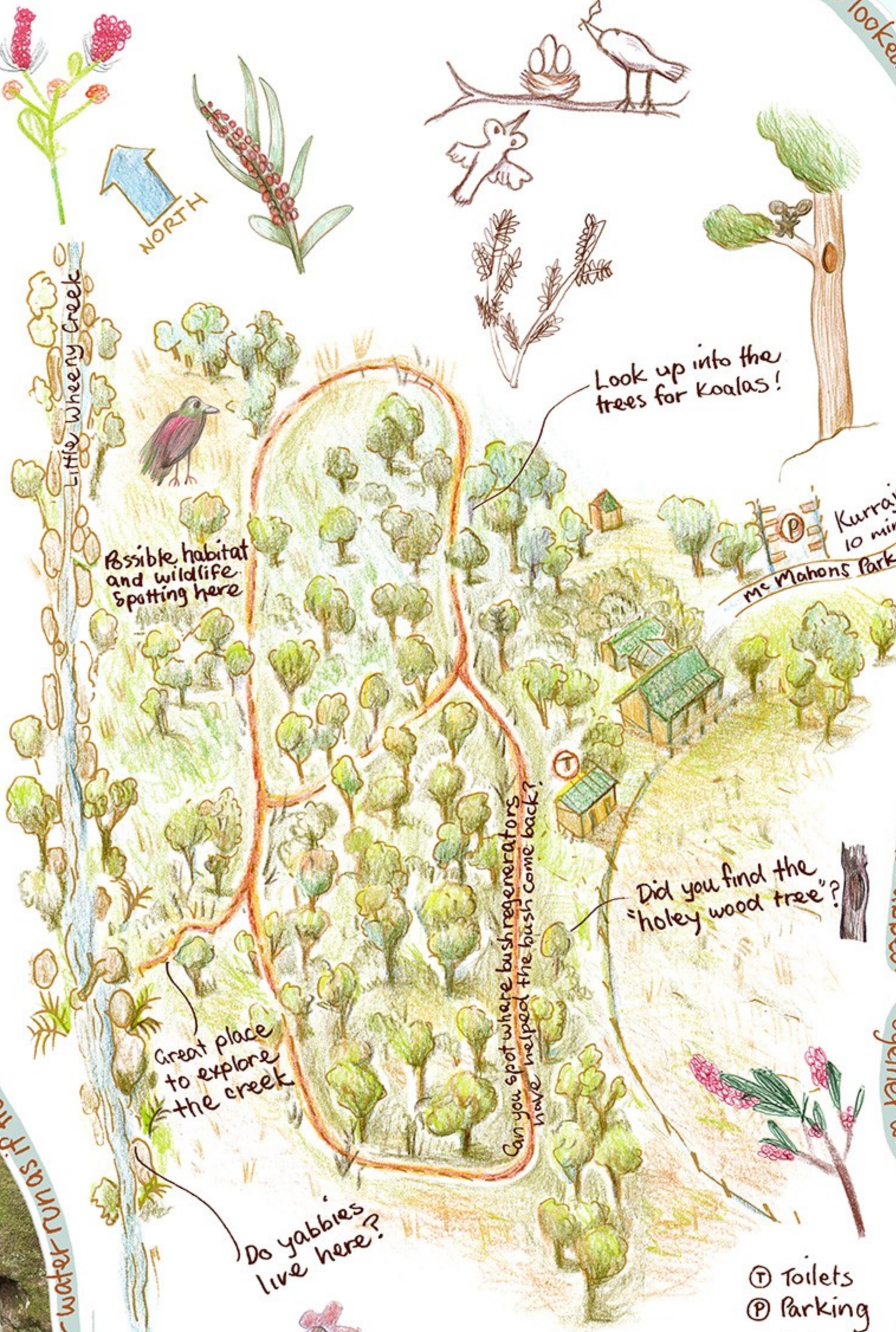
Our class got to hear and see what Aborigines know about the land - We looked at artefacts -



Look can you find these plants?



Little wheeny is a very nice place to be with your family -



We learnt how to make paint
 Write words that describe what you see, hear or feel (adjectives)

From rocks rubbed together with water
 Listen, how many different bird calls can you hear?


Water - together with water
 Can you guess who lives here?


We walked through smoke
 Look
 If you are quiet & look carefully you might see some creatures.


Feel the stone, is it warm or cool?


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



Look around, don't miss anything - Shh listen
 Find these and tick the box