

WHOSE BACKYARD?

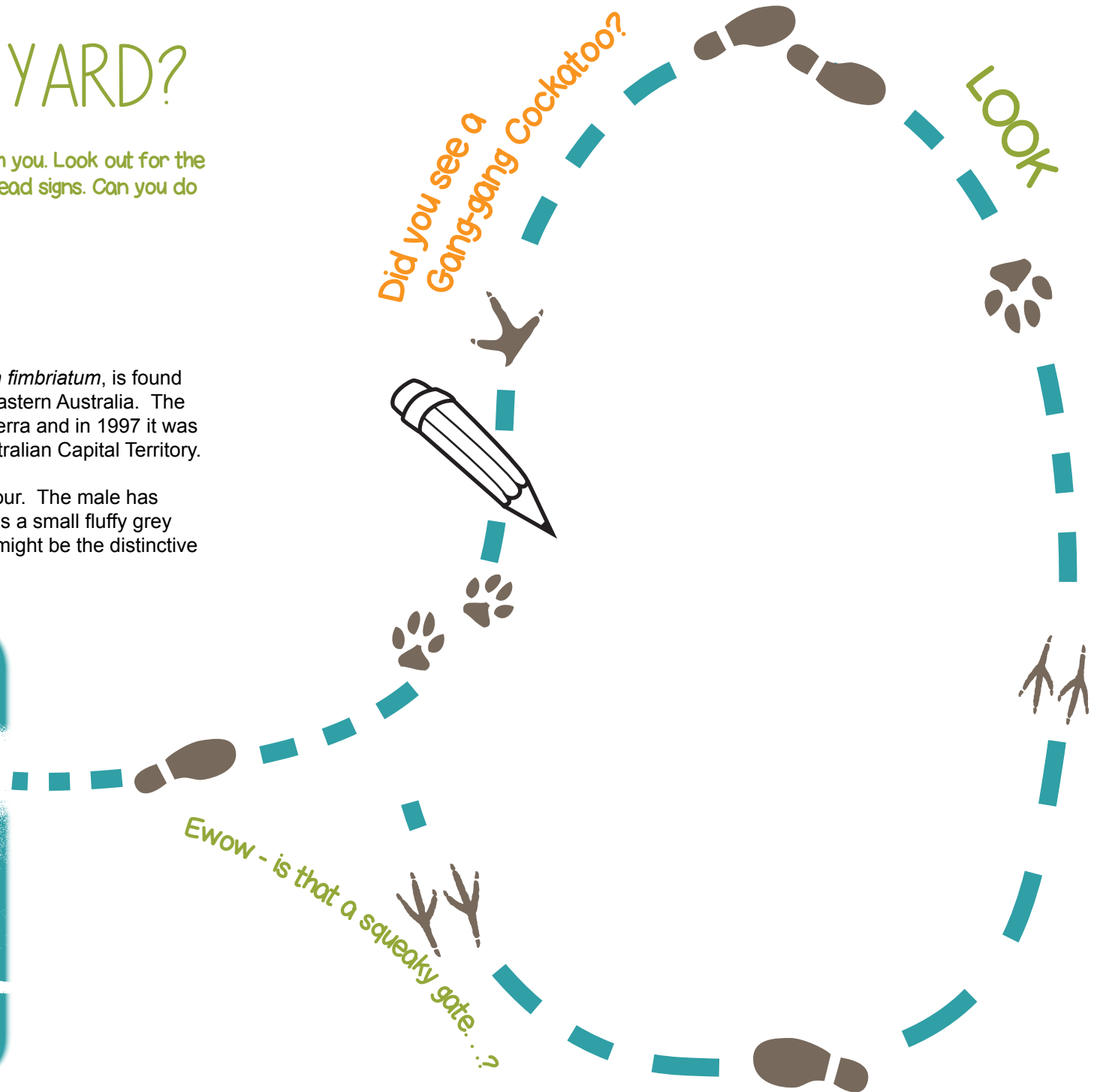
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GANG-GANG COCKATOO

REMEMBRANCE NATURE PARK

The Gang-gang Cockatoo, *Callocephalon fimbriatum*, is found in the forests and alpine areas of south-eastern Australia. The Gang-gang is also at home around Canberra and in 1997 it was adopted as the faunal emblem of the Australian Capital Territory.

The Gang-gang is mostly mid-grey in colour. The male has a red head and crest, while the female has a small fluffy grey crest. Can you hear a squeaky gate? It might be the distinctive call of the Gang-gang Cockatoo.



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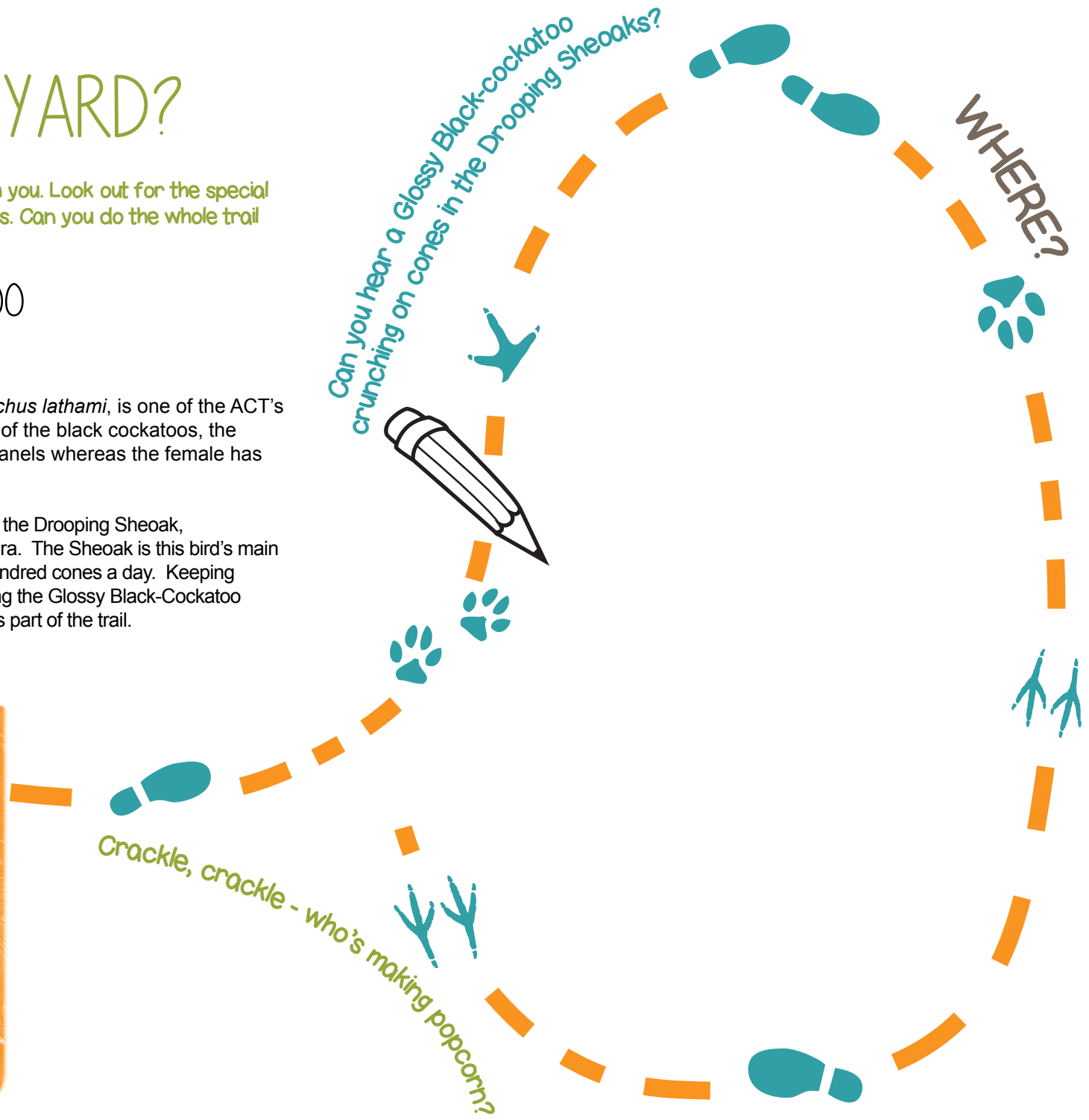
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GLOSSY BLACK-COCKATOO

MOUNT MAJURA

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus lathami*, is one of the ACT's rare and endangered birds. The smallest of the black cockatoos, the tail of the male has distinctive bright red panels whereas the female has orange/red and black panels.

These birds can be seen eating the cones of the Drooping Sheoak, *Allocasuarina verticillata*, here at Mount Majura. The Sheoak is this bird's main food source, with each eating around one hundred cones a day. Keeping large numbers of Sheoaks is vital to protecting the Glossy Black-Cockatoo population. Look out for them throughout this part of the trail.



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HOARY SUNRAY

HUGHIE EDWARDS VC REST AREA

Hoary Sunray is a grassland paper-daisy native to south-eastern Australia. Growing on open ground, they have a small yellow or white and yellow flower.

This plant is endangered but can be seen on Mount Majura and Mount Ainslie, particularly in spring. But don't pick them! The flowers provide nectar and pollen for insects and birds, and produce seeds that will grow the next generation of Hoary Sunrays.



How many patches of grassland paper-daisies can you find?

What is white and yellow and loves the open space?

SEE

CANBERRA CENTENARY TRAIL

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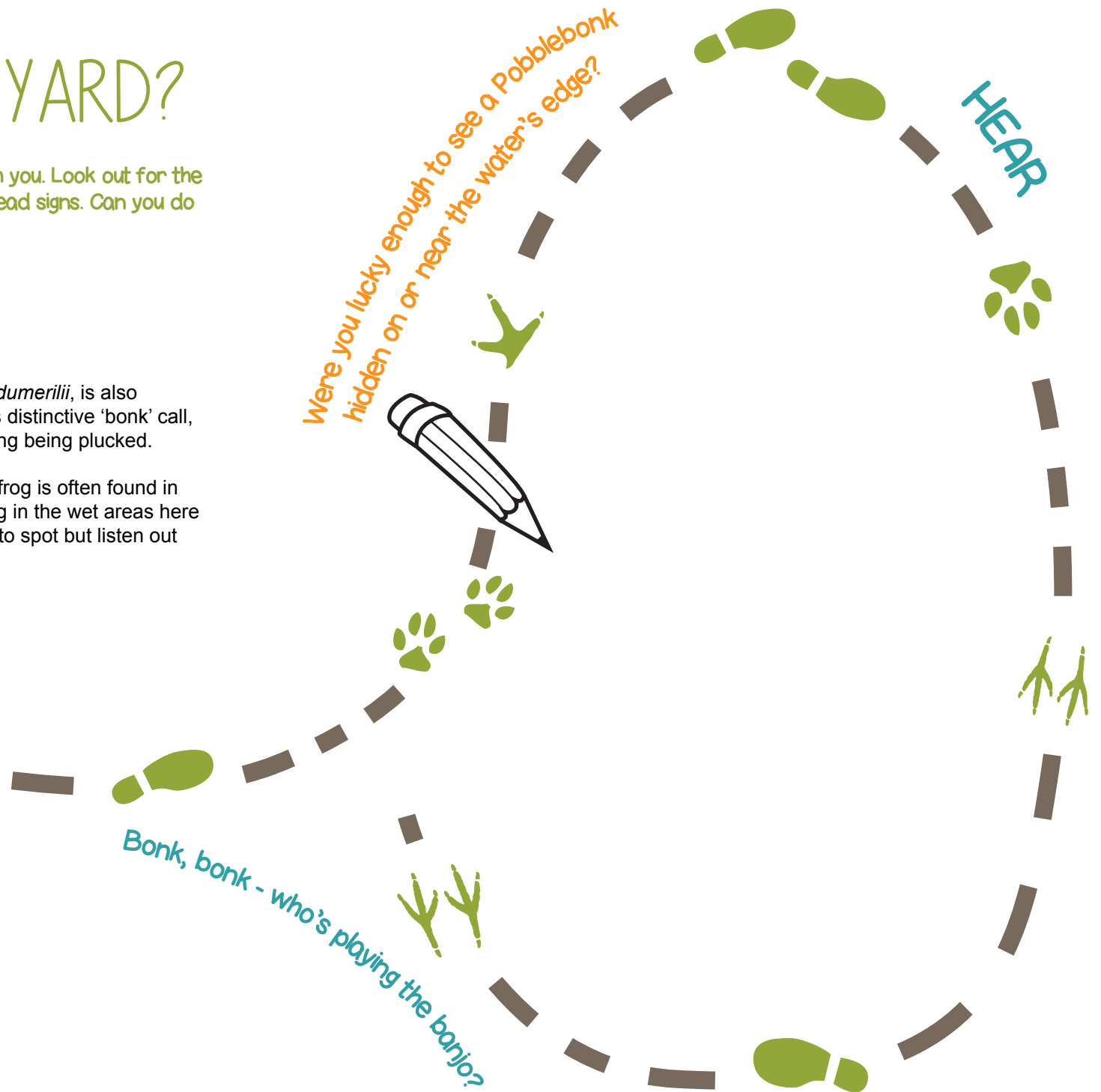
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POBBLEBONK FROG

MULLIGANS FLAT

The Eastern Banjo Frog, *Limnodynastes dumerilii*, is also sometimes called the Pobblebonk after its distinctive 'bonk' call, which is thought to sound like a banjo string being plucked.

This common and widespread burrowing frog is often found in large numbers at night or after rain. Living in the wet areas here at Mulligans Flat, the Pobblebonk is hard to spot but listen out for their 'bonk' like chorus.



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SHINGLEBACK LIZARD

NORTHERN BORDER CAMPSITE

The Shingleback Lizard, *Tiliqua rugosa*, is a close relative of the Blue-tongue Lizard. Shinglebacks have a short rounded tail that resembles its head in order to confuse predators. They also have huge protective scales on their body, giving them a rough and bumpy appearance.

Shingleback lizards eat insects, berries and flowers, and, oddly, they particularly like yellow flowers. These lizards are slow moving and will often be seen on tracks, so bike riders using the trail need to take care not to run them over.



Did a Shingleback Lizard
slowly cross your path?

Is that a bumpy rock on the trail ahead?

LOOK

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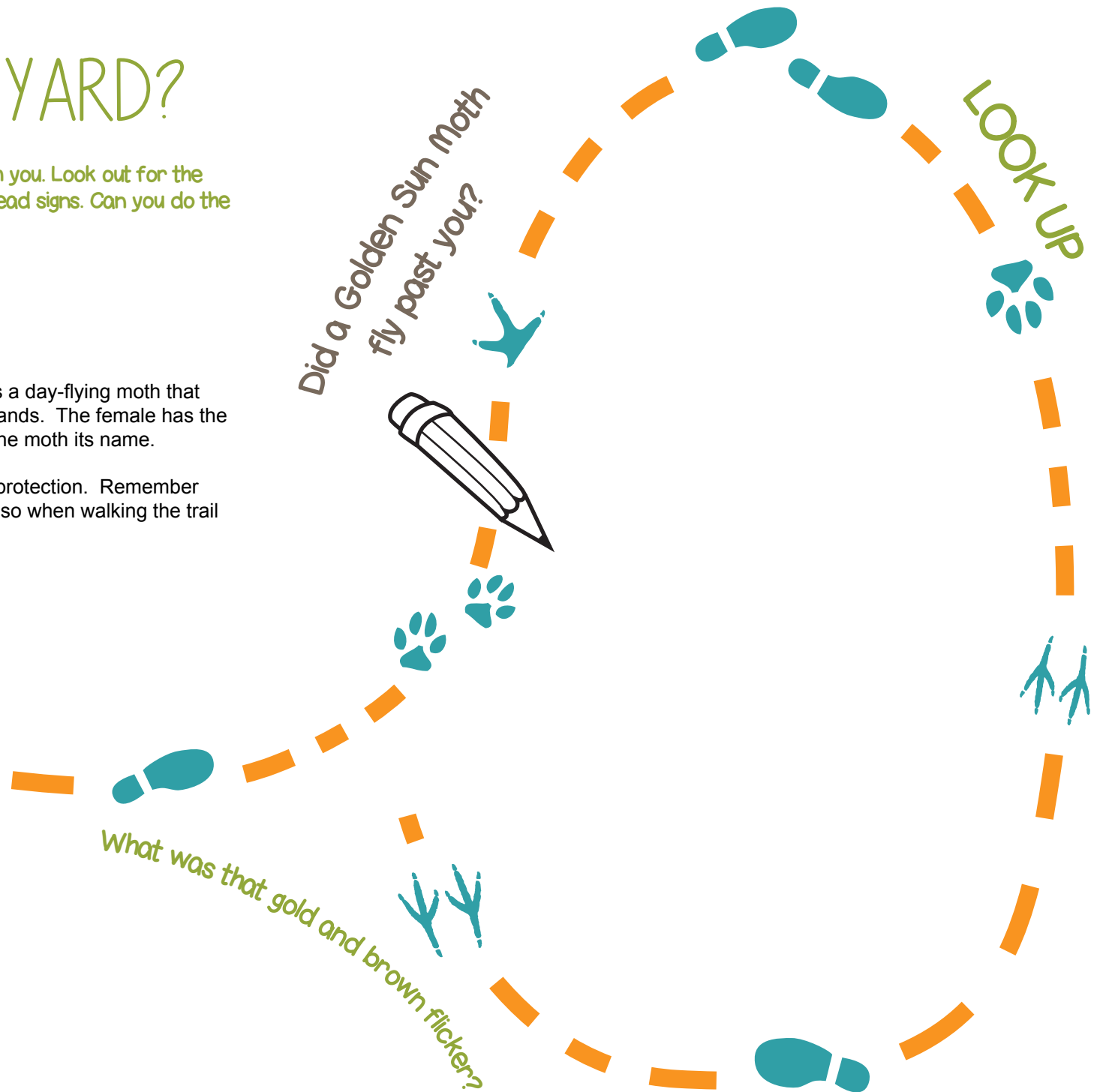
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GOLDEN SUN MOTH

HALL VILLAGE

The Golden Sun Moth, *Synemon plana*, is a day-flying moth that lives in grasslands and open grass woodlands. The female has the bright golden brown colouring that gives the moth its name.

These moths are very rare and need our protection. Remember the grasslands of the trail are their home; so when walking the trail please stick to the track.



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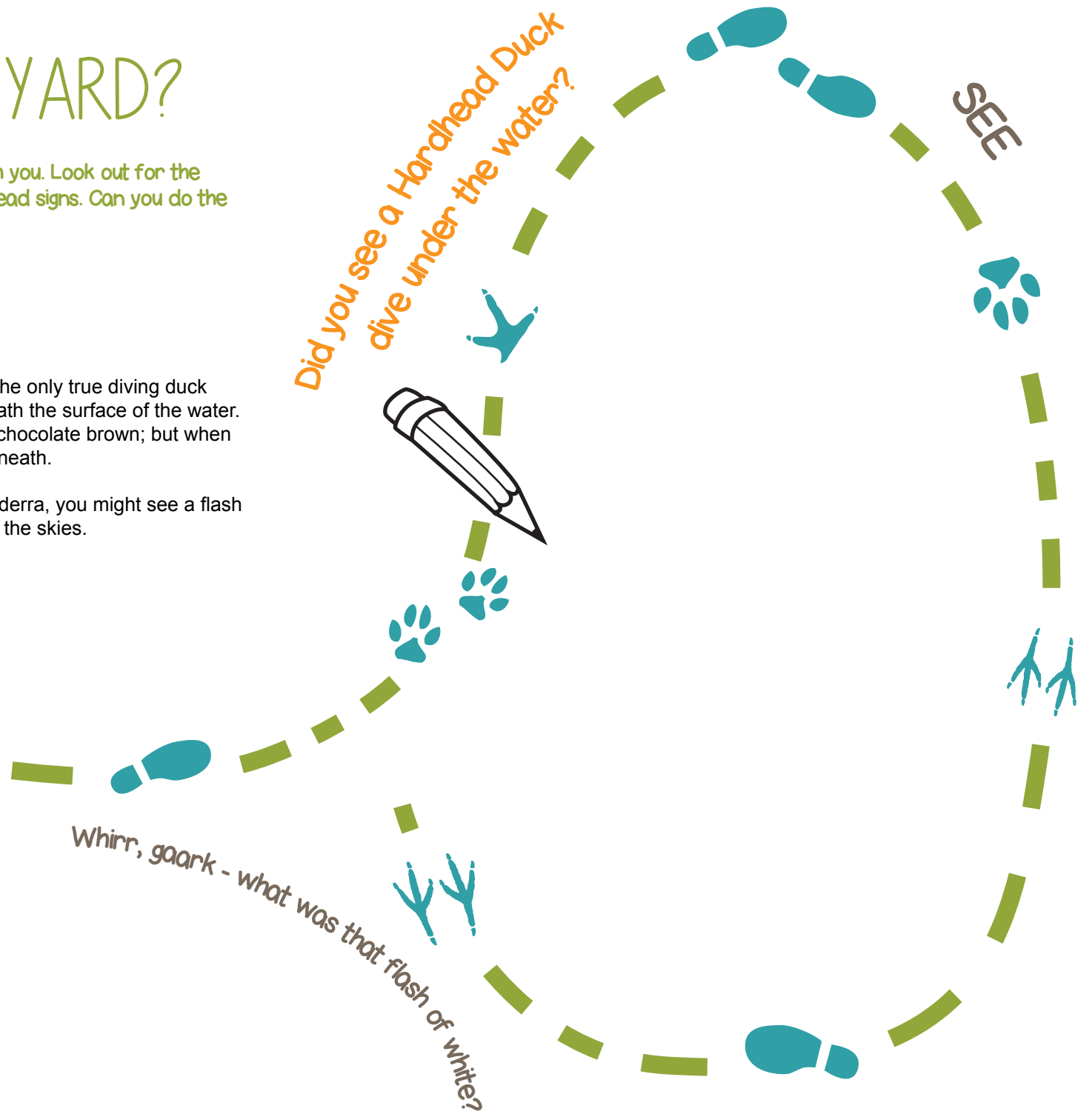
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HARDHEAD DUCK

JOHN KNIGHT MEMORIAL PARK

The Hardhead Duck, *Aythya australis*, is the only true diving duck found in Australia, feeding by diving beneath the surface of the water. When swimming, it appears to be mainly chocolate brown; but when in flight, you can see that it is white underneath.

With many bobbing about on Lake Ginninderra, you might see a flash of white as they dive in the lake or take to the skies.



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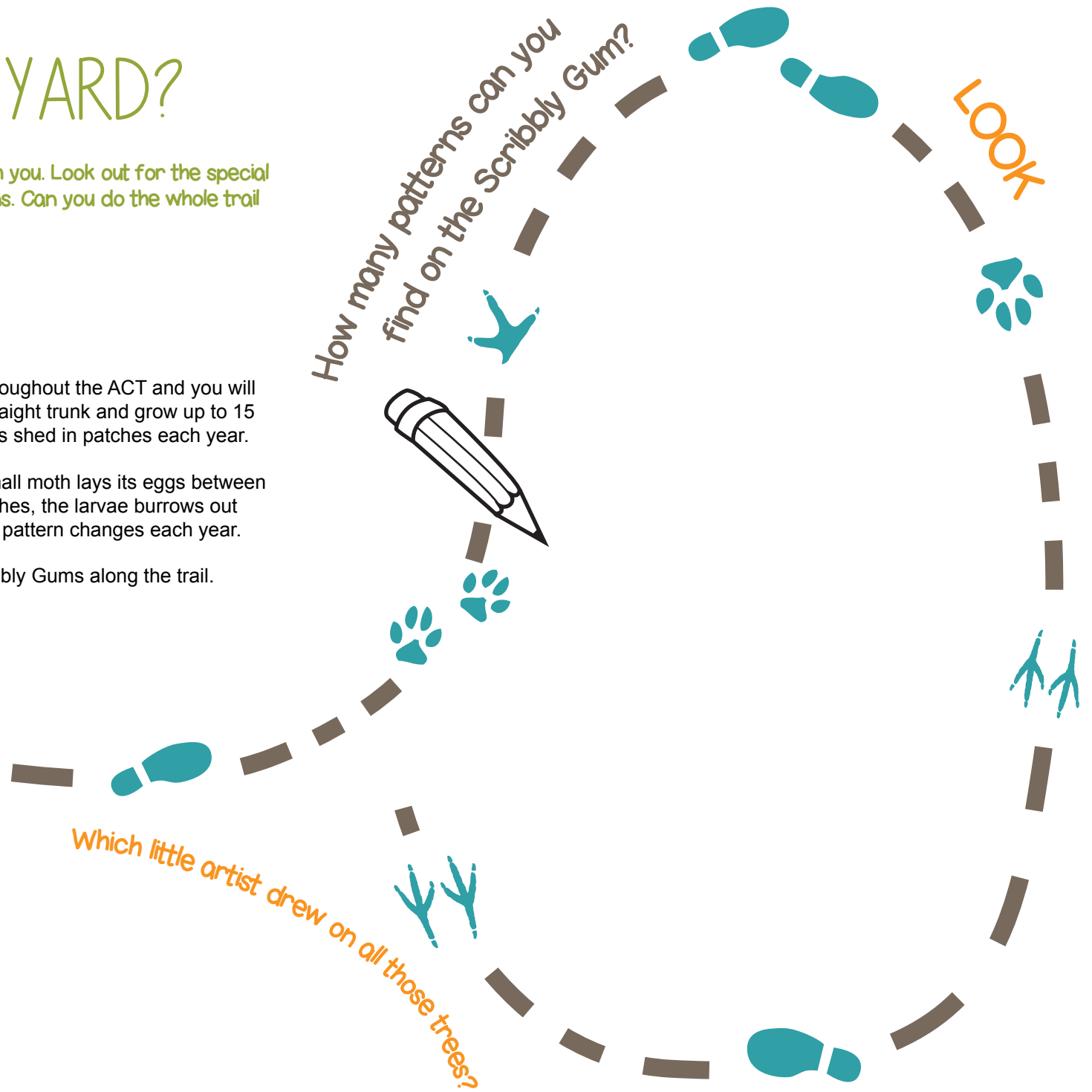
SCRIBBLY GUM

BLACK MOUNTAIN

Scribbly Gum or *Eucalyptus rossii* grow throughout the ACT and you will see many along the trail. They have a straight trunk and grow up to 15 metres tall. Their smooth yellowish bark is shed in patches each year.

Where do the scribbles come from? A small moth lays its eggs between the layers of bark and, when the egg hatches, the larvae burrows out leaving the scribbly pattern. This scribbly pattern changes each year.

See if you can get a few rubbings of Scribbly Gums along the trail.



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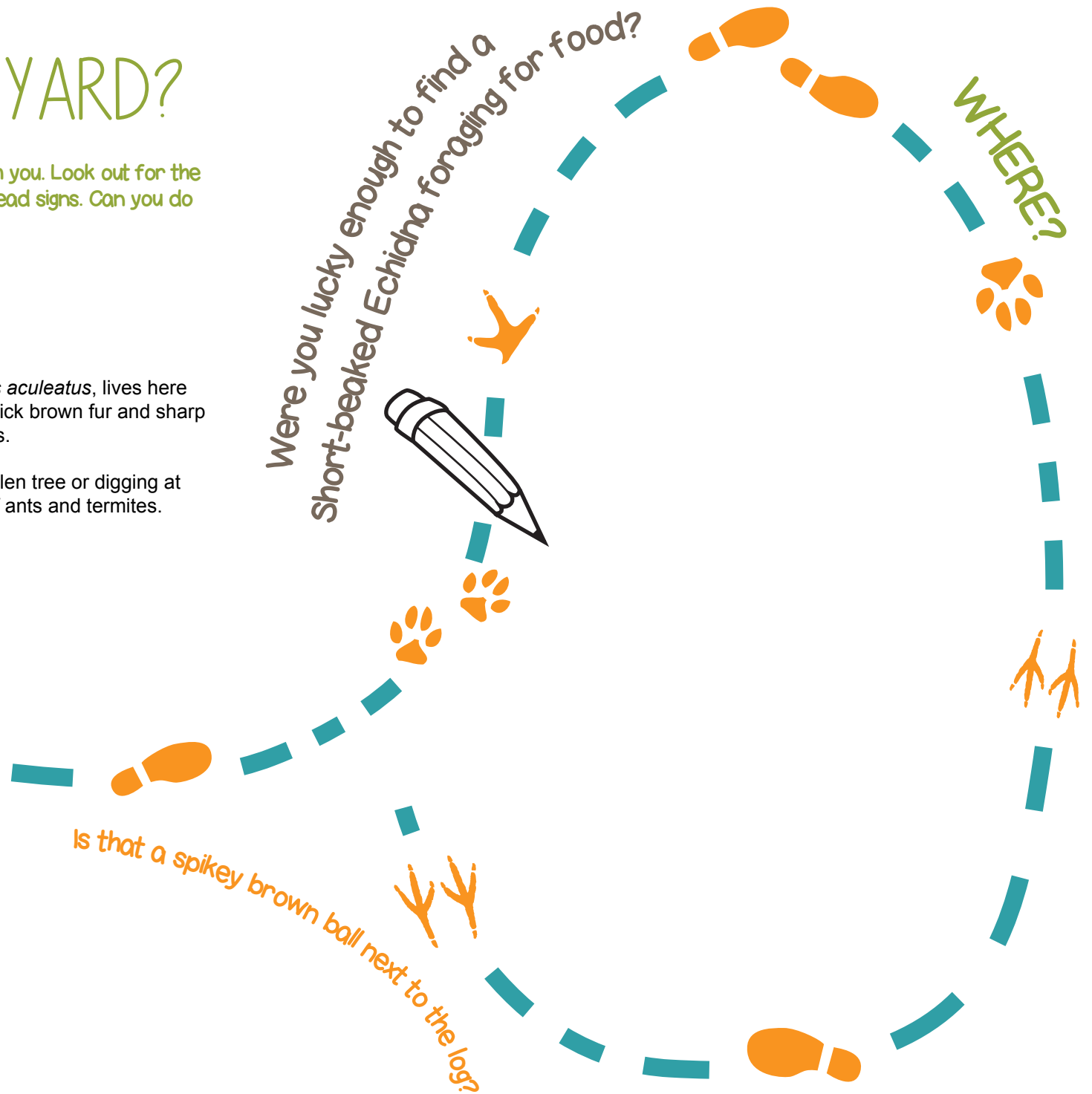
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ECHIDNA

MOUNT STROMLO

The Short-beaked Echidna, *Tachyglossus aculeatus*, lives here around Mount Stromlo. Echidnas have thick brown fur and sharp spines that they use to protect themselves.

You might see one searching around a fallen tree or digging at the ground looking for its favourite food of ants and termites.



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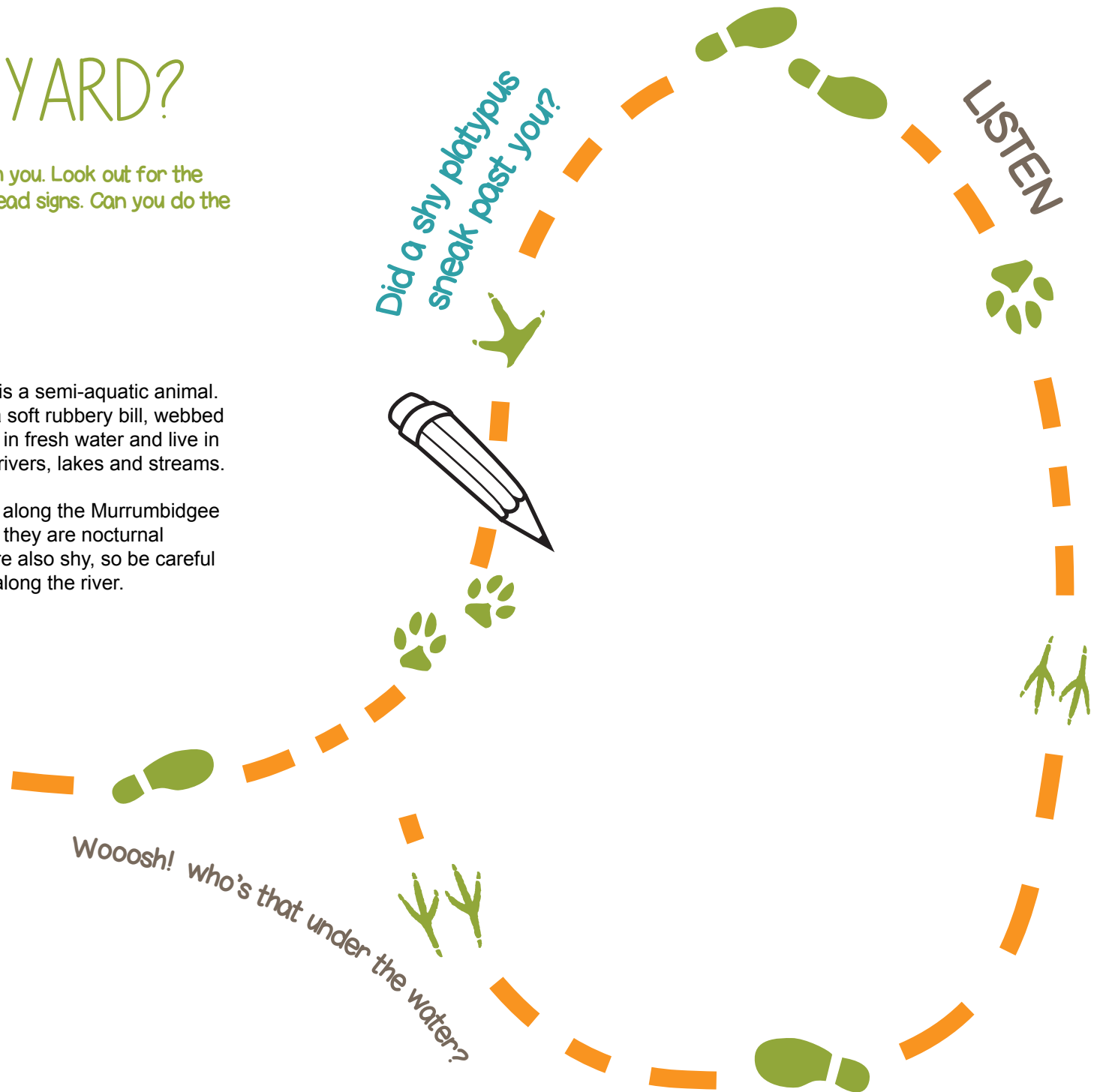
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PLATYPUS

KAMBAH POOL

The Platypus, *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*, is a semi-aquatic animal. They are covered in brown fur and have a soft rubbery bill, webbed feet and a large tail. They forage for food in fresh water and live in burrows that they dig into earth banks by rivers, lakes and streams.

Platypuses live here at Kambah Pool and along the Murrumbidgee River. They are rarely seen in the wild as they are nocturnal animals, sleeping during the day. They are also shy, so be careful not to disturb them, or their homes, here along the river.



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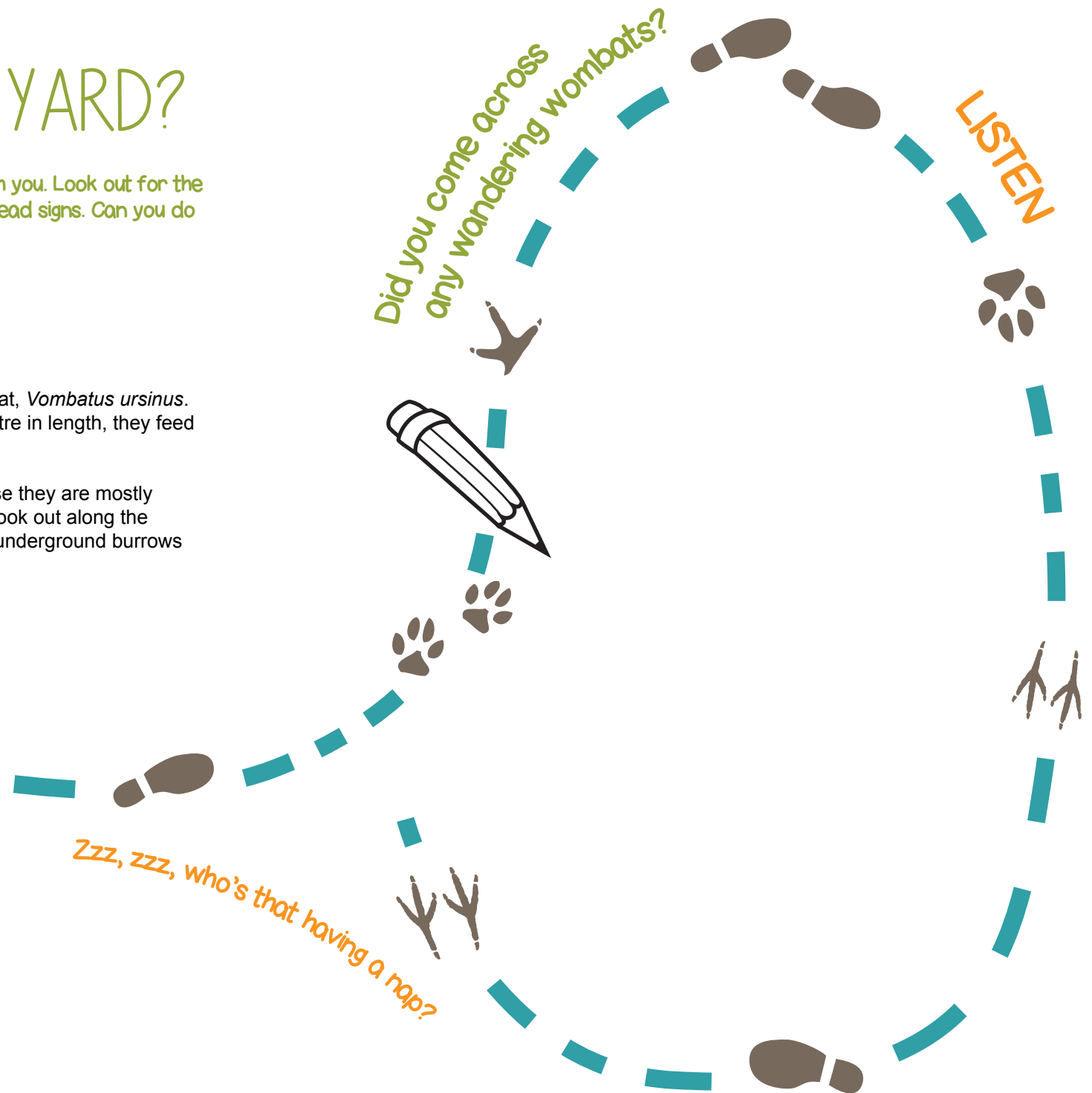
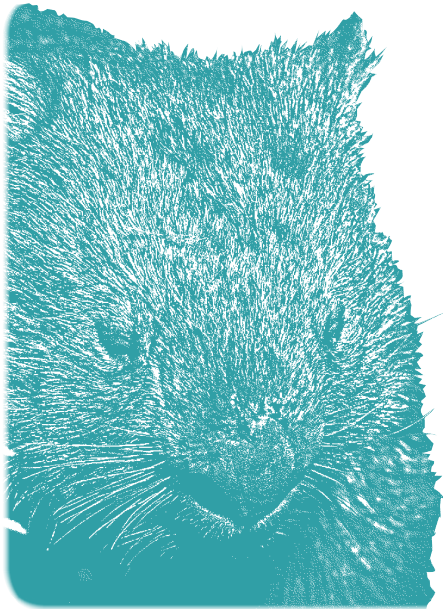
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WOMBAT

TUGGERANONG TOWN CENTRE

This area is home to the Common Wombat, *Vombatus ursinus*. A stocky animal growing to about one metre in length, they feed mainly on native grasses.

If you don't see one, it is probably because they are mostly nocturnal and sleep during the day. But look out along the riverbank for the entrances to their large underground burrows and listen out for snoring!



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WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE

FADDEN

The Wedge-tailed Eagle, *Aquila audax*, is the largest bird of prey in Australia. They can often be seen soaring on thermal currents above Canberra.

Wedge-tailed Eagles prefer open grasslands. They use their keen sight to hunt for small animals, including invasive species like rabbits and feral cats. Look out for these majestic creatures floating effortlessly in the sky above the trail. You'll know them by their unmistakable wedge-shaped tail.

