

# Backyard Species Discovery – Weekly Challenge

## Week 1

### Make your observations count on iNaturalist

The Backyard Species Discovery project is a virtual expedition to continue adding to our knowledge of Australian biodiversity while field work is still difficult due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

While we can't promise you'll find a new species, you will discover some amazing plants and animals living in your own backyard, learn to identify them with the help of Bush Blitz scientists and contribute valuable data to the Atlas of Living Australia.

As of 5 June 2020, we have 185 virtual expedition members, they have made 50,728 observations and 6191 species have been identified.

### Here is your challenge:

Use video, images, words or a mix, to teach others the best way to capture images for iNaturalist. We are looking for clear instructions that will give your audience the best chance of a correct identification. Check out the Backyard Species Discovery Project – make your observations count fact sheet at <https://bushblitz.org.au/introducing-an-expedition-for-everyone/> for ideas.

### Tips:

- You can develop general instructions, or you may like to focus on one type of plant or animal, like fungi, snails, seashells or flowering plants.
- Think about your audience - you can pitch your instructions at adults, teenagers or small children.
- Your instructions can be scientific and serious, or a bit light-hearted and fun, check out our “How to make a mini-beast catcher” video on YouTube for ideas <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txQI2Fw0lho>
- Be creative!

### Due date:

E-mail your entry with your name (or group name) to [bushblitz@awe.gov.au](mailto:bushblitz@awe.gov.au) by midnight AEST on Wednesday 17 June.

Applications will be judged by a panel and the winning entry will be announced on Friday 19 June, on the Bush Blitz website and social media platforms.