

# Common Urban and Bushland Birds

*playing cards*



# Introduction

The Common Urban and Bushland Birds playing cards are designed to help young people become familiar with some of the most common birds found in local gardens, parks, wetlands and bushland.

Please **print two copies** of each of the card sheets (or four if you want to expand the playing time of the games). They are designed to be double-sided. If your printer doesn't allow double-sided printing, print out the face cards first and then flip the paper and run it through again to print the back of the cards. Cut out the cards along the lines, one species per card. You might like to print them on card to make them more durable.

Three classic card games (memory, go fish, and snap) have been adapted for use with the cards, and instructions of how to play are included in this pack. We encourage participants to modify the rules or develop their own games and activities using the cards. We have also produced card packs for other creatures, such as aquatic macroinvertebrates (water bugs), which you may like to combine with these cards to expand the games and learn more about our wider ecosystems.

Although these cards are a great way to develop young people's interest in the environment, they are not intended to be a substitute for getting out of the house or classroom to investigate local ecosystems. Please visit our website to download free identification charts and other resources to assist in your learning.

We sincerely hope you enjoy playing the games and trust that you will learn a little more about the wonderful creatures living in the Green Adelaide region.

*Many thanks to the following people who kindly supplied photographs: Brian Furby, Duncan McCaskill, Jesse Lewis, Jason Tyndall, John Harrison, John Spiers, Jeremy Gramp, J.M. Garg, Steve Walker and Kevin Williams.*

## Bird Brained

**A game of memory and observation.**

**NUMBER OF PLAYERS:** Unlimited.

**OBJECTIVE:** To collect as many matching sets as you can.

### HOW TO PLAY

Shuffle all cards and lay them face down on the floor or table. Cards must not touch each other, but can be placed in any order or direction.

The youngest player chooses who goes first.

The first player picks any two cards and shows them to the other players. If they match, keep the matched set and select two more cards. Continue this way until two non-matching cards are selected.

If the cards do not match, they must be returned face-down to their original positions. The next player then takes their turn.

### WINNING

The winner is the player with the most matching sets when all cards have been matched or when the time limit is reached.

The key to winning is to remember where the cards are located.

# Go Fish

**Based upon the traditional card game.**

**NUMBER OF PLAYERS:** 2 to 6.

**OBJECTIVE:** To get rid of all of your cards.

## HOW TO PLAY

Shuffle cards and deal equally face-down to all players, with one extra hand dealt for the pile. If there aren't enough cards for all players to get an equal number, the extras get placed on the pile (i.e. an equal number of cards for each player, but more cards in the pile).

If you only have two copies of each card, students must make up sets consisting of both identical cards. If you printed four copies, students need four identical cards to make a set.

Without letting other players see their cards, players look at their cards and group them into sets. If players are dealt a full set, these are placed face up in front of them. Completed sets must be shown to other players.

Play starts with the player sitting clockwise next to the dealer.

The player asks any other player for a particular card, but the asking player must have at least one of the cards making up that set. If the player asked has that particular card, it must be handed over. The asking player can then ask any other player for another card.

Once a player gets all cards for a completed set, they must be placed face up in front of them. Completed sets must be shown to other players.

This continues until the player asks for a card that is not held by the player being asked. The asked player then calls **GO FISH** and the asking player must pick up a card from the pile. Play is then passed to the asked player.

## WINNING

The first player to discard all of their cards by making sets is the winner.

# Snap!

**Based upon the traditional card game.**

**NUMBER OF PLAYERS:** 2 or more.

**OBJECTIVE:** To be the only player remaining holding cards.

## HOW TO PLAY

Shuffle cards and deal equally face-down to all players. If there are not enough cards for all players to get an equal number, the extras get placed on a central pile (i.e. an equal number of cards for each player, with all extra cards in the pile).

Players are not allowed to look at their cards. The youngest player chooses who goes first.

The first player turns over their top card and places it face up on the central pile, or creates a new pile if there are no cards on the pile.

If the card played is the same as the top card on the pile, players must call out **SNAP** and place their hand on the pile. The first player to do so wins the pile and places them at the bottom of their deck. It is then their turn to play a card.

In a 2-person game, if the cards do not match and a player calls "Snap!" they forfeit the cards to the other player.

In a 3 or more-person game, if the cards do not match and a player calls **SNAP** they forfeit a turn and cannot rejoin the game until there has been a successful **SNAP**. The cards remain in the pile.

If the card played does not match the top card on the pile, the next player turns over their top card and places it face up on the central pile.

When a player has no more cards in their hand, they are eliminated from the game. Play continues until only one player has cards or until the designated time limit is reached.

## WINNING

The winner is the only player with cards remaining or is the one with the most cards when the time limit is reached.



### **Crested Pigeon**

*We used to live only in wooded grasslands in the outback but moved south after land was cleared for farming.*



### **Spotted Turtle Dove**

*Originally from southeast Asia, I was introduced into Australia in the 1860s and have since spread widely.*



### **Feral Pigeon**

*Descended from domesticated birds that were bred from wild Rock Pigeons, I have escaped into cities throughout the world.*



### **Noisy Miner**

*Many people think I'm an introduced pest, but I'm actually a native who's happy to make use of the urban environment.*



### **New Holland Honeyeater**

*I was one of the first birds to be scientifically described in Australia. We often feed together in large noisy groups.*



### **Eastern Spinebill**

*My fine down-curved beak is especially designed for getting the sweet nectar from bell-shaped flowers.*



### **White-plumed Honeyeater**

*Despite my size, I can be quite feisty and work with my friends to noisily chase away much larger birds.*



### **Red Wattlebird**

*How did I get my name? It's not to do with the trees; the red flaps of skin hanging from my neck are called wattles.*

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### **Little Wattlebird**

*I am often nicknamed the alarm clock of the bush because my call is similar to a wooden cuckoo-clock, including the ticking.*



### **Striated Pardalote**

*We are found throughout Australia. Some of us stay put, but others migrate hundreds of kilometres each year.*



### **Welcome Swallow**

*I like to eat insects, so am often seen flying after them. I will even fly around you if you disturb them when walking.*



### **House Sparrow**

*I am a large finch from Europe and Asia that has become a pest after being introduced to many parts of the world.*



### **Silvereye**

*Despite weighing just 10g, I have amazing stamina and am capable of migrating 1600km in search of food.*



### **Willie Wagtail**

*Some Aboriginal groups consider me a bad omen or thought I would listen in and spread their secret conversations.*



### **Common Blackbird**

*I was introduced into Australia from Europe and have become a pest but my natural populations in the UK are declining.*



### **Common Starling**

*I am a European bird that was introduced into Australia in the mid to late 1800s. I can mimic the calls of other birds.*

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### **Australian Magpie**

*I am the inspiration for the Piping Shrike, South Australia's state emblem.*



### **Magpie-lark**

*Males have a black face with a white eyebrow, whereas the female has a white face and no eyebrow markings.*



### **Little Raven**

*We are large, intelligent birds and we can use tools and other tricks to find our food. I eat all sorts but especially like insects.*



### **Laughing Kookaburra**

*I am the largest of the world's kingfishers although I feed mostly on insects, worms and crustaceans.*



### **Nankeen Kestrel**

*I find my prey watching from up on a perch or hovering just above the ground. I take larger items back to eat on the perch.*



### **Rainbow Lorikeet**

*We usually hang around in pairs, but can form large flocks to feed or when there is danger. We mainly eat fruit and nectar.*



### **Musk Lorikeet**

*As well as the red patches on my face, my black beak has red tips, so it looks a bit like I'm wearing lipstick.*



### **Adelaide Rosella**

*People used to think I was a different species, but I'm actually just a yellowish-orange variety of Crimson Rosella.*

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### Eastern Rosella

*I'm a bright parrot normally seen looking for food on the ground. You may recognise me from the tomato sauce bottle.*



### Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

*I eat the seeds of native plants and pinecones. You'll probably hear my screech and see me slowly flapping my wings as I fly.*



### Galah

*My English name comes from 'gilaa', a word from the Yuwaalaraay people of north-western New South Wales.*



### Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

*I sometimes chew bark and branches off trees. It might seem destructive but, like brushing teeth, it keeps my beak tidy.*



### Little Corella

*I am a very playful parrot. I like to slide down roofs, drop off the edge and then fly back to do it all over again!*



### Silver Gull

*People often call me seagull, but I can be found all across Australia and rarely head too far out to sea.*



### Masked Lapwing

*When I have eggs or young I can seem very aggressive but I prefer to keep my distance and don't usually attack.*



### White-faced Heron

*I usually eat fish, insects and frogs. I may search around to find them, or stand very still and wait for them to move.*

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### **Australian White Ibis**

*Please don't call me bin chicken! Much of my natural habitat has been changed, so I have to look for food in city areas.*



### **Great Egret**

*I use my long beak to stab fish and other animals. During breeding season my beak turns black and my face goes green.*



### **Little Egret**

*I'm a very active hunter. I dash around jumping in and out of the water looking for fish and other small animals.*



### **Purple Swamphen**

*With my red face plate and oversized feet, I could easily be confused for a dinosaur wandering around the wetlands.*



### **Black-tailed Native-hen**

*If it gets too dry, I'll leave an area for many years, but I'll be back when there's enough water again. Check out my stiff tail!*



### **Dusky Moorhen**

*Dusky means dark in colour, which perfectly describes me. You can also recognise me by my yellow-tipped red beak.*



### **Eurasian Coot**

*I have webbed toes but, unlike a duck, the toes don't connect with each other. I can run across water, taking off like a plane!*



### **Pacific Black Duck**

*Don't be fooled by my name. I'm not really black. I have brown mottled feathers and green or purple wing patches.*

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### **Superb Fairy-wren**

*Males of my species have blue and black head and shoulder feathers, but females are all brown. Both have blue tails.*



### **Grey Fantail**

*I'm always on the move, doing aerial twists and turns in the lower branches or the canopy of trees trying to catch insects.*



### **Scarlet Robin**

*The Noongar people of SW Australia said I'd been punched by a Willie Wagtail causing a blood nose that stained my chest.*



### **Mistletoe Bird**

*I eat the fruit of the mistletoe plant. The seeds come out in my sticky poo, attaching to trees where they'll grow.*



### **Grey Shrike-thrush**

*I may not be very colourful, but I'm one of the best singers in Australia. I may sing thousands of different songs!*



### **Grey Currawong**

*I'm not a fussy eater. I'll eat birds, mice, frogs, eggs, fruit, seeds, insects and even dead animals. Yum!*



### **White-throated Treecreeper**

*I look on tree trunks for insects and other invertebrates. If you watch you'll see I always start at the bottom and go up.*



### **Australian Wood Duck**

*I'm also known as Maned Goose because males of my species have a dark crest running down the back of their necks.*

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### **Common Bronzewing**

*I am named after the shining green and bronze colours on my feathers. When I fly away scared my wings are very noisy.*



### **Crescent Honeyeater**

*The dark, crescent-shaped patches across the sides of the breast are dark grey in males and olive-green in females.*



### **Yellow-faced Honeyeater**

*Unlike many honeyeaters, I have a fairly short beak, which is probably because I also eat a variety of spiders and insects.*



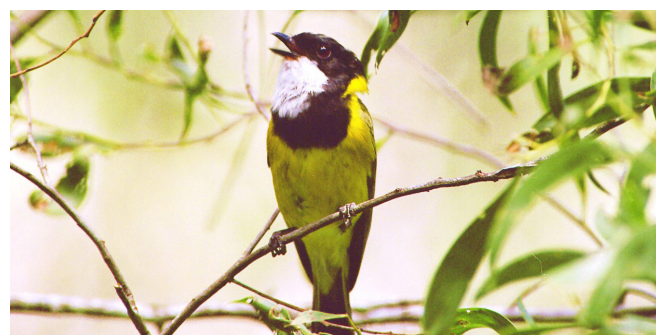
### **White-naped Honeyeater**

*As well as feeding on the nectar from flowers, I will drink the sweet honeydew produced by aphids and scale insects.*



### **Red-browed Finch**

*Often seen in large flocks eating seeds and insects on the ground, we are very noisy and hide in bushes when scared.*



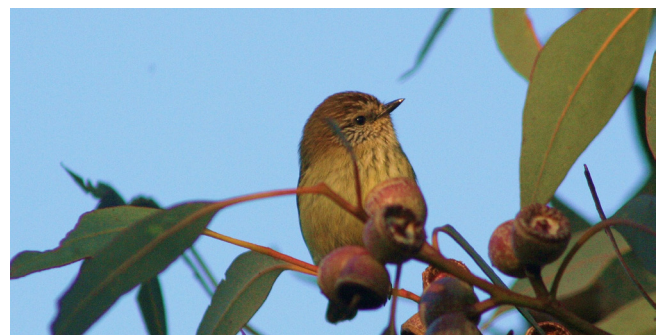
### **Golden Whistler**

*Like many birds, male Golden Whistlers are much more colourful than the females, which are olive, grey and brown.*



### **White-browed Scrubwren**

*My white eyebrows give me a grumpy look and I will come out of thick vegetation to scold any intruders in my territory.*



### **Striated Thornbill**

*Striated means 'marked with long, thin parallel streaks'. So I'm named for the markings that run across my chest and face.*

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