

CAVERSHAM VALLEY PS

TEACHING BLOCKS



Balga (Grass tree)

The Noongar name for grass trees is Balga, which means guardian of people and place. The Balga tree also plays a practical role, used as a resin to hold objects together and a material for lighting fires.



Kardan (Marri tree)

The Marri tree was an important resource for the Noongar people. The sap of the tree has antiseptic qualities which was used to treat wounds. Blossoms were used a source of honey and birds nesting in the tree provided eggs to eat.



Djaril (Jarrah tree)

Djaril comes from the Noongar word for 'blood' a name evoked by the trees' red sap and deep red timber. Along with other eucalyptus trees, it was important to the Noongar people for providing material to make objects and shelter.



Moodjar (WA Native Christmas Tree)

These trees bloom in spectacular fashion from November to December. They are sacred to the Noongar people, holding special spiritual significance as the keeper of spirits who have passed. It is important to never pick the flower of this tree.



Wornt (Tuart tree)

These stately trees are the largest that grow on the Swan Coastal Plain. Noongar people regarded old Tuart trees as 'old people', who were kind and gave shelter as well as providing a home to animals, insects and birds.



Pudjak (Parrot Bush Banksia)

This the name chosen for the new teaching block due to open in 2025. Parrot Bush is a variety of Banksia. Its flowers were traditionally chewed by the Noongar people for their sweet nectar and taste, making them a great substitute for honey.