

Casuarina Coastal Reserve

POP UP DISCOVERY TRAIL

Turn over for clues

START



Heart shaped - Trifoliate

Oval - Long

Spot common birds.

Rainbow Pitta - Figbird

Orange-footed Scrub Fowl

Grey Whistler - Pied Imperial Pigeon




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POP UP DISCOVERY TRAIL


START

1  Start the adventure here! (Walk can be done in reverse if you park near the power station on Rocklands Drive. Just reverse the numbers)


2  You are walking through Monsoon Vine Forest. Note that is called Monsoon VINE Forest. You will see many types of climbers and vines along this walk. Look how they use other trees to climb up!


3  This beautiful white tree has really smooth bark. Feel how soft it is. You may see some of its bark peeling off. Some people have carved their name into it, please don't do this.


4  This Monsoon forest is the Deciduous type meaning many trees lose their leaves with the passing of the dry season. Look at the big tree that is leaning over. It must be strong to support its weight! What do you think happened at this space? Why is there a big gap?

5  On very high tides this water crossing fills with sea water. Look at the holes in the mud, what animal do you think made these holes and what do you think they eat?

6  This stump has fungus growing on it. This type of fungus grows on trees and can eventually kill the tree it is living on. It continues to live on the stump, slowly breaking down the wood. It's all part of the natural cycle!


7  So far a lot of the leaves you have seen are big and round. This tree (Pleomele angustifolia) has long strappy leaves. Look closely and you will see the leaves don't have a stem, they are joined straight to the branch, you may even see small scars where old leaves have fallen off.


8  On high tides this waterway is filled with sea water. When the water is out you may see mud-skipppers, crabs and snails.

9  Many of the trees you see here are Mangroves. Look at the spikes coming out of the mud. They help the tree get air, something it can't get out of the waterlogged mud.

10  The top side of the Mangrove leaf is green and shiny. Look underneath. You will see it's a different colour. If you licked your finger and touched the underside of the leaf, you will taste that it's salty. That's how some mangrove plants get rid of salt!

11  You've now walked out of the forest into a cleared area. This area is called the Moth Block. Volunteers from Casuarina Coastal Reserve Landcare Group are gradually restoring habitat for the Atlas Moth, which disappeared from the area after Cyclone Tracy.

12  This plant is called Sansevieria and is a popular pot plant. It's very hardy (which is why it's popular) so once it gets into the bush it can be hard to get rid of. A good reminder of why we shouldn't dump garden plants in the bush.

13  Paperbark trees are part of the Melaleuca family. Feel the bark on the tree but be careful not to pull it off! The bark is an important habitat, home to different insects and spiders. Look closely, you will see termites are using one of the trees.

14  Congratulations you've finished the Discovery Trail! You can either go back the way you came, or follow the trails to Lee Point or Dripstone Cliffs. Make sure you have enough water though!



"We hope you enjoyed your walk."