

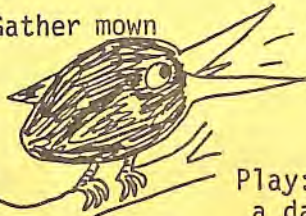
159 Hyland Rd  
Gympie 4570  
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## Things to do in the Park



Make a daisy chain. If there are no daisies try clover leaves.

Gather mown



grass and build a maze or use it to mark out long jumps, to mark bases or 'home' in games. Scatter it again when the game is over.

Play: the first person to spot a "thing" e.g. a seagull, a dandelion, a red t-shirt, a lady pushing a pram, a spider web etc.

Have a boat race. Using fallen leaves, grass, twigs etc., drop 'boats' into the water and see how far or how fast they travel.

Find something prickly, something sharp, something smooth, something rough something slimy etc.

Have a scavenger hunt.

Give yourself 15 minutes

and find a yellow leaf, a bone, a piece of wood with a hole in it, something blue, something metal.....

Find something which exactly matches the colour of your shirt, the shape of a triangle, makes a Y- or a T-shape.....



Estimations. How many bricks in that wall? How many steps to that tree? How many people will walk by in the next 5 minutes?

Play I-Spy with my little eye something beginning with.....

Follow an ant (not a bull ant and not in wet weather). Lie on your tummy and watch it travel through its grassy jungle.



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Acrobatics. Stand on your head, walk on your hands, do a cartwheel from both sides, build a human pyramid.....

Make up an obstacle course, round that tree, over the post, along the path, include the playground if there are not too many people about.

Hide and seek. Play with variations, you may only return home after finding a red leaf, reading that sign over there, hopping only is allowed.

Play "Simon Says", either on the spot or as you are walking along.

Go across the park on a funny walk, 30 hops, 30 jumps, 30 backward steps..... everyone choses a different way to move.

Look for nest boxes or holes in trees. Are any being visited by their owners?

Go nest spotting, but do not approach too closely. Look for stick nests high in trees (herons, raves, magpies), look for hollows (parrots, owls, kookaburras), look for mud nests on buildings (swallows), look for 'soccer-ball' nests of bark in tea-trees (ring-tailed possums).

Look gently at a young tree. Are there many perfect leaves or have insects attacked most of them?

Look for feathers on the ground. Any idea what sort of bird once owned them? Did they come from the birds breast, wing, tail or other part? Leave them on the ground for others to find.

Look for fallen leaves. Can you identify the tree that they came from? Are all leaves on a tree identical. Do they have a smell? Examine them carefully then leave them for others to find.





### 3 More and more things to do in the Park



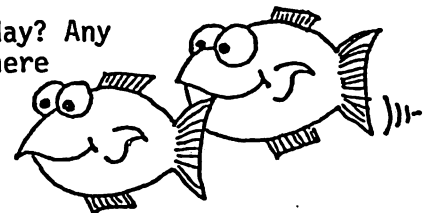
**(need some gear for these)**

Watch for birds feeding - ducks, coots, moorhens on the surface of the water; egrets, herons, ibis, spoonbills wading in the shallows; cormorants and grebes diving; parrots in the trees; ravens and seagulls scavenging for titbits. Get some good wildlife photos or sketches.

Look for footprints in the mud. Which animal made them. Try making casts with fast-drying plaster.

Go ponding. Make a net, bring a sieve, dip with a cup. See what lives in the ponds. How many different sorts of plants live around the edge of the water.

Make bird counts. How many seagulls around today? Any young ones? Where do you find parrots? Are there any pelicans or swans? Make a list. Come again later. Is the list different?



Wheels. Bring, or hire, a pushbike and go for a ride. Get your skates on; find the skateboard again; make a billycart. Be careful of other park users.

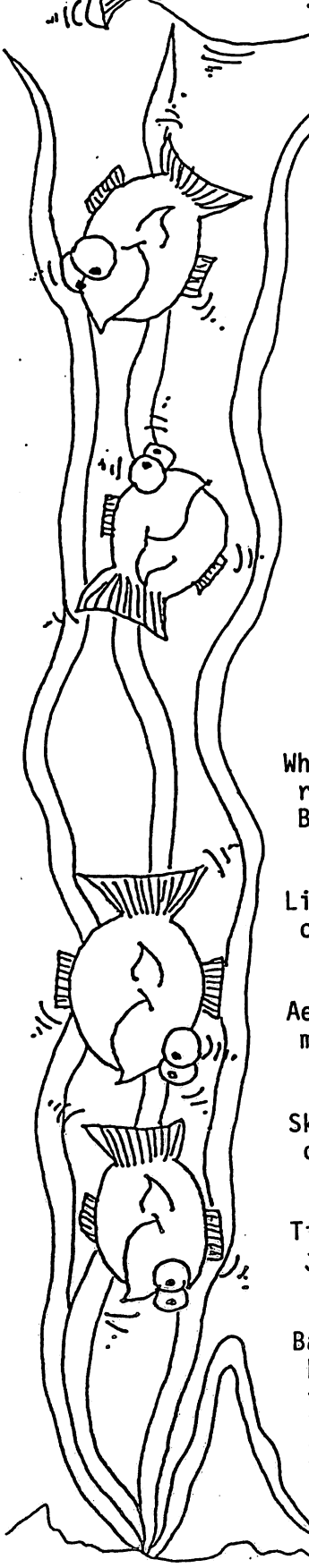
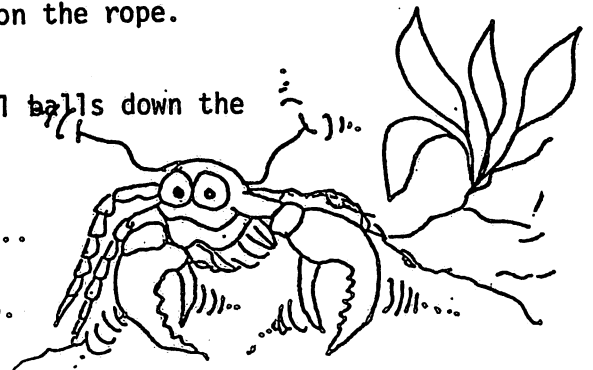
Listen for bush sounds - birds calling, crickets trilling, frogs croaking, wind noises, people and car noises. Could you record them?

Aerobics. Use a tape recorder (don't offend anyone else with your music!), or sing together and follow a leader.

Skipping. Individual ropes or one long rope. Got a tow rope in the car that would do?

Tightrope walking. Put the rope on the ground. If its too easy then jump over an obstacle and land back on the rope.

Ball games. Any you can think of. Roll balls down the hill to knock over a stick; throw balls at a tree trunk; lob balls into the esky; bounce balls on the paths.....



## 4 Even more things to do in the Park

*(need some gear for these)*

Make sail boats out of twigs and leaves to sail on the water on a windy day.

Fold paper planes. Find which one glides the furthest, moves the fastest, performs aerobatics, is the most accurate.

Make kites to fly. Experiment with different tail lengths, different shapes, adjust according to the wind. Keep away from power lines.

Have a swaggies tea. Make your own damper and billy tea. Cook on one of the barbecues and stay until the park closes.

Set up a friendly games day. Play crazy cricket or tie a rope or net between the trees to play badminton or volleyball.

Go fishing with a rod and line (need an inland fishing license). Carp, goldfish, redbfin, eels and probably others are waiting there.

Make stilts out of a pair of cans with the lids removed. Thread a piece of string through and see if you can balance.

With paper and a soft pencil or crayon make rubbings of different textures; bark, leaves, wooden, brick or concrete surfaces.

Play initiative games. Given two logs and a plank of wood cross from here to there; given a length of rope and a bucket transfer the teams across the "crocodile infested" water. Make up fantastic scenarios and nearly impossible tasks.

Using photographs or sketches record the same view or object at different times of day, from unusual angles, at different times of the year or even each year.

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