

No.	Botannical name	Common Name	Image	Description	Indigenous Use
33	Cyperaceae	Carex		Small flowers combined into spikes. Leaves comprise of a blade which extends away from the stalk. Blades are long and flat.	Dry one -seeded fruit.
34	Banksia Serratta	old man banksia, saw bank-sia, saw-tooth banksia and red honeysuckle		Cylindrical flower spikes, bark can be up to 6 cm thick and is cork-like in texture.	Provides food for a variety of animals including birds (honeyeaters) and small vertebrate and invertebrate animals.
35	Sideroxylon	Iron Bark		Small to medium-sized or occasionally tall tree. Flowers are white, pink, red or pale yellow.	The bark is resistant to fire and heat.
36	Alectryon coriaceus	Beach alectryon		Shrub, leathery leaves. Copper bronze new growth. Red and black seeds.	Edible seeds and arils (outgrowths on fruit).
37	Dodonaea viscosa	Sticky Hop Bush		Sparse branches, sticky gloss leaves, tapered tip and papery seed capsule.	Roots boiled to extract juice for toothache cure. Smoke from burning bush used to 'purify' new born babies.
38	Macadamia integrifolia Kindal Kindal	Macadamia nut Tree		Small tree. Glossy oblong wavy edged leaf. Cream/pink flowers. Hard shell nut.	Nuts are eaten raw or roasted.
39	Themeda triandra Wuulot	Kangaroo grass		Prolific seeder	Seeds ground and baked
40	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak		Large tree. Deep dissected ferny leaves. Large golden flower spikes.	Attracts Honeyeaters.
41	Ficus obliqua	Strangler fig		Buttressed trunk, small dark green oval leaf. Globular orange figs.	Fruit eaten by birds.
42	Melaleuca irbyana	Swamp tea tree		Flowers are small and creamy white, blooming close together on cylindrical spikes. Fruits are small, stalkless woody capsules. These contain a large number of tiny, splinter-like seeds.	Very strong wood. The nectar-rich flowers attract lots of wildlife, such as parrots, honeyeaters, flying foxes and possums.
43	Melaleuca Linarriifolia	Snow in summer, Narrow-leaved Paperbark		Tall shrub papery bark, many white fluffy flower spikes	The tree attracts a wide variety of insects and birds.
44	Erythrina vespertilio	Bat wing coral		Is a small, straggly tree, 6 - 10 m high, with thorns on the trunk and branches. The bark is creamy-grey, deeply furrowed and corky.	The dried leaves are a sedative when taken as a tea. The root system can be dug up and drained of drinkable water and if you strip the outer bark the roots can be chewed for moisture. When the wood is dry it is easily carved and made into water carrying vessels
46	Alyogyne huegelii	Blue quandong, blue fig, cooloon		Flowers greenish/white, bell-shaped, large tree, layered branches, bright blue fruit.	Edible, though not that palatable.
47	Buckinghamia celsissima	Ivory curl		Long creamy re-curved flowers, wonderful fragrance	Doesn't seem to suffer pests and diseases, attractive to birds and bees
48	Leptospermum	Pink Cascade / Coastal Tea Tree		Woody shrub or small tree.	Cultivated for oils such as citril, pinene. Used in teas. Leaves were soaked in boiling water to make a tisane rich in ascorbic acid, which was good for tummy upsets.

Taigum State School Reconciliation Learnscape Garden





























Plant Identification Guide

In 1999 Taigum State School and the Nooonga Reconciliation Group worked co-operatively to establish the Reconciliation Learnscape to provide opportunities for children and adults to learn more about Indigenous history and culture in a unique and inspiring environment.

This 300 metre precinct now incorporates bush food, bush medicine and other useful species and has a system of paths interlinking learning circles (outdoor classrooms), a chain of waterholes, and an outdoor performance space.

A special feature of the Learnscape is two Recognition Spaces, which are Noonga’s and the Taigum community’s tribute to two extraordinary local Murri people ” Aunty Ruth Hegarty and Uncle “Stan” McBride (deceased). Aboriginal artist Mayrah Dreise worked with Taigum and Kenilworth school students to create two art installations ” slumped glass and ceramic tiles ” that tell the story of Aunty Ruth’s and Uncle Stan’s life and achievements. Although Uncle McBride's tribute still stands, the dedication to Aunty Ruth Hegarty was destroyed soon after installation. We proudly acknowledge both of these extraordinary people in our continuance of this valuable community and cultural resource.

No.	Botannical name	Common Name/ Indigenous name	Image	Description	Indigenous Use
1	<i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>	Triangular Pig Face <i>Bubbacowrie</i>		Trailing plant with thick triangular leaves, flowers have two leaves at base projecting like pigs ears.	Inner fruit at flower base a favourite food. Leaves retain water, are roasted and eaten. Juice relieves insect bites and marine stings.
2	<i>Acacia concurrens</i>	Black Wattle <i>Kagargil</i>		Red, pink stems. No true leaves. Pseudo leaves – phyllodes help retain water. Firm bark. Twigs sharply triangular.	Used for men's business. Trunks used in ceremonies for elders to sit on. New roots were eaten.
3	<i>Xanthorrhoea</i>	Grass tree <i>Dakka</i>		Black trunk, slow growing grass like foliage. Long flower spike, minute flowers	Fire stick holders made of resin by women (see cotton tree). Resin is very strong glue used for fixing heads to axes and tips to swords/spears. Flowers were washed into water to make a sweet drink.
4	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Pink bloodwood		Rough bark, large branches.	Outer bark makes red face paint, black wood makes clubs.
5	<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo <i>Tuckeroo</i>		Small tree. Leathery foliage, fragrant greenish, white flowers. Orange fruit and seed capsules.	Fruit is edible.
6	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Queensland Blue Gum or Forest Red Gum. <i>Munga</i>		Mostly blue or grey. Smooth bark, mid rib leaves. Long horn shaped flower caps.	Koala food tree.
7	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping bottlebrush		Small tree. Narrow leaves hang down from the crown. Tips of red flower spikes.	Sweet drink made from nectar.
8	<i>Brachychiton bidwillii</i>	Little Kurraajong <i>Kurrajong</i>		Small tree, deep lobed leaf. Flowers deep pink/red in clusters.	Roots tapped for water in times of drought. Seeds were roasted.
9	<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River She Oak <i>Billai</i>		Large tree. Fine dark leaves. Brownish red flowers, decorative seed cones	Witchetty grubs (kambo) found in trunk.
10	<i>Eucalyptus propinqua</i>	Grey Gum		Bark light colour with cream or orange patches. Large shaped glossy leaves. White flowers	Dense wood gave coals which help enough heat to cook a whole kangaroo. Fighting clubs (tabri) made from the trunk.
11	<i>Dodonea triquetra</i>	Hop Bush <i>Wurundjeri</i>		Slender shrub, wiry elliptical leaf. Clusters of white flowers.	Liquid made from root which was applied to open wounds. Chewed leaf juice. Relieved marine stings.
12	<i>Leptospermum petersonii</i>	Lemon Scented Tea Tree <i>Oodgeroo</i>		Large shrub. Green aromatic leaves, coppery new growth white flowers.	Bunches hung up and burnt to keep mosquitoes away. Crushed seeds rubbed on skin for sand fly and mosquito bites.
13	<i>Melaleuca nodosa</i>	Ball Honey myrtle (prickly paperbark)		Tall fine leaf shrub. Cream pom pom brushes.	Nectar and fruit.
14	<i>Macaranga tanarius</i>	<i>Macaranga</i>		Small tree, blue/ grey branchlets. Lacy broad ovate leaves. Pinnacles of flowers and fruit.	Tree frogs shelter in leaves.
15	<i>Backhousia citriodora</i>	Lemon scented myrtle		Tree, dense green leaves. Flowers creamy white, leaves and flowers strong lemon scent.	Today lemon myrtle tea and soap made from leaves and flowers. Branches were hung up at a distance to attract mosquitoes away from camp sites.
16	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Longleaf mat rush <i>Dilli</i>		Small shrub, long strap like leaves, spikes of cream perfumed flowers.	Leaves used to make Dilli bags to carry personal belongings. Leaf base and cores are edible.

No.	Botannical name	Common Name/ Indigenous name	Image	Description	Indigenous Use
17	<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>	Soap Bush , Red Ash		Smooth grey bark, rich green leaves and small sweet-scented cream-green flowers. Masses of red-black berries	Smooth grey bark, rich green leaves and small sweet-scented cream-green flowers. Masses of red-black berries. When rubbed vigorously they will lather like
18	<i>Waterhousea floribunda</i>	Weeping Lillypilly		Small white fragrant flowers. White fruit that sheds quickly.	Edible fruit.
19	<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Blue flax lily		Much branched clump, flat leaves with fine tooth margins, deep blue/yellow flower. Blue berry.	The blue berries were eaten raw and roots were pounded and roasted. Fibre from the leaves was used to make waistbands, nets, traps and bags.
20	<i>Rhodospaera rhodanthema</i>	Deep yellow wood/ Tulip satinwood		Tree pink/red flower. Shiny brown fruit.	Edible fruit
21	<i>Ficus fraseri</i>	Sandpaper Fig		Small tree, rasp-like upper leaves. Figs velvety, purple.	Edible sweet fruit. Leaves were used like sandpaper to smooth wooden objects.
22	<i>Livistona Australia</i>	Cabbage Tree palm <i>Ganai</i>		Glossy fan-shaped fronds. Ringed grey/ brown trunk, clusters yellow/ cream flowers.	Whole leaves used for carry baskets, containers.
23	<i>Melaleuca Quinquinervia</i>	Swamp Paper Bark <i>Nqudar</i> —shallow water		Small tree leaves 5 veined peeling papery bark. White fluffy flower spikes	Whole leaves used for carry baskets, containers.
24	<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i>	Flame tree		Flowers are scarlet bells with 5 partially fused petals, referred to as Kurrajong. It is delicious.	The yellow seeds were nutritious for the Aborigines after toasting.
25	<i>Syzygium leuhmannii</i>	Small leaf Lillypilly / Cherry Alder		Glossy dark green leaf. Young leaves are pink. Panicles cream flowers. Red, pear-shaped fruit.	Fruit is edible, with texture similar to watermelon.
26	<i>Callistemon salignus</i>	White Bottlebrush		Small tree. Pale peeling bark, brown fibres above, pink bark below. Conspicuous oil glands on still leaves.	Nectar makes a sweet drink, pollen for bees.
27	<i>Callistris columellaris</i>	Coastal cypress/ Bribie Island Pine		Conical habit when young. Deeply furrowed dark grey bark. Small seed cones.	Timber used in many ways for its durability.
28	<i>Lillypilly Casade</i>	Weeping Lilly Pilly		Small shrub, pink and yellow flowers.	Attracts birds, bees for pollen.
29	<i>Harpullia pendula</i>	Tulip Wood		Greenish yellow flowers. Medium-sized tree. The trunk is irregular in shape, often fluted. Bark is grey and scaly.	Tough, heavy and durable timber.
30	<i>Acacia macradenia</i>	Zig Zag Wattle		The branches are hairless and smooth. The younger part of the stem is green and the older parts are brown. Small yellow flowers and black pods.	Hardwood trunks were used for Boomerangs (Braggan) and clubs (Boccan)
31	<i>Doryamthes excelsa</i>	Gymea lilly		The plant has sword-like leaves more than a meter long. Grows a flower spike up to 6 m high, which at its apex bears a large cluster of bright red flowers, each 10 cm across.	The stems after being cut and roasted can be eaten. The roasted roots can be made into cake to be eaten cake.
32	<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	Creek mat rush <i>Karawun</i>		Clump forming rush, long strap-like leaves. Small flowers low down in centre of plant.	Leaves used to make Dilli bags to carry personal belongings. Leaf base and cores are edible.