 

**Wet and Wild**

**2022, Week 3– Answers**

**Welcoming Visitors to Our Wet & Wild**

**Short Finned Eel** *Anguilla australis*

1. I am eaten by Aboriginal people and am popular in Japan.

3. Flat transparent leaf shaped larva then grows to an ‘elver’ and travel into freshwater streams as a juvenile.

5. I live in lakes, wetlands and dams for a very long time, and I like to hide in the mud.

12. I have a long thin body, over 1meter long and have a shorter fin than similar species.

15. I can leave water and I can travel overland in damp conditions.

19. I migrate thousands of kilometres from freshwater to saltwater to a spawning ground in the Coral Sea.

**Magpie Goose** *Anseranas semipalmata*

2. I have partially webbed feet with claws, orange legs and white underbelly.

9. I have a black head and neck, with a knob on the top of my head and a strong hooked bill.

14. I gather in large flocks after the wet season and build floating nests.

18. I like to graze in flooded pastures and aquatic vegetation around water.

20. I am widespread throughout coastal northern and eastern Australia and wetland areas.

23. I am still hunted for my meat and feathers. My eggs are very nutritious and considered a delicacy.

**Dugong** *Dugong dugon*

4. I occur in tropical and subtropical waters around the world feeding on seagrass meadows.

6. I’m a large, grey mammal which spends their entire live in the sea.

10. Up to 3 m long, and 400 kg, only large sharks, saltwater crocodiles, and killer whales are a danger to me.

13. I swim by moving my broad whale-like tail up and down, and two flippers.

17. I’m often considered as the inspiration for mermaids!

22. I give birth to a single calf every 3 to 7 years. The calf stays with its mother, drinking milk for 2 years.

**Green Sea Turtle** *Chelonia mydas*

7. I feed in seaweed and sea grass pastures in tropical waters. Although juveniles are carnivorous.

8. I get my common name from the colour of my fat rather than my body and my shell is olive to black.

11. As an adult, I am about 1m long and can live for 80 years.

16. Declining numbers due to pollution, illegal fishing and tangled in nets and foxes and dogs eating my eggs.

21. I visit coastal shores to return to my birthplace to dig a hole to lay my 100 eggs.

24. I have been known to travel more than 2,600 km between feeding grounds and nesting beaches.

