



# Wet and Wild



2022, Week 1 - Clues

## Welcoming Visitors to Our Wet & Wild

*The first international tourists are heading back to our shores to holiday in our beautiful country, but humans are not the only species who travel. Did you know that we host many animals, birds, reptiles, insects and fish every year? Animal migration has fascinated humans for millennia. And for good reason: Some of the most astonishing feats of endurance are performed by long-distance migrants daily or seasonally, and they do it without a compass, GPS or maps! Animals often migrate to find resources like food or shelter that vary throughout the day or year, or to undergo a specific part of their lifecycle.*

1. I visit Australian waters between June and September.
2. I have distinctive knobbly protuberances on my head and long flippers.
3. I live in the Australian tropics usually in salt or brackish water.
4. From a distance I look white but have some fine black lines and black wings.
5. I have aerial roots that grow like pencils above the wet soil to enable me to breathe.
6. I can grow up to 7 meters in length and weigh over 1,000kg.
7. My seeds germinate while still attached to the tree.
8. I grow in every mainland state of Australia and other parts of the world.
9. My name comes from the hump under my dorsal fin.
10. I live in all oceans of the world and I can grow to 16m.
11. I can take nine years to reach maturity.
12. I am a territorial, apex predator.
13. I roam the southern oceans.
14. I migrate 25 000 km per year between cold water and warmer water for calving.
15. The temperature of my nest determines if I am male or female.
16. My seed pod can float in water for a long time so I can grow in new areas.
17. I was hunted for my skin to make into leather but am now a protected animal.
18. I was nearly extinct due to hunting.
19. I spend most of my time flying.
20. I provide habitats for waterbirds and the babies of lots of estuarine species.
21. I grow in salty or brackish water and protect the shores against erosion.
22. I hold the record for the highest bite force ever recorded in any animal.
23. I usually only land to breed and feed.
24. I am the totem of the Darkinjung People of the Central Coast of NSW.