



# Hackathon Challenge Brief for 2024



## Background

Your local council is eager to implement a solution that promotes the wellbeing of a threatened or endangered species within the council boundaries.

The council has approached your group to come up with an idea to inspire community engagement and involvement.

## Your challenge

*How might we engage the community in supporting the survival of an endangered species?*

## Resources



IUCN Red List of Threatened Species



Backyard Buddies – An Initiative of Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife



Australian Museum Animal Factsheets



Australian Museum FrogID



Threatened insect populations



Taronga Zoo – Conservation and Science



Identifying Bird Species

*A link to each of these resources is also emailed to your teacher.*

## Tips for the challenge

- Identify a threatened or endangered native species within your local council area. The resources listed provide a good **starting point**.
- Identify ways in which the species' survival is threatened in your local area.
- Are there any existing programs that have been implemented for your chosen species or a similar species? What is a **new** solution for the issues this species experiences? We don't want to see an existing program copied for another species.
- If you cannot locate a threatened / endangered species in your local area, consider expanding your search to nearby local council areas. Alternatively, focus on a species that is not officially threatened but faces specific issues in your vicinity. Don't hesitate to seek assistance from your mentors or the ANSTO Discovery team if you need help identifying a species.
- Phone apps can be a great tool, but need to be a **part** of a larger solution that goes beyond raising awareness or counting populations.
- Remember to make use of your Design Mentors and STEM Mentors, they will be able to guide you in terms of the scientific viability of your ideas. **ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS!**

