



## A Furry Mystery Quiz Hands-on activity

This activity involves participants in:

Feeling, touching and identifying the skins of native animals  
Identifying the past uses of these animals by Noongar people and settlers.  
Finding 'clues' by studying the additional information cards  
Encouraging students to look at the interpretation in the Museum  
and draw their own conclusions.

### **Possum skin**

link to Interpretive panel in room 2 nearby 'Settlers gathered....'  
advertisements from Eastern Districts Chronicle re opossum skins  
link to Noongar Six Seasons Garden Walk - 'koomal'

### **Kangaroo skin**

Link to 'Guerilla Warfare' interpretive panel in room 1  
Draw attention to painting by Saul Yarran of hunting scene and the practice  
of burning the bush to provide grazing for kangaroos.  
Link to 'Settlers gathered....' Interpretive panel nearby  
Draw attention to photograph: Men with kangaroo dogs outside a tent c.1900 -  
1905, where a kangaroo skin is stretched to dry. Also how there were no  
controls over killing kangaroos until the 1970's.  
Kangaroo tail recipe

### **Rabbit skin**

Link to 'Settlers gathered.....' interpretive panel, draw attention to photograph  
of truck with rabbits and how people survived during the 1930's Depression,  
with the building 'The Rabbit Shed' providing a tangible link with the past  
'.....and Groaned' interpretive panel describes the effects of the introduction of  
rabbits.  
Settlers' handy pamphlet – rabbit proof fencing illustrations  
'The Reserve' interpretive panel in Room 3 talks about Noongar people eating  
rabbit  
Rabbit recipe

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No animals were killed to create this part of the exhibition.  
All hides have been obtained through legal purchase from  
commercial suppliers.

Possums are now a protected species in Australia  
and the example of a possum skin was purchased in New Zealand  
where they are introduced pests.