



FOREST FRINGE AVIARY

(Map Ref 13)

The Forest Fringe Aviary represents areas of-vegetation which may not have existed a number of years ago. These habitats have arisen as a result of land clearing and deforestation. Over *time*, nature tries to regenerate itself and during this process, creates a new kind of habitat which provides homes to a variety of birdlife. These areas are found at the edges of forests between the actual forest and the cleared land which is why this exhibit has been given its name.

Areas such as this can also occur as one type of habitat changes into another. For example, the type of landscape in the Forest Fringe Aviary may be seen where rainforests end and woodlands begin, or where woodlands give way to marshlands. The area which is formed between two distinct habitats is known as an ecotone.

Animals which inhabit these ecotones have adaptations which allow them to live successfully in both environments and so they thrive in these ideal conditions.

A1

Time your group for one minute, ask them to count how many different birds they can see. Repeat, this time ask students to see how many different birds they can hear. Talk about the differences in the numbers, if any.

A2

Students observe the birds in the aviary. Students select one which is their favourite. Ask them to identify it using the signs available and then sketch it as accurately as they can.

A3

Students observe the different types of birds, in particular their pattern of flight. Discuss the way different birds use their wings and tails during flight (ie. short, rapid wing movement vs. long, sweeping wings, short vs. long tails) Encourage students to infer possible reasons for these behavioural and structural adaptations.