

# MEDIA RELEASE



Subject: **Murray Bridge Library secures \$17,000 to deliver Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs**

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Murray Bridge Library is set to deliver a year-round program of environmental, science, literacy and nature-based activities after Council secured \$17,000 through the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board's - 2026-2027 Grassroots Grants program.

The 2026 - 2027 Murray Bridge Library Program will be expanded and provide children, young people and families with opportunities to learn about local wildlife, biodiversity, waterways and sustainable environmental management through engaging, hands-on experiences.

The 12-month program will feature a range of activities across school holidays and key community events, including wildlife education sessions with Animals Anonymous, a Science Week community event, nature-based school holiday programs, a turtle conservation event and environmental activities as part of National Families Week 2027.

The Program will also connect environmental learning with literacy through a special Book Week story time with children's author Katrina Germein, featuring her books *Fabulous Frogs* and *Wonderful Wasps*.

General Manager Community Development David Waters said the funding would provide new opportunities for the community to learn, explore and connect with the natural environment.

"This grant will allow us to expand our existing program with a fantastic range of hands-on experiences that bring environmental education, science and literacy together – once again demonstrating that the Library is about more than just books, we're a community hub."

"Throughout the Program, kids will be able to learn about local wildlife and waterways and explore biodiversity, turtle conservation and the importance of healthy ecosystems."

"There will be opportunities for young people and families to build knowledge and curiosity about the environment around them, and we hope to bring some new visitors to our beautiful Library at the same time."

"It's also a great opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with local and regional educators, environmental organisations and community experts, helping Council deliver engaging programs that benefit our community across the whole year."

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The Program will include a special January 2027 school holiday turtle event, where families can learn about local freshwater turtles, waterway health and conservation, with hands-on activities and information about participating in turtle census initiatives. The 2027 National Families Week celebrations will also feature Nylon Zoo's inflatable Murray Cod and Murray River Eco-Maze, providing an immersive experience for families to explore the importance of the Murray River, native species and healthy waterways.

The program builds on Murray Bridge Library's existing seasonal programming and will create opportunities for people of all ages to connect with local landscapes while developing a greater understanding of the importance of healthy waterways, biodiversity and sustainable environmental management.

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