

# JUNIOR RANGERS

BORN TO EXPLORE



## Wading through wetlands

Imagine Living in a swamp! Who would be that crazy? Everyday you would be living in ankle or waist deep water and would have to put your head under water to find your food. Wetland birds have special features to help them live in this environment. You can copy these and have some fun too.

## Make your own stilts

### You need

- Two large cans
- A hand bottle/can opener (with pointy triangle end)
- String or rope
- Scissors
- An adult to help you punch holes in the cans and cut the string/rope



### Did you know?

There is a wetland bird called a **stilt**? It has long legs to keep it above the water and big feet so it doesn't sink into the mud.

### How to make them

1. Use the bottle/can opener to punch two holes in either side of one can towards the top
2. Repeat with the other can
3. Let the juice drain out of the cans into a container to drink later
4. Rinse cans well with water and allow to air dry
5. Cut two pieces of rope long enough to go through the holes in the can and up to your child's hands to hold on to
6. Thread each piece of rope through the holes in the cans
7. Tie the two ends of each piece of rope together. You should have a loop of rope going through each can that is long enough so your child can hold onto the rope as handles
8. Use the scissors to cut the different colours of electrical tape and decorate the cans. You can also use the paint to decorate them

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## A long beak

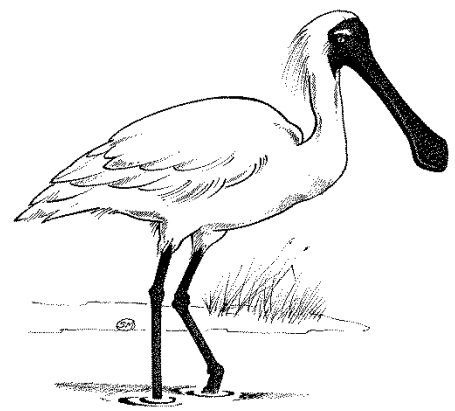
Wetland birds need long beaks to reach their food through water and mud.

Use a pair of BBQ tongs to try and eat some food. Hold the hinged end of the tongs near your ear and throw the food back into your mouth. Hard, isn't it?

Can you eat 5 pieces of apple this way?

### *Did you know?*

There is a wetland bird called a **spoonbill**? It has a long beak, shaped like a spoon to scoop up its food.



What other shaped beaks can you see in the wetlands? Draw some different types of beaks here: