



## Kids Branch!

After counting all of the votes we are pleased to now have a name for our kids section of ReLeaf! Kids Branch was the overall winner for the page name, and 'Maggie' the magpie was a convincing winner for the page mascot. We were really excited to have so many great entries, so thanks to everyone who sent in their fantastic drawings, ideas and those who voted! Above is our first drawing of Maggie - we'd love you to send in your own drawing showing where she's been and what she's been up to.



Operation Possum is a large-scale community-based study of possums in South Australia. This study is being conducted by researchers from UniSA in collaboration with 891 ABC Adelaide. Everyone is invited to participate in this research by completing a public questionnaire which will be available online from Wednesday 20 August for 3 months.

The survey will look at five species of possum that are commonly seen in South Australia. Two of these species are large possums called the

We were busy in July celebrating Schools National Tree Day on Friday 25th and National Tree Day on Sunday 27th July. National Tree Day mascot, Fifi, paid us a visit and came along to the Alberton Primary School planting day as well as the Port Power vs Fremantle football game on National Tree Day.

We also helped school students plant seedlings at the SA Water treatment site at Angaston.

What did you do to celebrate National Tree Day? Write in and tell us what you did either at school or home and you will go into the running for a great prize pack.

Did you know that 2008 is the Year of the Frog? As Vinc tells us in his letter, frogs are a very important part of a healthy ecosystem. To help celebrate the Year of the Frog send in your favourite frog drawing and you could win a prize pack.

Send in your ideas, drawings and stories to Kids Branch, 5 May Terrace Brooklyn Park SA 5032, or email [kids@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:kids@treesforlife.org.au).

*Carly*

Common brushtail possum and Common ringtail possum. The other three species of possum being studied are pygmy (meaning small) possums called the Western Pygmy-possum, Little Pygmy-possum and Eastern Pygmy-possum.

The survey aims to find out where possums are living, how people interact with them and what people think of living close to wildlife. Further information is available on the ABC website at <http://www.abc.net.au/adelaide/features/possum/>



Fifi supporting Port Power at the AFL game on National Tree Day

## FROM A READER...

Hi TFL, my name is Vinc. I'm 10 years old and I go to Mt Pleasant Primary School. We have an environmental program and an animal enclosure which has bettongs and pottaroos that we all help to feed. This is my entry for the kids page on the website.

I chose the common froglet (*Crinia signifera*) for the mascot because I have it on my place, frogs are cool and they are also one of the most sensitive indicators of environmental health.

(Thanks Vinc - we have put your fantastic drawing on our website at [www.treesforlife.org.au/home/kidsbranch/](http://www.treesforlife.org.au/home/kidsbranch/)).



Drawing by Vinc, aged 10, for the Trees For Life website.

## Did you know?

Many old Australian Trees contain important hollows that are used by over 300 vertebrate species, including brush-tail possums, galahs, owls and many bats. These hollows are used for shelter and breeding.

Tree hollows are formed by a slow decay of wood and in gum trees this can take as long as 130 years, so it is vital that we take care to protect our old woodlands.

### Quiz: True or False?

Write X for your answer.

1.  True  False  
Honeybees often compete with native animals for hollows.
2.  True  False  
Tree hollows only form in the tree trunk.
3.  True  False  
Artificial hollows or 'nest boxes' can be used in backyards to provide shelter for animals such as possums, bats and parrots.