

ARBORETUM KITE FEST

Social Story

This story will tell you about visiting the National Arboretum Canberra for a Kite Making Workshop at Kite Fest.



As you read each page, watch a kite take shape...



We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region.

We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.



Welcome to the National Arboretum Canberra

- The National Arboretum Canberra is sometimes called the Arboretum.
- **Arboretum** is a tricky word, it sounds like:

aah·boh·ree·tum

- There are lots of trees. The trees are very special, please be gentle with them.
- There is lots of grass and paths. You are welcome to explore.
- There are lots of different things to do here.



People who work at the Arboretum

- We are here to help you feel safe.
- We are here to help you do fun things.
- People who wear this uniform work here.
- Our uniform has the Arboretum logo.
- We wear a badge with our name on it.
- You can ask these people for help.





What is Kite Fest?

- Kite Fest is a day with lots of people flying kites and having fun.
- You will get to make your own kite.
- You can take your kite home and play with it another day.
- There might be some loud noises, like car horns, people talking, or music.
- You can bring headphones or find a quiet place when you need to.
- Your family or carer will be coming with you.



What will happen?

- Park your car and walk to the Visitors Centre.
- Meet your teachers.
- Go to the Bugang Room with your family or carer.
- Receive kite-making equipment.
- Decorate the sail.
- Build your kite and add streamers.
- Take your kite outside to fly.
- Take your kite home to use again another day.



Arriving at the Arboretum

- Lots of people will be arriving in their cars.
- The road and the carpark might be very busy.
- Your car might move very slowly or even stop for a while - this is because lots of people are going to the same place.
- You can bring things to do in the car while you wait, like music or a fidget toy.
- Everyone is getting there safely, just like you.
- There is no need to be in a rush today.



Parking the car

- There are signs telling your family where to park your car.
- Your family will follow instructions from the 'traffic controllers' – they are here to help.
- You might wait a little while to find a space to park your car.
- The carpark might be crowded.
- You will walk from the carpark to the big building called the 'Visitors Centre'.



Information Desk (meeting point)

- You will come through glass doors into a big room.
- This room is called the 'Visitors Centre'.
- There are big windows and the ceiling is very high.
- There will be other people in this room enjoying Kite Fest.
- It may be noisy with lots of people talking.
- This is where you sign in for your workshop.



Sheila

Your Instructor

- This is Sheila.
- You will meet Sheila at the Information Desk.
- Sheila will help you build your kite.
- If you need help please ask her.
- She wears an Arboretum uniform. It has this logo on it:

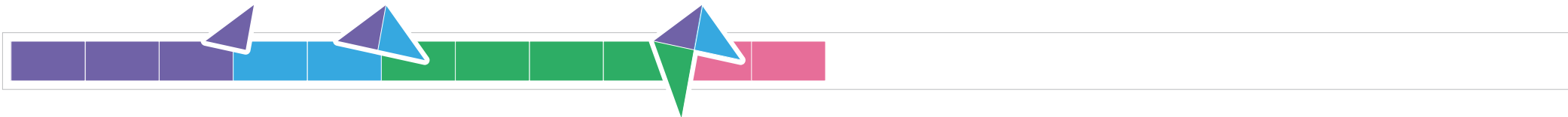




Bugang Room

- You will be shown to a small, quiet room.
- This room is called the Bugang Room.
- This room will have tables and craft supplies.
- There will be other children in this room.
- Your family or carer will stay in this room with you.
- Sheila will be here too. She might have extra helpers.

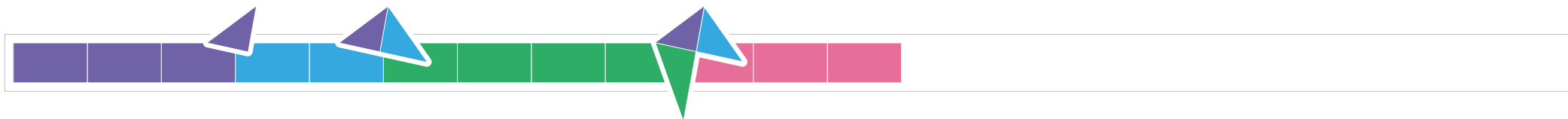




Kite making equipment

Your kite will be made of these things:

- Sail
- Struts
- Tape
- String
- Streamers



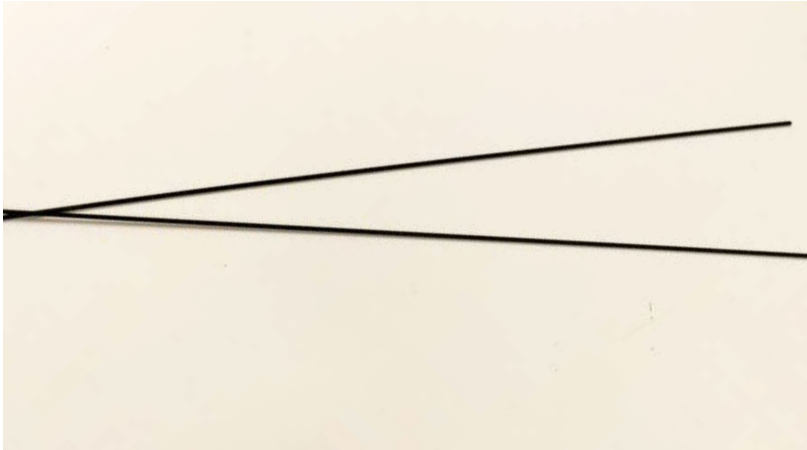
Decorate your kite

- You will decorate your kite with crayons and textas.
- You can draw pictures or patterns or write on the sail.
- Would you like to write your name on your kite?
- You can decorate both sides of the sail.



Which side is the front of your kite?

- When your kite is flying, you will look up at your artwork in the sky!
- One side of your sail will become the back of the kite. We will attach the struts to this side.
- One side will become the front of the kite. You will see this when your kite is flying
- When your kite is in the sky, which side would you like to see?



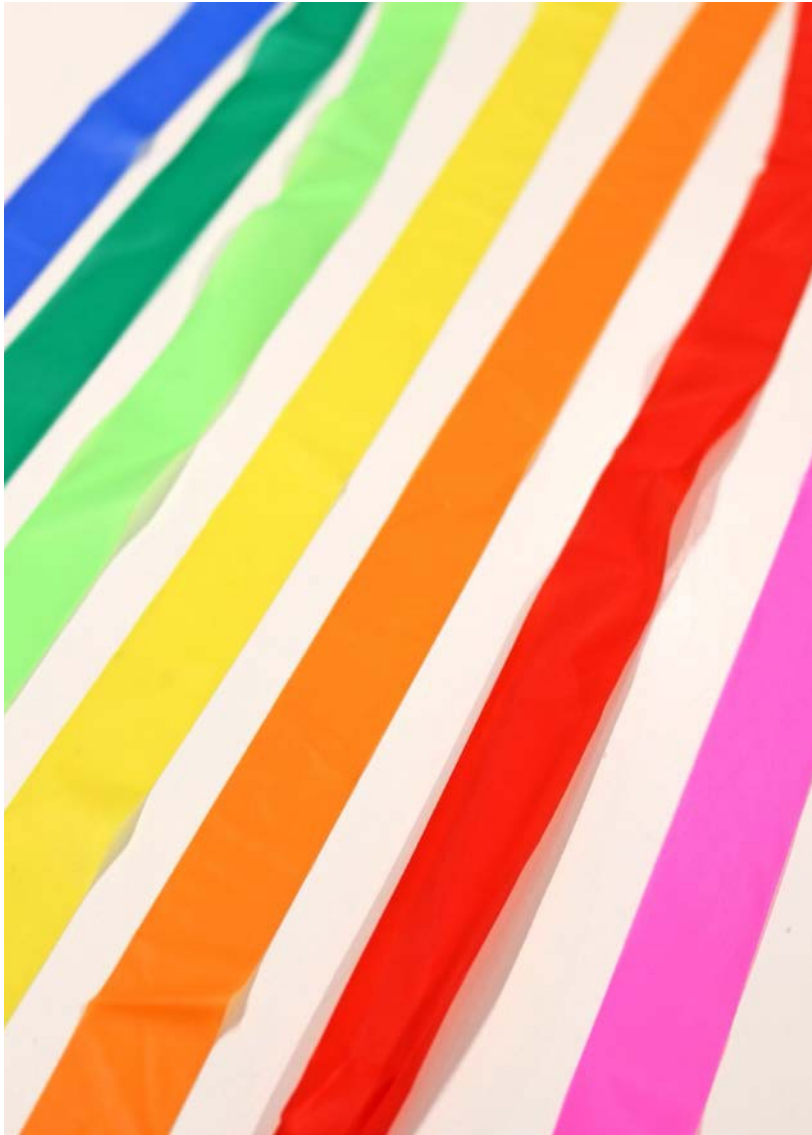
Struts



String and handle

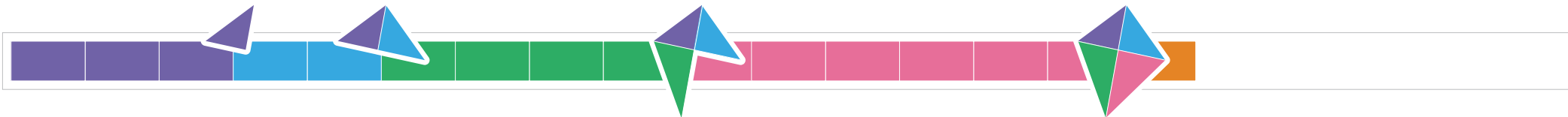
Building your kite

- You have finished decorating and chosen the front side.
- Give your sail to Sheila.
- They will add struts to make your kite strong.
- They will add a string and handle, so your kite doesn't fly away.
- Would you like to help build your kite?



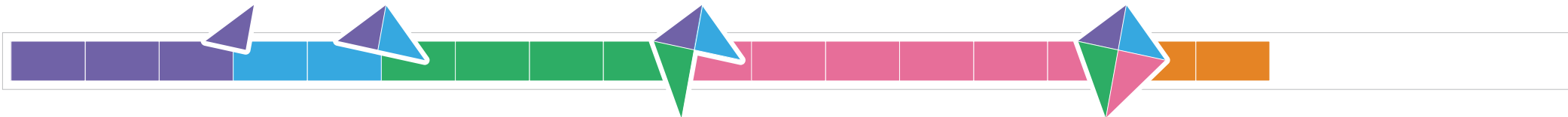
Streamers

- You will add streamers to your kite. This is called a tail.
- A kite needs a tail to help it fly.
- You can choose 2 streamers for your kite.
- The streamers can be the same colour or different colours.
- More than 2 streamers will make your kite too heavy to fly.



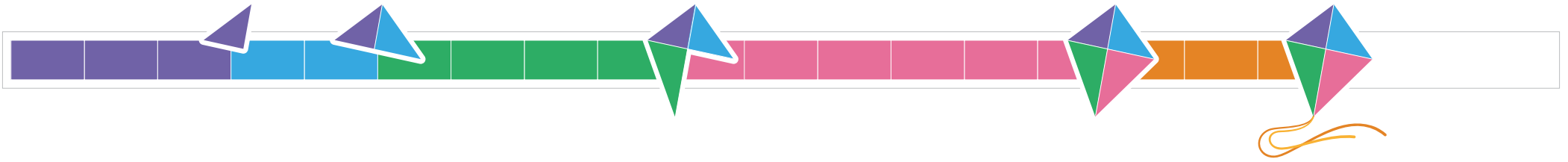
Your kite is finished

- You have built your very own kite!
- String and streamers can get a bit tangled. That's ok - just ask for some help.
- Would you like to take a photo of your kite?
- It's time to take your kite outside to fly.
- Say goodbye to Sheila.
- You can take your kite home with you.
- You can bring your kite back to the Arboretum to fly another day.



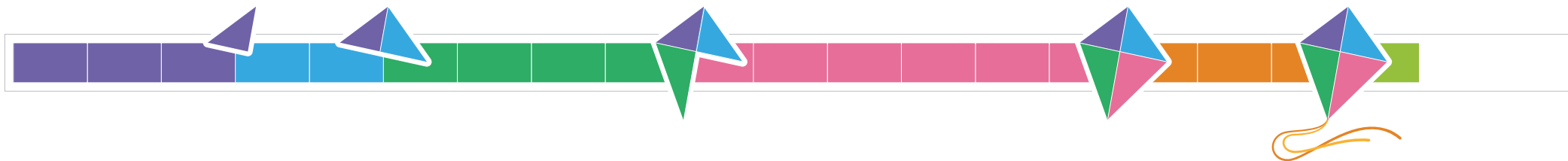
Fly your kite outside - Events Terrace

- This place is called the Events Terrace.
- It is a big outside space, with lots of grass and trees.
- There are lots of people here for Kite Fest.
- It is a good place to fly a kite.
- If you come here another day, it will be less noisy and not so crowded.



Fly your kite outside - National Rock Garden

- This place is called the National Rock Garden.
- It is a big outside space.
- There are very big rocks here. They are special rocks.
- It is a good place to fly a kite.
- There are not so many people here.
- It is quiet here.
- It is a little walk from the Visitors Centre to the National Rock Garden (275 metres).



Children's Garden

Other spaces you might see at the Arboretum



Visitors Centre Entry



Discovery Garden



POD Playground



Toilets



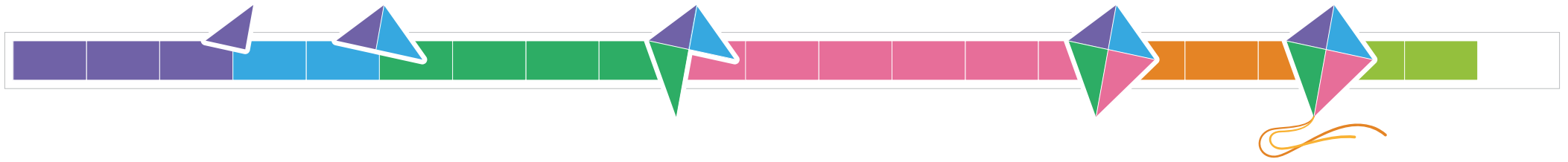
Bonsai Collection



Curatoreum Gift Shop

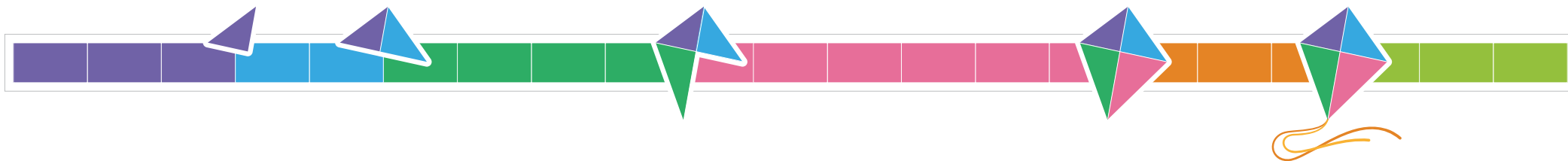


First Aid Room



Visit again

- We hope you have fun at the Arboretum.
- It is fun to decorate your own kite.
- Kite Fest only happens once a year.
- The Arboretum is usually a very peaceful and quiet place.
- You are welcome to visit the Arboretum again.
- You can bring your kite to fly another day.



Feedback

Parents and carers we appreciate your visit to our low-sensory kite making workshop.

We continue to strive to make the National Arboretum Canberra a positive, memorable experience for all of our visitors.

We would welcome your feedback and suggestions to arboretum@act.gov.au or visit: nationalarboretum.act.gov.au/accessibility