



# Australian Coding Competition 2027

## Tinkercad 3D Design

### PROJECT & SUBMISSION GUIDE

Code, Create & Protect - Australian Endangered Species

**CREATE WITH** Tinkercad 3D design tools to create an original digital 3D solution, model or environment.

**Age group: 7-11 years and 12-15 years**

PROJECT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**15 JANUARY 2027**

**Winners & runners-up announced via STEM Birds social media: 15 February 2027**

**IMPORTANT ENTRY RULE** Read the Terms & Conditions. Multiple platforms may be entered, but only one project per platform. Submit a separate form for each programming language/category.

**FOR REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS - USE THE OFFICIAL SUBMISSION FORM IN THIS GUIDE**

# 1. Competition Overview

This guide is for registered participants entering the Tinkercad 3D Design stream. Tinkercad has two age categories: Ages 7-11 and Ages 12-15. Select the correct age category in the submission form.

**Competition theme:** 'Code, Create & Protect - Australian Endangered Species'. Every entry must connect to Australian wildlife, habitats, conservation challenges or positive actions that can protect the environment.

## Important dates

| Milestone                         | Date / Information                                       |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Project submission deadline       | 15 January 2027                                          |
| Winners & runners-up announcement | 15 February 2027 - announced via STEM Birds social media |

## Research before you create

Students should check reliable sources before making claims about an animal, habitat or conservation status. Useful starting points:

[Australian Government threatened species](#) - Current national information about threatened species under the EPBC Act.

[Australian Government threatened species hub](#) - Background on Australian threatened species and conservation.

[Australian Museum - Koala](#) - Student-friendly species facts, habitat and conservation information.

[Australian Museum - Greater Bilby](#) - Information about bilbies, habitat changes and threats.

[National Geographic Kids - Australia](#) - Accessible background on Australian geography and wildlife.

# 2. Account / Classroom Setup

1. Go to Tinkercad and use the account or classroom method provided for the participant.
2. If STEM Birds provides a Tinkercad classroom link or class code, follow those instructions. Students may be able to join using an existing account or a teacher-provided nickname, depending on the classroom setup.
3. For child accounts, parent/guardian or teacher moderation and Safe Mode settings may affect public sharing. Follow the platform prompts and the STEM Birds submission instructions.
4. Create a new 3D Design and give it a clear project name.

## Project ideas

- Wildlife Shelter
- Nesting Box
- Protected Habitat
- Water Station
- Wildlife Crossing
- Conservation Centre
- An original conservation invention

## What judges should be able to see

- A complete and purposeful 3D design.
- Clear use of shapes, alignment, sizing, grouping, holes or other Tinkercad design features where appropriate.
- A design that addresses a wildlife need, environmental challenge or conservation idea.

- An original solution and evidence of problem solving.

### 3. Share & Submit the Tinkercad Design

5. Complete the design and inspect it from multiple angles.
6. Open the completed Tinkercad design and use the Share/Send To sharing controls available in the participant's account. If the account allows public designs, make the design Public in its Properties/Privacy settings so it can be viewed without the participant's login.
7. To generate a sharing link, open the design and select Share (or the current sharing control), then choose the link-sharing/invite option and copy the generated link.
8. Sharing controls can vary for child, classroom and Safe Mode accounts; a parent/guardian or teacher moderator may need to enable the permitted sharing option.
9. Copy the shared/public design link and test it in a private/incognito browser window. The judging team must be able to open the design from the submitted link.
10. Submit the working design link using the official STEM Birds submission form.

#### Useful resources

[Tinkercad](#) - Autodesk web-based 3D design platform.

[Autodesk Tinkercad public design sharing guide](#) - Guidance for making and sharing public designs.

[Tinkercad Learning Center](#) - Learning resources for 3D design.

### 4. Judging Criteria

| Criteria                   | Weighting |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Design Skills              | 30%       |
| Creativity & Originality   | 25%       |
| Environmental Connection   | 20%       |
| Function & Problem Solving | 15%       |
| Project Explanation        | 10%       |

#### Original Work, Support & Integrity

All submissions must represent the participant's own work. The competition is intended to show what the student can create, code, design and explain.

Parents and teachers may:

- Explain the competition rules and platform basics.
- Help the participant research Australian animals, habitats and conservation issues.
- Discuss project ideas and teach new coding or design concepts.
- Help with account setup, privacy settings, video upload and submission logistics where appropriate.

Parents and teachers must not:

- Create the Tinkercad design on the participant's behalf.
- Complete the technical design work for the participant.
- Submit a pre-made or copied project as the participant's original work.

**ORIGINAL WORK PRINCIPLE** Adults can support learning, but the participant should make the final coding, design and creative decisions and be able to explain the project.

## Certificates, Winners & Recognition

- All eligible participants who successfully submit a competition entry will receive a Certificate of Participation.
- Winners and runners-up will receive exciting prizes.
- Winners and runners-up will be announced through STEM Birds social media on 15 February 2027.
- Judging decisions are final.

## Final Submission Checklist

Before submitting, check every item below.

- ☐ The project clearly connects to Australian wildlife, conservation or the environment.
- ☐ The project is the participant's own original work.
- ☐ The project is complete and has been tested.
- ☐ The correct Tinkercad age category (7-11 or 12-15) is selected.
- ☐ The design sharing/privacy settings allow STEM Birds judges to access it.
- ☐ The shared/public Tinkercad link has been tested while signed out or in a private/incognito window.
- ☐ A separate submission form is completed for each programming language/category entered.
- ☐ The final submission is completed by 15 January 2027.

## Official STEM Birds Submission Form

Use the official submission form below when your project is complete. The same submission link will also be available on the STEM Birds website.

[STEM Birds Australian Coding Competition 2027 - Submit Your Project](#)

**Entry limit:** Read the Terms & Conditions. Multiple platforms may be entered, but only one project per platform. Submit a separate form for each programming language/category.

## Email Communications & Marketing

The email address provided to STEM Birds will be used for competition-related communications, including reminders, important updates, judging information, results and certificate information.

The email address may also be used by STEM Birds to share information about future competitions, coding and robotics programs, workshops, holiday programs, classes, events, promotions and other STEM Birds programs and services, in accordance with the competition terms. Recipients may unsubscribe from marketing communications using the unsubscribe option provided in marketing emails. Essential competition communications may still be sent where required to administer an entry.