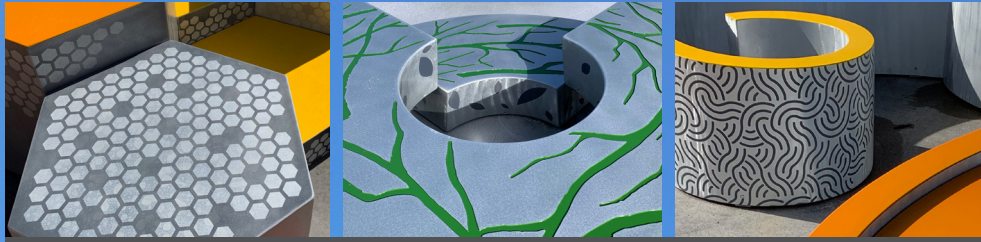


Government of Western Australia  
PERCENT FOR ART SCHEME



WELLARD VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL • 2023





Animal homes, their design and function were the inspiration for *Animal Architecture*, a series of 3 suites of artworks by Western Australian artist Steve Tepper. The suites are like a collage of layered information that encourages enquiring minds to think beyond the object, invite curiosity and an appreciation of the world around them, with the aim that they become meaningful and enduring works that are much loved by the children as part of their routine outdoor play and conversations.

Every day, all over the world animals and insects set about the purposeful tasks of designing their homes, specifically constructed to their needs. The honeybees' home is a densely packed group of hexagonal prismatic cells made of bees wax that has intrigued scientists for centuries. Although bees can make wax to build their homes, it is a very precious material as they must consume about 200g of honey to produce just 28g of wax. Birds of all types have diverse nests, there are floating nests, cups, domes, pendulums, and basket-shaped nests. Many birds also make their nests in tree hollows, including parrots.

Tepper's work invites curiosity, a natural human trait. Collecting and categorizing natural objects found on the ground is a natural trait in many children learning about the world that surrounds

them. As children walk along the river or seashores, they are drawn to the shells scattered on the shore. Shells are both the product and the image of their evolution; the process of the growth of the shell can be retraced and stays alive in its shape.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Artist: Steve Tepper

Title: *Animal Architecture: She Sells Seashells, Busy Bees, Nesting*

Date: 2023

Medium: Etched, painted, and sealed marine grade aluminium.

Public Art Coordinator: Paola Anselmi

Photography: Steve Tepper

Client: Department of Education

Architect: Oldfield Knott Architects

Project Manager: Department of Finance; Cameron Grant

Location: 22 Brentford Parade, Wellard WA 6170

GPS: 32.2711° S, 115.8203° E



Department of Local Government, Sport  
and Cultural Industries  
Department of Finance