



Name: Beans

Type/species: Brush-tailed possum

Age/Lifespan: 13 Years

Local Population: Estimated 30 million in Australia

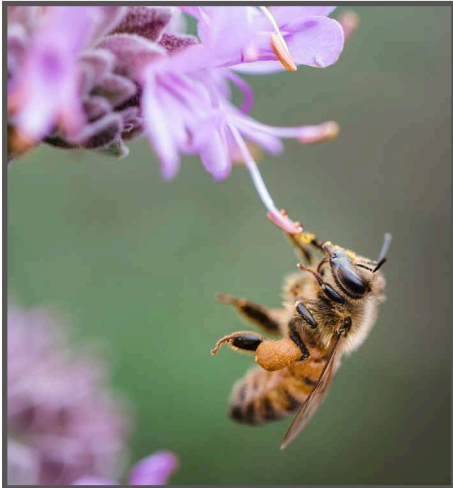
Needs/motivations: It's getting harder for Beans to find a home to rest, and sources of food are being slowly replaced by a concrete landscape.

Challenges/stressors: Sometimes Beans is captured by humans and is transported to a location away from where he usually scavenges for food and resides. Being held in an enclosure while Beans is transported and being displaced causes great stress to him. Most of the time, Beans can find food he is familiar with, consuming flora and insects located in gardens and trees around his local area. Occasionally Beans encounters human food and eats it without knowing it may not be healthy for him; sometimes it makes him sick afterwards.

Interacts with the following: Other possums, humans and native flora

Habitat: Beans usually prefers a place high above the ground away from other species that might harm him. The current alternative to a tree to call home is finding small openings into the rooftops of human structures, where he can shelter. Beans does his best to stay out the way of other possums to avoid confrontation, as they are very territorial.

Descriptive narrative of behaviour: Beans is most active at night under the cover of darkness, searching for food. This nightly activity disrupts sleeping humans and this causes them to attempt to scare beans out of their roof or garden.



Name: Buzzy

Type/species: Honey Bee

Age/Lifespan: 120–150 Days

Local Population: Estimated 190 thousand in New South Wales, Australia

Needs/motivations: Pollen from flora is what Buzzy desires to enable his hive to endure; without it he cannot produce honey to feed the hive.

Challenges/stressors: A recent human product known as pesticides has affected Buzzy's fellow bees and the population is slowly dwindling. The decline of native flora as a result of human urbanisation has turned green to grey. Finding safe and suitable flora has become a challenge for Buzzy and his hive.

Interacts with the following: Humans and native flora

Habitat: Buzzy the bee is an urban dweller. He loves to pollinate native Australian flora that has not been sprayed with nasty pesticides. Buzzy is looking for regular native flora to pollinate and to create honey to keep his queen and hive happy.

Descriptive narrative of behaviour: Buzzy is active during the day in search for native flora to collect pollen as part of his contributions to the hive to ensure their survival.



Name: Betsy

Type/species: ISA Brown chicken

Age/Lifespan: 3–5 Years

Local Population: 10 chickens per backyard maximum in residential areas

Needs/motivations: Betsy has a curious disposition, and if doors or gates are left open she'll go exploring. She once got into the neighbour's backyard and had a scratch around in the veggie patch there – she likes green vegetables a lot. She enjoys being around the humans and doesn't mind being picked up – in fact there is a spot under her chin where she quite likes

being stroked. But she is soon eager to be back on the ground with the other chickens, eating, pecking and taking dust baths in the dirt under the trees.

Challenges/stressors: The household has two large Maremma dogs that have been trained not to bother her and the other girls. Though as a pullet she found the dogs scary, she is now used to their presence in the garden. Occasionally a snake gets into the garden from the neighbouring bushland, and they all spot it pretty quickly, clucking out a warning to each other – if they work together they can even drive it away.

Interacts with the following: Humans, dogs, garden reptiles and insects

Habitat: Betsy lives in a chicken coop designed for urban backyards. There are no roosters allowed due to the local regulations, so it's just her and the other girls.

Descriptive narrative of behaviour: Betsy wakes up at dawn and goes to bed at dusk. In her chicken coop there are 9 other ISA browns all of whom lay eggs and scratch around the garden during the day. Betsy started laying eggs at about 6 months of age and is working on laying 1 egg a day, although on a good day she'll sometimes lay two.