## **DID YOU KNOW?**

## More tree facts

- Trees grow from the top from special cells called meristems
- In a living tree only the leaves, buds, root tips, and thin green layer under the bark (cambium) are alive
- Different parts of a tree grow at different times of the year foliage grows in spring, trunks grow in summer, and roots grow in autumn and winter
- Most tree roots stay in the top 45cm of soil, but they can also grow above ground or tens of metres deep
- Trees Can Lower Stress, Raise Property Values, and Fight Crime
  - o Seeing trees can make us feel happier, less stressed, and more creative
  - Landscaping with healthy, mature trees adds an average of 10% to a property's value (some estimates are as high as 20%)
  - Research also shows urban trees are correlated with lower crime rates, including things from graffiti, vandalism, and littering to domestic violence
- Trees are connected by an underground fungal network called the "wood wide web," which they use to share nutrients and even warn each other about threats like insect attacks

## **Eucalypt Facts**

- Eucalypts are vital for the survival of many Australian animal species including Koalas
- The tallest flowering plant in the world is a eucalypt. Native to Tasmania the Mountain Ash, (*Eucalyptus regnans*), is reported to grow up to 114m tall
- Gum trees are Australia's most common native plant and earned their name because they ooze thick gummy-like sap if their trunk surface is damaged
- Gum tree flowers do not have petals. The entire "bloom" consists of hundreds of stamens emerging from a central cone-like bud. The flowers come in a range of colours, including white, bright red, vibrant orange, deep pink, and lime green
- Gum tree leaves range from blue to white, and they bear woody fruits called gumnuts
- Almost all eucalypts are evergreen, but some tropical species drop their leaves at the end of the dry season