

Year 1 General Studies
NSW State Emblems

New South Wales has a variety of State Emblems. An emblem is an object or representation that symbolises a quality, type, group. A concrete symbol of an abstract idea. NSW has its own state flower, animal, bird, fish and gemstone.

Floral Emblem: Waratah

The Waratah is the floral emblem of NSW. It is a large (10-12cm across) and spectacular flower growing in the bush in clumps of tall stems. The Waratah is protected by law.



Animal Emblem: Platypus

The Platypus is the animal emblem of NSW. The platypus is a furry creature, about 30cm to 38cm long. It has webbed feet and a large duck-like bill, which it uses to gather its food from the bottom of rivers.



Bird Emblem: Kookaburra

The Kookaburra is the bird emblem of NSW. This great brown kingfisher is sometimes called a 'laughing larrikin' because of its distinctive territorial laughing call. Kookaburras are meat eaters, they hunt snakes, lizards, fish and insects and live at forest edges, in clearings.



Fish Emblem: Blue Groper

The Blue Groper was made the state fish of NSW in 1998. A friendly but powerful coastal fish that often follows divers. It can be up to a metre long and weigh between 2kg and 15kg, though some can reach 40kg or more.



Gemstone Emblem: Black Opal

The Black Opal became the state gemstone for NSW in 2008. It is the most rare and valuable type of opal.



NSW State Emblems

Questions

1. What is the floral emblem of NSW?

2. When did the Black Opal become the state gemstone for NSW? (Circle the answer)

1988 / 1998 / 2008

3. Kookaburras are herbivores.

True / False

4. What is the animal emblem of NSW?

5. How many of the NSW state emblems have you seen in real life?
