**KARLAYA**

**Common name:** Emu

**Traditional name:** Karlaya

**Scientific name:** Dromaius novaehollandiae

The emu is known as the Karlaya to the Nanda people, the traditional owners of Kalbarri National Park. The Karlaya was an important food source. Its bones were also used to make knives, and its tendons to make strings!

A Karlaya is a unique bird with a very long neck, a small head and a pointy beak. Karlaya are very tall, and the biggest ones can grow up to nearly 200 centimetres tall! They have long, strong legs that make them great at running and kicking.

**Where do they live?**

Karlaya can be found throughout Western Australia as they live in all kinds of habitats like forests, woodlands, grasslands and desert regions. They live in many national parks including Kalbarri, Karijini, Cape Range, Fitzgerald River, Stirling Rage National Parks and Dyandra Woodland.

**Fun Fact**

Karlaya are very fast runners and can reach speeds of up to 50 kilometres per hour! This makes them one of the fastest birds in the world.