

***Ebook Code: REAU5055***

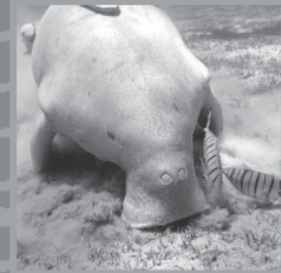
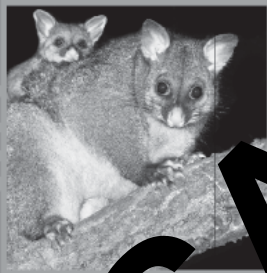


Ages 8-10 years



# Australian Wildlife

Information and Activities Looking at Wildlife Favourites



# Contents

Teachers' Notes	4	<b>Looking at The Kookaburra</b>	<b>30</b>
Curriculum Links	5	The Kookaburra Activity 1	31
		The Kookaburra Activity 2	32
		The Kookaburra Activity 3	33
<b>Looking at The Red Kangaroo</b>	<b>6</b>		
The Red Kangaroo Activity 1	7		
The Red Kangaroo Activity 2	8	<b>Looking at The Wombat</b>	<b>34</b>
The Red Kangaroo Activity 3	9	The Wombat Activity 1	35
		The Wombat Activity 2	36
		The Wombat Activity 3	37
<b>Looking at The Emu</b>	<b>10</b>		
The Emu Activity 1	11		
The Emu Activity 2	12	<b>Looking at The Bilby</b>	<b>38</b>
The Emu Activity 3	13	The Bilby Activity 1	39
		The Bilby Activity 2	40
		The Bilby Activity 3	41
<b>Looking at The Koala</b>	<b>14</b>		
The Koala Activity 1	15		
The Koala Activity 2	16	<b>Looking at The Dugong</b>	<b>42</b>
The Koala Activity 3	17	The Dugong Activity 1	43
		The Dugong Activity 2	44
		The Dugong Activity 3	45
<b>Looking at The Echidna</b>	<b>18</b>		
The Echidna Activity 1	19		
The Echidna Activity 2	20	<b>Looking at The Frilled Neck Lizard</b>	<b>46</b>
The Echidna Activity 3	21	The Frilled Neck Lizard Activity 1	47
		The Frilled Neck Lizard Activity 2	48
		The Frilled Neck Lizard Activity 3	49
<b>Looking at The Platypus</b>	<b>22</b>		
The Platypus Activity 1	23	<b>Looking at The Saltwater Crocodile</b>	<b>50</b>
The Platypus Activity 2	24	The Saltwater Crocodile Activity 1	51
The Platypus Activity 3	25	The Saltwater Crocodile Activity 2	52
		The Saltwater Crocodile Activity 3	53
<b>Looking at The Possum</b>	<b>26</b>		
The Possum Activity 1	27	Answers	54-56
The Possum Activity 2	28		
The Possum Activity 3	29		

---

# *Teachers' Notes*

This book is designed for children who are in lower primary school. It is linked to the Science learning area and has been written to heighten children's appreciation of living things. It encourages students to put twelve Australian animals under the microscope and examine in detail the animals' habitats, diets, appearances, features, lifecycles and predators.

The book contains practical activities which require students to find samples of the animals' food and record the sounds of animals in their local environment. It also asks students to record their understandings, observations and experimental results using flow charts, concept maps, world maps, tables, diagrams, illustrations, point form, labelling and cutting and pasting.

All of the activities are fun, visual, stimulating, clear, can be completed at a number of levels and are curriculum linked. To make life easy for the teacher the answers to the questions are at the back of the book.

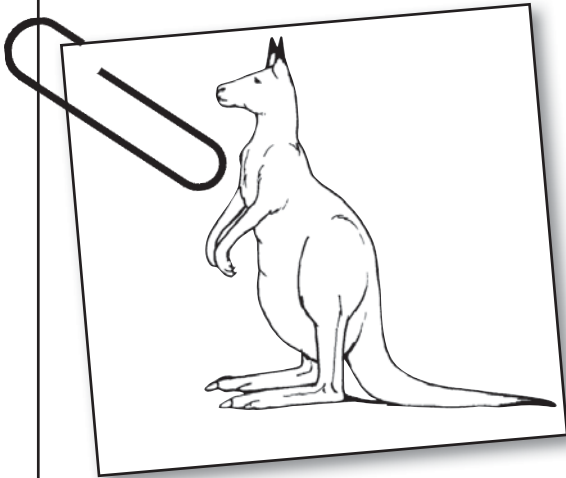


# LOOKING AT *The Red Kangaroo*

► Identify Yourself

► Name:

► Date:



## The Kangaroo Family

Kangaroos are marsupial mammals and members of the macropod or 'big foot' family. Red kangaroos are the biggest type of kangaroo.

## Habitat

Red kangaroos live in the hot dry centre of Australia.

## Features and Appearance

Most male red kangaroos have reddish coloured fur and female red kangaroos have bluish grey fur and are sometimes called blue fliers. Red kangaroos have good eyesight, hearing and sense of smell. Using their powerful hind legs and long feet they can cover great distances in long bounds. They use their small front legs and their long, solid tails to balance when they are grazing or moving slowly. Male kangaroos can grow up to 1.8 metres tall and weigh up to 90 kilograms. Female kangaroos are shorter and lighter.

## Diet

Red kangaroos rest in the shade during the heat of the day. They graze on a variety of grasses from the evening into the early morning. Usually they live in small groups but where food and water is good, the groups or mobs can be bigger.

## Life Cycle

Female kangaroos give birth to small, hairless young joeys which are the size of jellybeans. Joeys grow in their mothers' pouches for about seven months drinking their mothers' milk. Gradually they hop in and out of their mothers' pouches until they are too big for their mothers to carry them. Then they learn to run and hop and eat grass like their mothers.

## Threats

When threatened by predators, adult kangaroos can often outrun their attackers. When cornered they will stand tall, balancing on their tails and will kick with their powerful legs. Eagles, dingoes, foxes and feral dogs prey on joeys that stray away from their mobs.

## Did You Know?

**The red kangaroo and emu are on the Australian coat of arms.**

**The red kangaroo is also the mascot of Australian tourism.**

# The Red Kangaroo

## Activity 1

**Read about the red kangaroo on page six and answer the questions.**

1. Which family does the kangaroo belong to?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe the type of area that the red kangaroo inhabits.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why do you think that the red kangaroo doesn't eat or move around during the day?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the main purpose of a kangaroo's long, thick tail?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Explain these words:

marsupial \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

mammal \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

macropod \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

mob \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

mascot \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Label three main features  
of the red kangaroo.



*Extra!*



**Why do you think that the red kangaroo was chosen to be Australia's tourism mascot?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# The Red Kangaroo

## Activity 2

Read about the red kangaroo on page six and answer the questions.

1. How does the red kangaroo camouflage itself?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which birds or animals might prey on a small joey who is just out of its mother's pouch and has strayed away from its mother?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Circle the footprint that is most likely to belong to the kangaroo.

4. List three ways that the red kangaroo protects itself.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete the food chain below by drawing in the boxes.



EATS



EATS





# The Red Kangaroo

## Activity 3

**Read the points and then write them in the correct order in the circles provided, to show the life cycle of a kangaroo.**

Use the information on page six to help you if you get stuck.

### POINTS

- The pink, hairless joey is born and crawls into its mother's pouch.
- The joey hops in and out of its mother's pouch as it gets bigger.
- When the joey is too big for its mother's pouch, it stays near its mother on the land.
- The joey drinks milk from its mother and grows in the pouch.
- The joey leans out of the pouch to eat grass like its mother.

