## The Past Tense – Simple and Progressive Forms

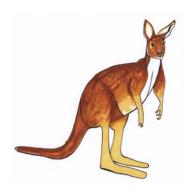
When we write about things that happened in the past, we can show this by using the **simple past** verb form.

The kangaroo jumped over the fence.

Often we add -ed to the end of the verb.

Other verbs take different forms to show past tense.

The kangaroo ate some grass.



To show that the past action was in progress for a period of time, or at the same time as something else, we can use the **past progressive** form.



The baby koala <u>was</u> holding on tightly while its mother climbed the tree.

The koalas were eating leaves from the tree.

The baby held onto her mother for a while – it takes time to climb a tree. The koalas may not have finished eating leaves.

To write in the **past progressive** form we use helping verbs (<u>was</u> or <u>were</u>) and add -ing to the base verb.

The cockatoo <u>was</u> flapping its wings in the sunshine.

The cockatoo was cracking seeds open with its beak.

The birds were squabbling in the trees.



Unit 2, Day 1