

Australian Animals

Australia is a big country with lots of different animals! Read on to find out some fun facts about some of them.

Types of Australian Animals



Koalas:

- Koalas can sleep for 22 hours a day!
- Koalas have sharp claws that help them to climb.
- Koalas have a pouch, like a kangaroo.



Kangaroos:

- Kangaroos can jump up to 9 metres in one jump!
- A baby kangaroo is called a 'joey'.
- Joeys live in their mother's pouch until they are old enough to leave.

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Dingoes:

- A dingo is a type of dog.
- Dingoes don't bark, but they do howl.
- Dingoes live in groups called 'packs'.

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Wombats:

- Wombats can run up to 25 miles per hour!
- Wombats have a pouch, like a kangaroo.
- A wombat's poo is cube-shaped!

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Questions

1. Which of these can be found in Australia? Tick two.

- wombat
- kangaroo
- polar bear

2. How many hours per day can koalas sleep for? Tick one.

- 22
- 2
- 12

3. What is a baby kangaroo called? Tick one.

- a james
- a jack
- a joey

4. What type of animal is a dingo? Tick one.

- a cat
- a dog
- a bear

5. Tick two animals that have a pouch.

- a koala
- a dingo
- a wombat

Answers

1. Which of these can be found in Australia? Tick two.

- wombat**
- kangaroo**
- polar bear

2. How many hours per day can koalas sleep for? Tick one.

- 22**
- 2
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- a james
- a jack
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4. What type of animal is a dingo? Tick one.

- a cat
- a dog**
- a bear

5. Tick two animals that have a pouch.

- a koala**
- a dingo
- a wombat**

Australian Animals

Australia is a very big country with lots of different animals. Read on to find out some fun facts about some of the more well-known ones.

Types of Australian Animals

Koalas are usually found in trees. They can sleep for up to 22 hours a day! They have very sharp claws which help them to climb trees easily. They have a pouch, like a kangaroo.



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Dingoes are a type of dog, a bit like a wolf.

Some people in Australia think dingoes are pests because they attack farm animals.

Wombats are very similar to koalas - they also have a pouch.

They like to dig a lot, so their pouch is backwards-facing. This stops dirt from flicking onto their babies.



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Kangaroos are found in many places in Australia. There are four types of kangaroo.

A baby kangaroo is called a joey. They stay in their mother's pouch until they are old enough to leave.

Questions

1. What helps koalas to climb trees? Tick one.

- sharp claws
 long legs
 sharp teeth

2. What type of animal is a dingo?

3. Why are wombats similar to koalas? Tick one.

- they have big ears
 they have a pouch
 they climb trees

4. Draw a line to complete the sentences.

A baby kangaroo is

flicking onto
their babies.

Australia is a
very big country

with lots of
different animals.

This stops dirt from

called a joey.

5. Complete this sentence.

Kangaroos are found in many places in _____.

England

Australia

America

Answers

1. What helps koalas to climb trees? Tick one.

- sharp claws**
 long legs
 sharp teeth

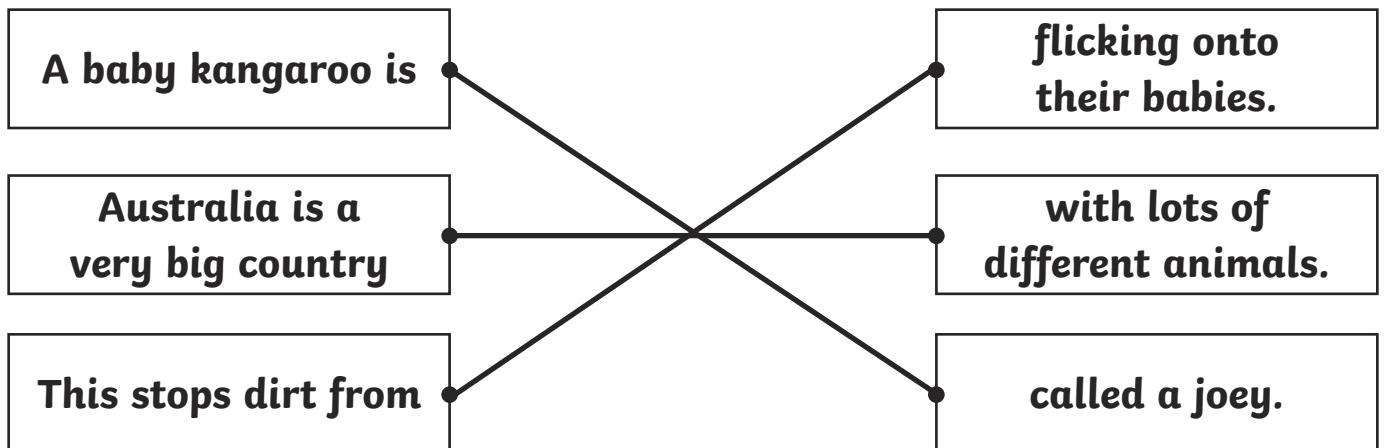
2. What type of animal is a dingo?

a dog, like a wolf

3. Why are wombats similar to koalas? Tick one.

- they have big ears
 they have a pouch
 they climb trees

4. Draw a line to complete the sentences.



5. Complete this sentence.

Kangaroos are found in many places in **Australia**.

England

Australia

America

Australian Animals

Australia is a large country with lots of interesting natural wildlife. Read on to find out some fascinating facts about some of its more well-known animals.

Where Is Australia?



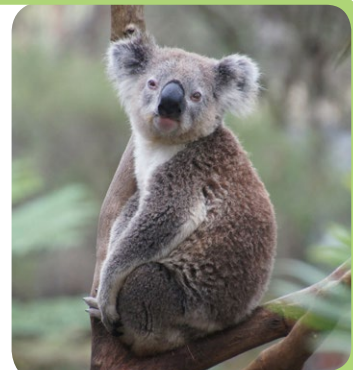
Types of Australian Animals

Many animals in Australia can't be found anywhere else in the world. There are more than 800 species (types) of birds, 4000 species of fish and 50 species of ocean mammals in Australia.

Koalas

Although many people call them 'koala bears', koalas aren't actually bears. They are a type of animal called a **marsupial** (the same kind of animal as a kangaroo).

Koalas even have a pouch, like a kangaroo!



Dingoes

Dingoes are related to wolves.

Some people in Australia think dingoes are pests because they attack farm animals. In 1855, a fence was built to keep dingoes out of the south-east of the country. At over 3000 miles long, it is the longest fence in the world!

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Wombats

Wombats are also a type of marsupial, like koalas.

They have a pouch but it is backwards-facing. This is because wombats spend a lot of their time digging and it stops them flicking dirt on their babies!



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Kangaroos

Kangaroos are the largest marsupial.

They can be very dangerous because of their powerful back legs and their claws.

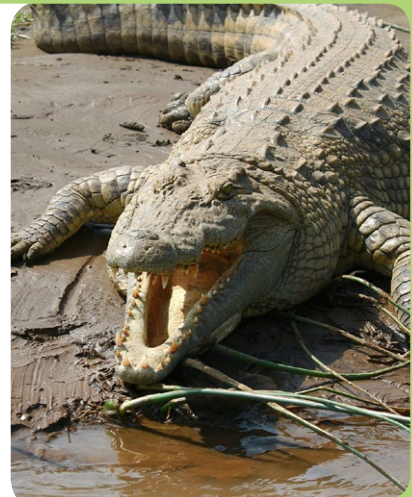
Baby kangaroos are called **joey**s. Joeys will often jump head-first into their mother's pouch when they are scared!

Crocodiles

Both freshwater and saltwater crocodiles can be found in Australia.

Saltwater crocodiles are the biggest crocodiles in the world. Males can grow as big as five metres long!

They have the strongest bite of any animal in the world.



Endangered Species

Australia has many endangered species, with 86 types of animal being **critically endangered**. This means they are at risk of becoming **extinct** (when there are no more left in the world). It is important that they are protected so we can make sure they don't disappear from the world altogether.

Questions

1. How many species of birds are there in Australia? Tick one.

- 300
 4000
 800

2. What type of animal is a koala?

3. Draw a line to match these facts with their animal.

wombat

dingo

crocodile

Males can grow as big as five metres long.

Some people think they are pests.

They have a backwards-facing pouch.

4. Find a word in the text that means the same as **strong**.

5. What does it mean when an animal becomes **extinct**?

6. Do you think it is important to protect critically endangered animals?

Answers

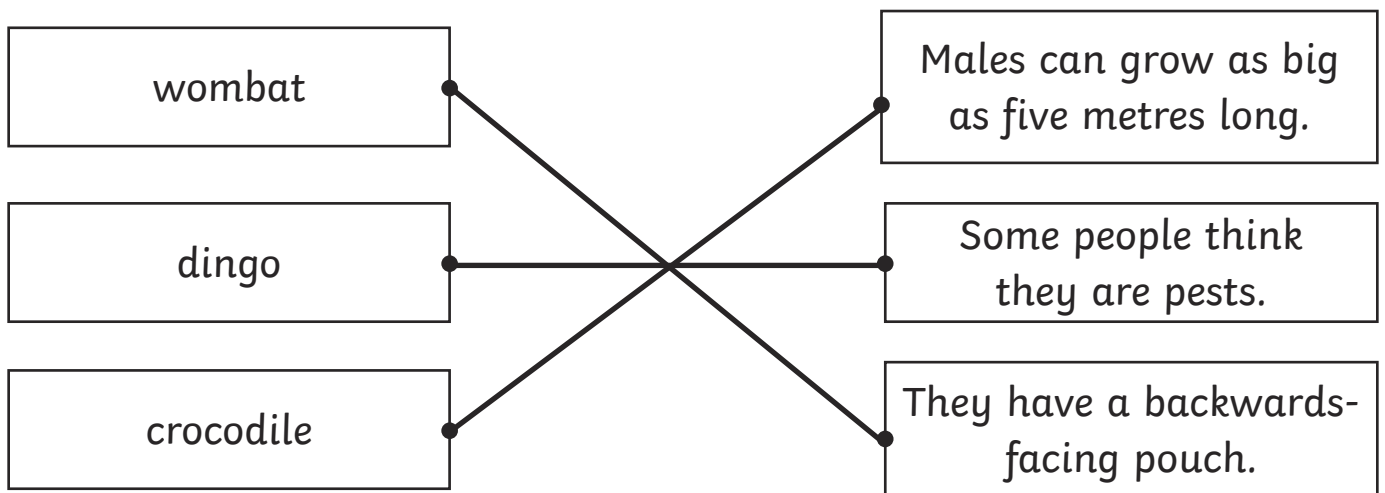
1. How many species of birds are there in Australia? Tick one.

- 300
 4000
 800

2. What type of animal is a koala?

A koala is a marsupial.

3. Draw a line to match these facts with their animal.



4. Find a word in the text that means the same as **strong**.

powerful

5. What does it mean when an animal becomes **extinct**?

It means when there are no more of that animal left in the world.

6. Do you think it is important to protect critically endangered animals?

Various answers.