

# Australian Animals & Adaptation — Knowledge Organiser

Free from LessonKind · lessonkind.com · Qualified primary teacher

## Key facts

- Australia has many animals found nowhere else on Earth.
- Marsupials, like kangaroos and koalas, carry their young in a pouch.
- Monotremes, like the platypus and echidna, are mammals that lay eggs — very rare!
- Many animals are nocturnal, active at night to avoid the daytime heat.

## Key vocabulary

- Marsupial — a mammal that raises its young in a pouch.
- Monotreme — a mammal that lays eggs.
- Adaptation — a feature that helps an animal survive.
- Nocturnal — active at night.

## Clever adaptations

Kangaroos hop to travel huge distances using little energy. Koalas survive on tough eucalyptus leaves few other animals can eat. The platypus uses its bill to sense prey underwater with its eyes shut.

## Why so unique?

Australia broke away from other land long ago, so its animals evolved on their own — leading to creatures found nowhere else.