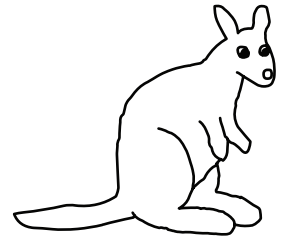


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

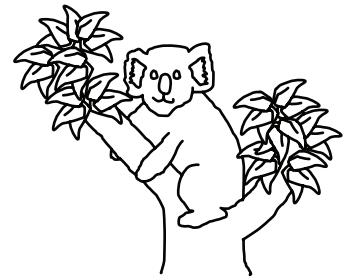
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# Australian Marsupials

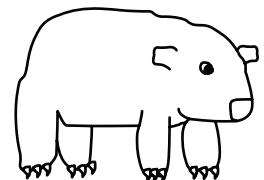
Marsupials are animals that have a pouch for their babies. Many marsupials live in Australia.



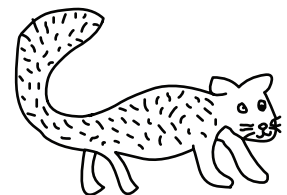
Marsupial babies are called joeys. They are tiny when they are born then develop in the pouch.



Kangaroos and wallabies carry joeys in their pouches until they are six to nine months old. Koalas carry their joeys on their backs when they are too big for their pouch.



Possums and wombats have pouches too. The wombat's pouch opens backwards so babies don't get dirt on them when mum is digging.



So many marsupials live in Australia and they all have pouches!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Write a word that will make sense in the sentence.

- 1) Marsupials are animals that have a \_\_\_\_\_ for their babies.
- 2) Marsupial babies are called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The babies are \_\_\_\_\_ when they are born.
- 4) Wombats have a pouch that opens \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Koala joeys ride on their mother's \_\_\_\_\_ when they are too big for the pouch.

Circle these words in the puzzle.

m	a	r	s	u	p	i	a	l	k
p	k	a	w	o	m	b	a	t	a
o	p	o	u	c	h	b	o	r	n
s	b	b	a	c	k	c	d	j	g
s	e	f	g	l	h	i	j	o	a
u	k	l	m	n	a	o	p	e	r
m	d	e	v	e	l	o	p	y	o
b	a	c	k	w	a	r	d	s	o
b	a	b	i	e	s	t	u	v	w

marsupial

kangaroo

wombat

koala

possum

babies

pouch

born

backwards

back

joey

develop

Where do you think these marsupials sleep?

kangaroo



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

koala



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

wombat



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

possum



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Life Cycle of The Red Kangaroo



Born after 1 month

- \* Is hairless
- \* Is smaller than a peanut.
- \* Is blind and deaf.
- \* Crawls to the pouch and attaches to teat.

3 months

- \* Is hairless
- \* Eyes are closed.

6 months

- \* Has fur
- \* Begins to leave the pouch for short periods.

9 months

- \* Independent
- \* Stays near mother

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 years

- \* Fully mature.

Answer the questions.

1) By what age has the joey developed hair?

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2) At what age do joeys begin to spend some time outside the pouch?

---

3) By what age has the joey left the pouch permanently?

---

How many smaller words can you make from the letters in the word:

MARSUPIAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:**

- 1) Colour the kangaroo and her joey.
- 2) Cut along the dotted lines.
- 3) Slip the joey into the mother's pouch.

