



Animal Adaptation Comprehension - Kangaroos

Upper Primary Advance Science

Adaptation and Habitat of Australia's Native Animal: The Kangaroo

Kangaroos are the world's largest marsupials and are found across Australia in open grasslands, woodlands, and semi-desert regions. There are several species, including the Red Kangaroo, Black Wallaroo, Western Grey Kangaroo, and many others.



Red Kangaroos can weigh up to 90 kg and grow to two metres tall, while Black Wallaroos are the smallest species at around 20 kg.

Kangaroos are famous for hopping — they can travel up to 60 km/h and leap over 8 metres in a single bound. Kangaroos have short hair, powerful hind legs, small forelimbs, big feet, and a muscular tail that helps with balance and movement.

Their fur colour can be red, grey, or brown, depending on the species. Kangaroos have excellent hearing and keen eyesight, and live in social groups called mobs. Females, called 'flyers', carry their young, called joeys, in a forward-opening pouch; males are known as 'boomers'. Kangaroos are unable to hop backwards and are featured on Australia's coat of arms as a symbol of national progress. Kangaroos are also quite strong swimmers when needed

Read the passage above and answer the questions that follow.

1. Which kangaroo species is the smallest?
 - a) Red Kangaroo
 - b) Western Grey Kangaroo
 - c) Black Wallaroo
2. What is the primary function of a kangaroo's tail?
 - a) To store food
 - b) For balance and movement
 - c) Attracting mates
3. How fast can kangaroos hop?
 - a) 30 km/h
 - b) 40 km/h
 - c) 60 km/h



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Read the passage above and answer the questions that follow.



4. What is the name given to groups of kangaroos?
 - a) Mobs
 - b) Herds
 - c) Packs
5. What are male kangaroos commonly called?
 - a) Flyers
 - b) Boomers
 - c) Jacks
6. What unique ability do kangaroos have compared to many other animals?
 - a) Flying
 - b) Hopping long distances
 - c) Climbing trees
7. Which colour can kangaroo fur **NOT** be?
 - a) Grey
 - b) Blue
 - c) Red
8. List two adaptations that help kangaroos survive in Australia's environments.

9. Why are kangaroos on Australia's coat of arms?



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8. List two adaptations that help kangaroos survive in Australia's environments.



Powerful hind legs for hopping long distances

A pouch to carry their young

9. Why are kangaroos on Australia's coat of arms?

This is because they can only move forwards, symbolising national progress
