

Australian Animals





Reading Recovery level: 17

Word count: 328

Text type: narrative


Content: non-fiction

ACARA reference: Animals form the base for the study on ecology and conservation. Cross-curriculum priority is given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Histories and Culture. This can be discussed as an integrated unit of work in relation to conservation of Australia's native animals. This is a discussion starter on the requirements for saving the highly endangered Numbat. This then can be compared with the conservation of koala forests to stop the decline in koala populations. ACARA however, state clearly the Early Years' focus is literacy not knowledge or content.

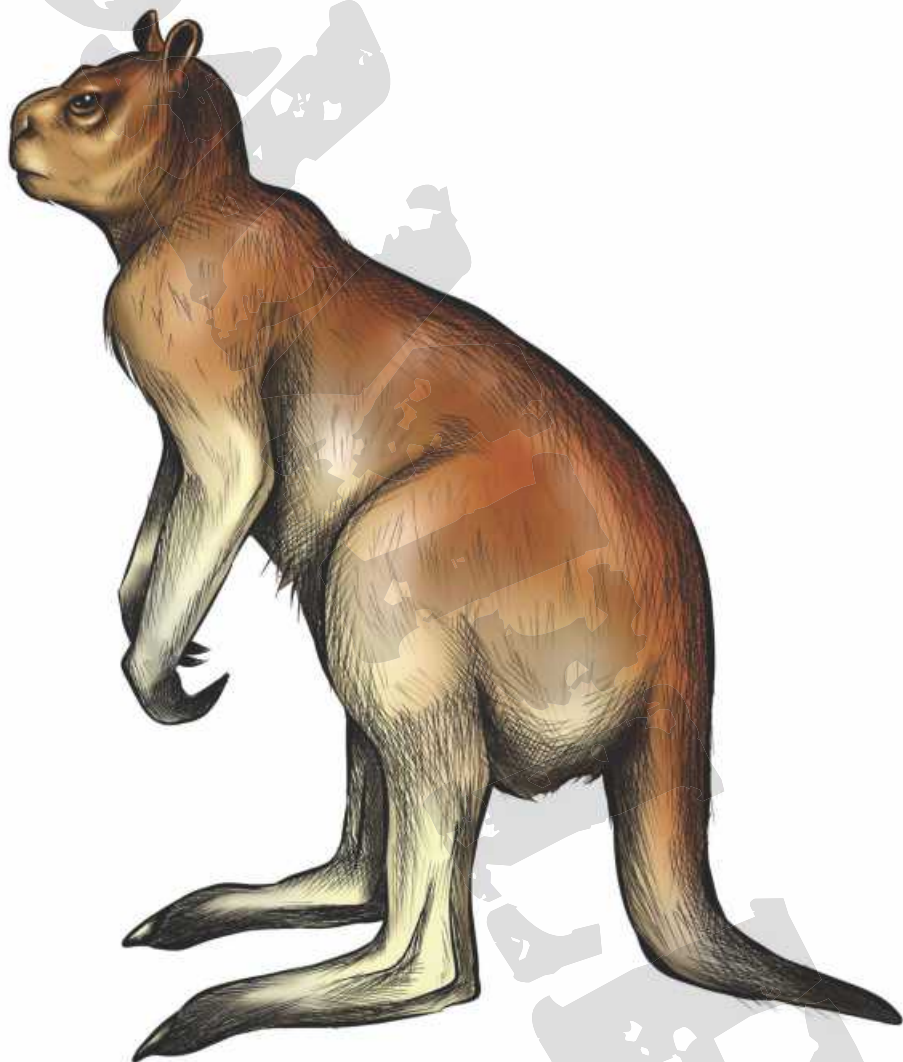
Teacher notes: The First Peoples of Australia required Australia's animals for their own survival. It was essential that they lived off these animals for food and fur. The introduction of feral animals such as the fox, cat and goat saw the rapid decline in Australia's animals. The discussion pointers are to hunting for food and sustaining the populations for future growth, or extinction by overuse.

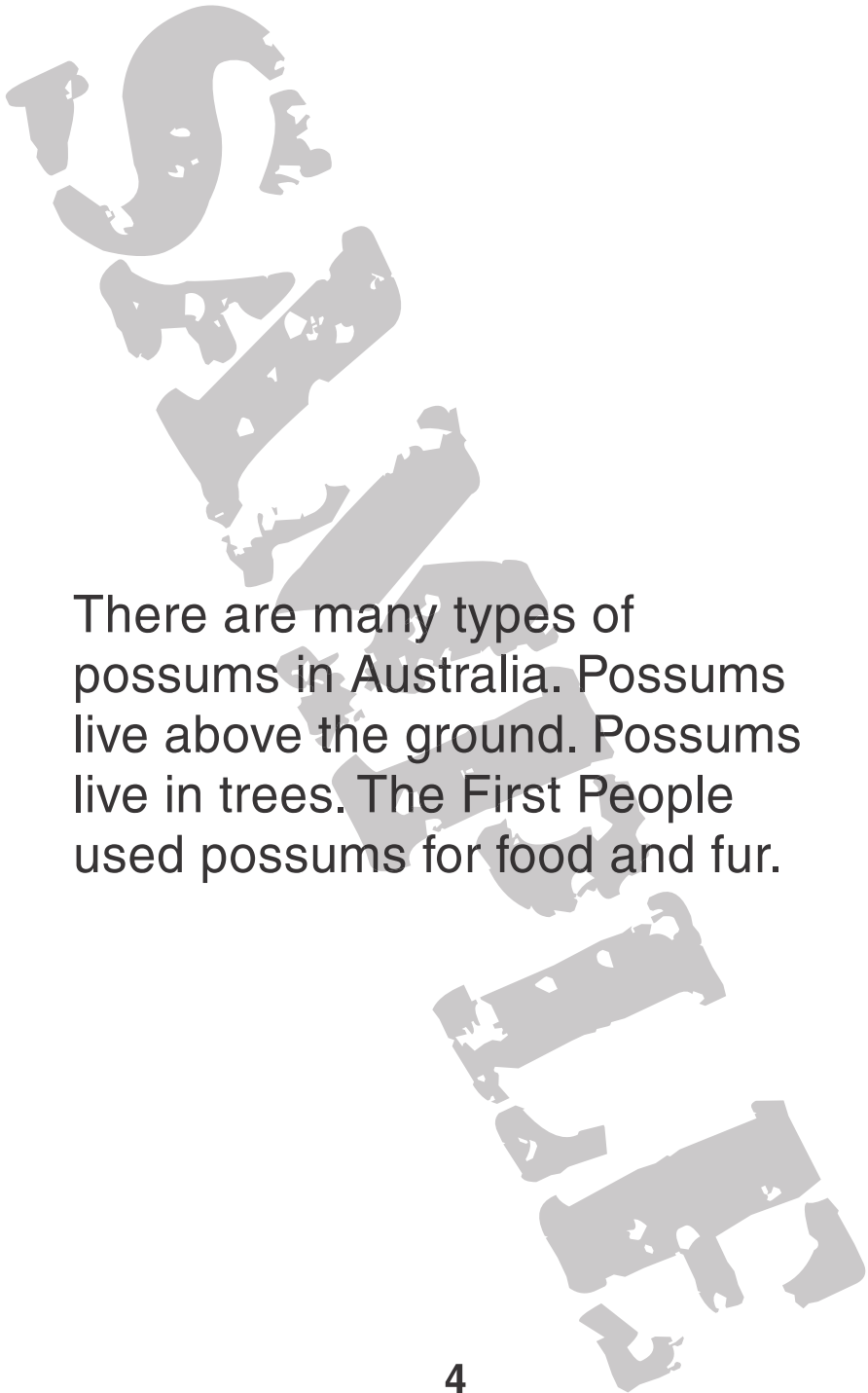
Difficult words: kangaroo, Australia, possum, ground, goanna, lizard, difficult, python, termites, rare.





Kangaroos ***kan-ga-roos***, lived all over Australia. There are many kinds of kangaroos. This is a large kangaroo that no longer exists. Some kangaroos are very small. The First People used kangaroos for food and fur.





There are many types of possums in Australia. Possums live above the ground. Possums live in trees. The First People used possums for food and fur.



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