



Get closer.



Name: _____

School: _____

Class: _____

ADAPTATIONS

During your visit to Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, you will meet different animals. Write down three (3) physical adaptations for each of the animal groups below.

REPTILE: SPECIES: _____

Adaptation	How it improves survival
1.	
2.	
3.	

BIRD: SPECIES: _____

Adaptation	How it improves survival
1.	
2.	
3.	

MAMMAL: SPECIES: _____

Adaptation	How it improves survival
1.	
2.	
3.	

ADAPTATIONS

Complete this profile of one of the animals from the table from the previous table.

Class (Reptile, Mammal etc...) _____

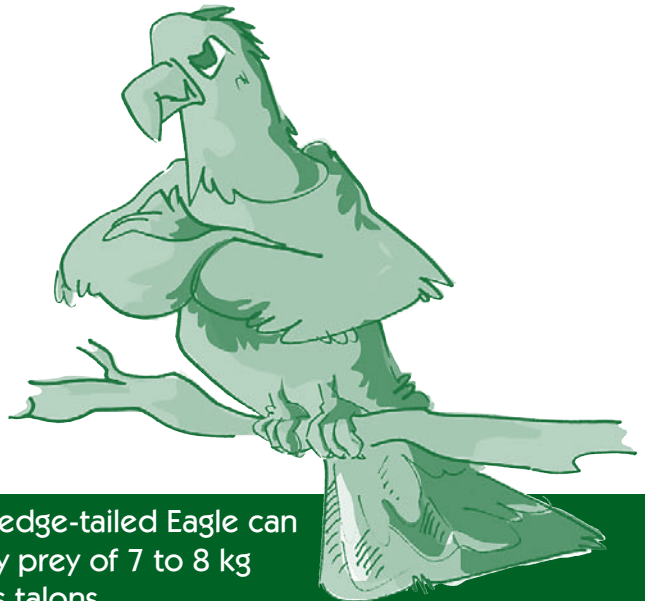
Species: _____

Physical Description: _____

Special Characteristics: _____

Function of the Characteristics: _____

Is the animal "purpose built" to suit its habitat? Explain: _____



Life and living things: A Wedge-tailed Eagle can carry prey of 7 to 8 kg in its talons.

VERTEBRATES

Animals are classified into major groups according to their physical characteristics. Animals are classified into Phylum Chordata if they have a backbone.

Phylum Chordata includes all animals known as vertebrates.

List the five vertebrate classes of Animals;

1. **Mammals**
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Examples of different animals from the five Vertebrate classes exist throughout the Sanctuary. Complete the following pages based on the animals you see in the Sanctuary.

- watch their behaviour
- view their characteristics and
- read the enclosure signage

Reptiles

1. Complete the following list of reptilian characteristics to learn more about classifying animals:

- a. A body covering of _____
- b. Reptiles are _____ blooded, which means that their body temperature changes with their environment.
- c. Reptiles reproduce by _____
- d. If they are egg laying reptiles, their eggs are not hard, they are _____ shelled.

2. Complete the following table for the Saltwater Crocodile

(Use enclosure signage to help you).

Level of Classification	Australian Saltwater Crocodile
Phylum	
Class	
Order	Crocodylia
Family	
Genus	
Species	Crocodylus porosus

Life and living things: A pair of Barn Owls can eat 3000 rats a year.

ANIMAL ANTICS

Animals develop special characteristics which help them function best in their natural habitat. These can be colouring, structural, reproductive, behavioural or functional [internal].

Find these animals in the Sanctuary and complete the table.

Characteristic	Type of adaptation	Reason for adaptation
Tail of Shingleback Lizard	Functional	Stores fat for times of food shortage
Spur on the Cassowary		
Colouration of the Tawny Frogmouth		
Koalas sleep for 18-20 hours everyday		
Owls produce a casting		
Female kangaroos can hold development of embryos		

Point of trivia: The Northern Hairy-Nosed Wombat is classified as critically endangered.

GOING, GOING, GONE ...

The Bilby species once covered 70% of Australia's mainland throughout the arid and semi arid regions. Today, the Bilby can be found in fragmented populations in the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South-West Queensland.

Unfortunately, the Bilby is considered to be critically endangered. List reasons why animals may become endangered:

The following animals at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary are on the threatened/ endangered list. Use the table below to indicate the reasons behind them being endangered.

Species	Reasons why numbers are decreasing?				
	Feral introduced animals	Animal smuggling	Destruction of habitat	Water/air pollution	Hunted by humans
Bilby					
Frogs					
Tasmanian Devil					
Southern Cassowary					
Northern hairy-nosed wombat					

Comment on how you can help.

Point of trivia: Over three quarters of Australia's rainforest has been destroyed. The remaining rainforest is threatened by logging, houses, mining, weed invasion and burning.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Many organisations assist in improving the lives of animals and increasing their chance of survival in the wild. Do you think it is the responsibility of all humans to care about the future of all animals? Why / Why Not?

2. If you were working in a high level of parliament, give an example of one policy or action you would put into place to help protect our animals and their environment.

3. Today you've seen many different species of animals. Why is biodiversity so important to the ongoing survival of these animals? And why do you think biodiversity is important to the earth? _____

Point of trivia: Biodiversity is the variety of all living things, including plants, animals, micro organisms and their inter-relationships.

HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO AUSTRALIA'S WILDLIFE?



At Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary...

While you're visiting the Sanctuary, help us make sure you and the animals stay safe and happy by:

- listening to your teachers
- behaving safely on the train (keep limbs inside the train and do not disembark / board the train while it is still in motion)
- avoid all train tracks
- showing respect for all animals and other people at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary
- showing you understand that animals need a quiet, calm and safe environment.

At Home and at School...

You, your family and friends can do many things in your own environment to make a positive difference by:

- putting rubbish in the bin
- turning the tap off when cleaning your teeth to save water
- turning off lights and fans when not in use to save power
- reducing waste. For example, say "No" to plastic bags, reuse bottles and plastics as much as possible
- planting native plants.
- telling an adult and/or Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary when you see an injured Australian native animal !
- getting involved. Have you thought about a career in working with animals? Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary offers hands-on courses aimed at teaching community members about caring for sick, injured or orphaned wildlife. Eight week night time courses run throughout the year. Phone 1300 886 511 for details or visit www.cws.org.au

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Get closer

FREE CHILD PASS
(with an accompanying adult)

We hope to see you again at the
Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary