



Get closer.



Name: _____

School: _____

Class: _____

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS

Animals develop special characteristics which help them function best in their natural habitat. These can be colouring, structural, reproductive, behavioural or functional. Find these animals in the sanctuary and describe their unique adaptations.

Colourings and Blue Tongued Lizards

How does their colouring assist Blue Tongued Lizards? _____

Reproduction and Echidnas

What is unique about this animal? _____

Structural and Pelican

What is unique about a pelican's feet? _____

Behavioural and Owls

Owls are nocturnal. Why is this an advantage for owls? _____

Functional and Koalas

Eucalyptus leaves are toxic (poisonous). How does their body deal with this? _____



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

WHAT AM I?

Try to work out the following animals from the clues provided.

1. I live in a rainforest, I have large claws on both my feet, I can reach a height of 1.8m , I can weigh up to 60 kg, I lay bright green eggs and I can run very fast.

S _____ C _____



2. I can be three different colours, I live in the outback or on beaches, I am a carnivore, I give birth to a litter of young and I like to howl.

D _____



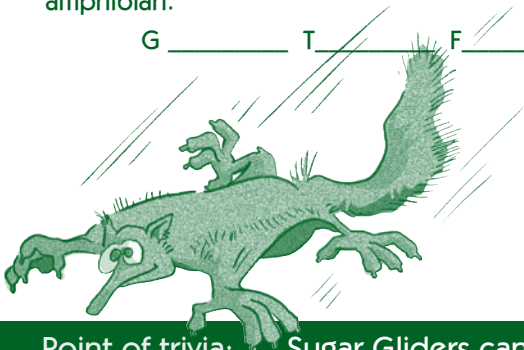
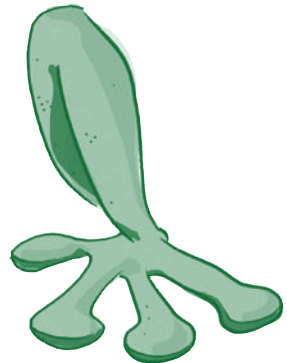
3. I live in trees, I have a loose membrane of skin between my arms and legs, I eat fruits and berries, I am covered in fur, I am an marsupial.

S _____ G _____



4. I eat insects, I have a long tongue, I have a unique vocal sound, my skin is slimy, I lay eggs and live in the trees and in water, I am an amphibian.

G _____ T _____ F _____



Point of trivia: Sugar Gliders can glide through the air for up to 50 metres.

BODY PARTS

Animals develop special characteristics which help them function best in their natural habitat. These functions may be colour, structure, reproductive, behaviour or function.

COLOURING: The physical colour of an animal can camouflage, scare away prey or attract a mate. E.g. the tongue on a blue tongue lizard

STRUCTURE: The body of the animal has adapted to suit its environment. E.g. owls have sharp claws / talons to catch their prey.

REPRODUCTIVE: The animal's ability to produce young varies depending on its

body make up. E.g. echidnas lay eggs.

BEHAVIOUR: Animals behave in ways that enable them to survive in their environment. E.g. owls are nocturnal

FUNCTION: An animals' body adaptation which has a specific purpose in increasing that animals' survival. E.g. koalas can consume toxic eucalyptus leaves due to their large caecum.

Complete the table below to discover why animals have certain body parts.

	KOALA	BARN OWL	CROCODILE
Colour	Grey and white for camouflage – grey back to be hidden from above and white bottom to hide amongst trees when seen from below.	_____	_____
Structure	_____	Has talons to catch and kill its prey	_____
Reproductive	Is a Marsupial, and Joeys stay in pouch for 6-7 months to protect them from predators.	_____	_____
Behaviour	_____	_____	Performs the death roll to confuse and drown prey.
Function	_____	Silent flight to sneak up on heir prey	_____

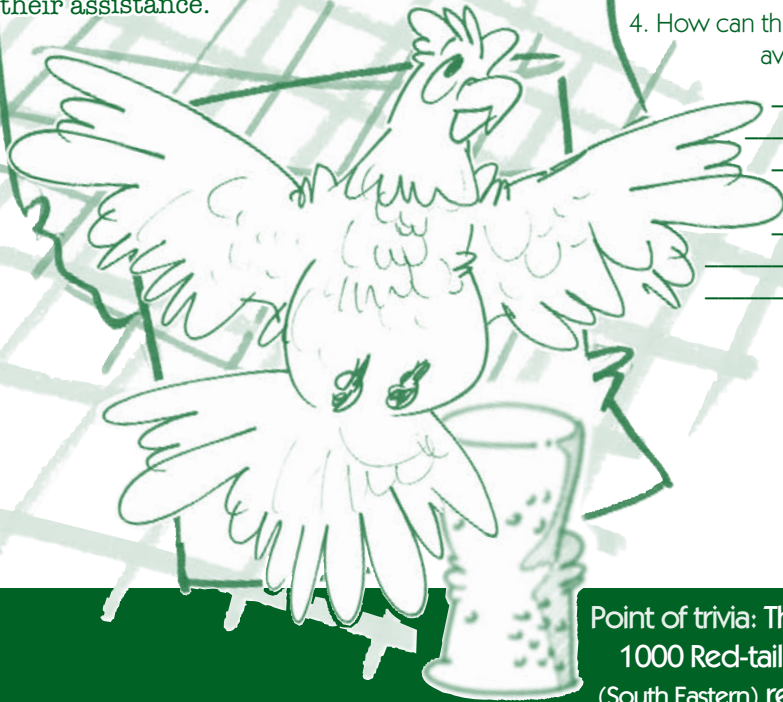
Point of trivia: Echidna spines are made from the same material as our hair and nails. It's called Keratin.

The Wild Herald

Three black cockatoos have vanished from their enclosure at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary. Reports say that in the early hours of yesterday morning, a keeper found the cockatoo enclosure had been tampered with. Ken the Keeper said, "I noticed the lock had been cut and there were signs of a struggle due to the numerous feathers around and the one remaining black cockatoo appeared to be very distressed."

An investigation was undertaken and police found three clues, a long cylinder with holes in it which suggests smugglers, footprints around the enclosure and a tyre burn out in the car park.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary keepers are very worried for the welfare of the these birds and are appealing to the public for their assistance.



NEWS FLASH

Animal Detective

1. What do you think happened to the birds?

2. Why do you think this happened?

3. How would you try to get this animal back? Where would you look?

4. How can this kind of activity be avoided in the future?

Point of trivia: There are only 700 to 1000 Red-tailed black Cockatoos (South Eastern) remaining in the wild.

NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON'T

Now you see me

Australia has more endangered species than any other continent.

Endangered means that an animal's population is decreasing and at risk of extinction.

Name three extinct animals (from anywhere in the world):

Feral animals in Australia are responsible for many species becoming endangered or extinct.

What is a feral animal? Define. _____

Name three feral species. 1. _____

2. _____

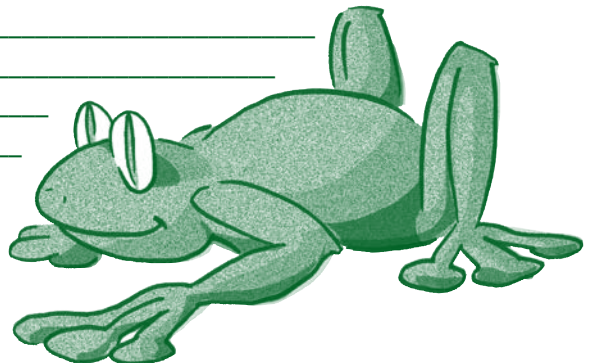
3. _____

What impact have these animals had in Australia?

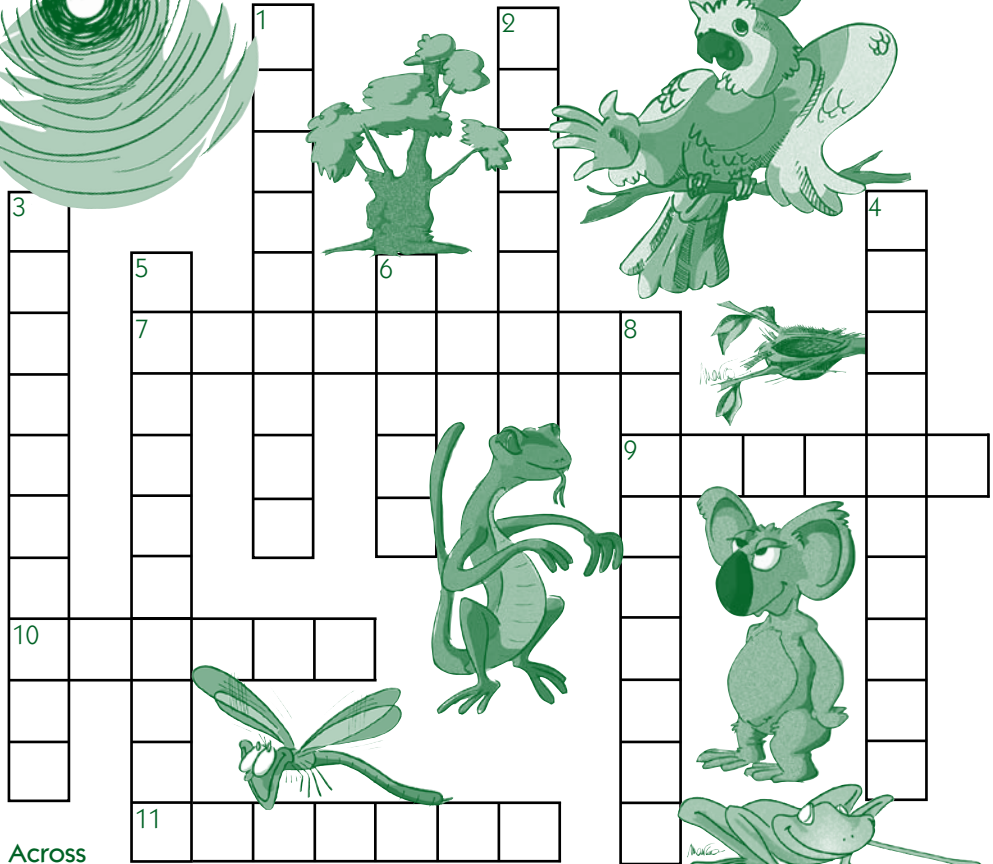
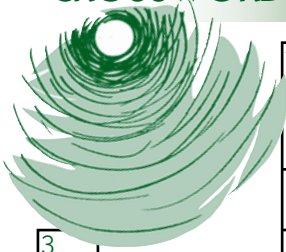
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



CROSSWORD



Across

7. A frog is known as an ... a
9. At Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, you can get c... to the animals.
10. Many birds have these kinds of claw to catch their prey ... t
11. When an animal species disappears from the environment, it is known as being ... e

Down

1. An animal with a pouch is called a ... m
2. Echidna spines are made from ... k
3. Koalas eat these kind of leaves ... e
4. Finish this statement "Together, we can make a d..."
5. What is it called when an animal can disguise itself in the environment ... c
6. I am a native Australian carnivore ... d
8. As Owls are active at night, they are known as being ... n

127 species are endangered. 18 species are critically endangered.

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 !

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