

AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS

READING COMPREHENSION!

Name: _____

Australian Animals L1

Bandicoot

A bandicoot is a small animal with a long, pointy nose. It uses its strong front feet to dig in the ground for worms and insects. Bandicoots have soft fur and are most active at night. They can quickly run away when they hear danger.



1) What does a bandicoot use to dig?

☐ strong front teeth ☐ sharp back teeth

☐ long fluffy tail ☐ wide flat paws

2) What does a bandicoot look for in the ground?

☐ nuts and seeds ☐ worms and insects

☐ fish and crabs ☐ leaves and flowers

3) When is a bandicoot most active?

☐ early morning ☐ during the day

☐ at night ☐ late afternoon



Name: _____

Australian Animals L2

Bandicoot

A bandicoot is a small animal with a long, pointy nose. It uses its strong front feet to dig in the ground for worms and insects. Bandicoots have soft fur and are most active at night. They can quickly run away when they hear danger.



1) What does a bandicoot use to dig?

2) What does a bandicoot look for in the ground?

3) When is a bandicoot most active?

Name: _____

Australian Animals L3

Bandicoot

A bandicoot is a small animal with a long, pointy nose. It uses its strong front feet to dig in the ground for worms and insects. Bandicoots have soft fur and are most active at night. They can quickly run away when they hear danger.



1) What does a bandicoot use to dig?

2) What does a bandicoot look for in the ground?

3) When is a bandicoot most active?



3
levels!



10
animals!

Name: _____ Australian Animals LJ



Blue-Ringed Octopus

The blue-ringed octopus is a very small sea animal. Bright blue rings appear on its body when it feels scared. It can hide among rocks and shells to stay safe. Even though it is small, it is one of the most dangerous octopuses in the world. People should never touch it.

1) What appears on the blue-ringed octopus when it feels scared?

- ☐ red stripes ☐ white spots
☐ blue rings ☐ green lines

2) Where can the blue-ringed octopus hide?

- ☐ in tall green grass ☐ among rocks and shells
☐ under long tree roots ☐ inside bird nests

3) Why should people never touch a blue-ringed octopus?

- ☐ It is very dangerous. ☐ It is very noisy.
☐ It is very sleepy. ☐ It is very playful.

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Name: _____ Australian Animals LJ



Echidna

An echidna is covered with sharp spines. It sniffs for ants and termites with its long nose. Then it catches them with its sticky tongue. If danger comes near, an echidna curls into a ball. Its sharp spines help protect it from other animals.

1) What covers an echidna's body?

- ☐ soft feathers ☐ sharp spines
☐ thick wool ☐ smooth scales

2) What does it use to catch ants and termites?

- ☐ a sticky tongue ☐ sharp claws
☐ big teeth ☐ a long tail

3) Why does an echidna curl into a ball?

- ☐ to fall asleep and take a long nap ☐ to protect itself from danger
☐ to stay warm ☐ to find more food

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Name: _____ Australian Animals LJ



Frilled-Neck Lizard

A frilled-neck lizard has a large frill around its neck. When it feels afraid, the frill opens wide to scare other animals. It can run very fast on its back legs. After the danger is gone, the frill folds back down. Then the lizard quickly hides or looks for food.

1) What is special about the frilled-neck lizard?

- ☐ It has a large frill. ☐ It has bright feathers.
☐ It has a long mane. ☐ It has tiny wings.

2) Why does the lizard open its frill?

- ☐ to catch large insects ☐ to scare other animals
☐ to keep warm ☐ to help it swim

3) What happens after the danger is gone?

- ☐ The frill folds back down. ☐ The frill changes color.
☐ The lizard loses its tail. ☐ The lizard falls asleep.

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Name: _____ Australian Animals LJ



Jerboa

A jerboa is a tiny animal with very long back legs. It hops across the ground in big jumps. Its long tail helps it keep its balance. Jerboas eat seeds and plants at night. Their large ears help them hear sounds and stay safe from danger.

1) What helps a jerboa make big jumps?

- ☐ long back legs ☐ short front legs
☐ small paws ☐ wide feet

2) What helps a jerboa keep its balance?

- ☐ its nose ☐ its tail
☐ its ears ☐ its teeth

3) Why are a jerboa's large ears helpful?

- ☐ to hear sounds ☐ to help it dig burrows
☐ to help it climb trees ☐ to help it swim underwater

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Name: _____ Australian Animals LJ



Kangaroo

A kangaroo moves by hopping on its strong back legs. Its long tail helps it stay balanced. A baby kangaroo is called a joey. The joey grows safely inside its mother's pouch. When the joey gets bigger, it begins to peek out of the pouch before hopping on its own.

1) How does a kangaroo move?

- ☐ It crawls. ☐ It hops.
☐ It slithers. ☐ It slithers.

2) What is a baby kangaroo called?

- ☐ chick ☐ cub
☐ pup ☐ joey

3) What does a young joey do as it gets bigger?

- ☐ It swims in rivers. ☐ It builds a nest.
☐ It begins to peek out of the pouch. ☐ It learns to climb tall trees.

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Level
1

Name: _____

Australian
Animals L2

Platypus

A platypus has a bill that looks like a duck's bill. It swims with its webbed feet to find food. The platypus eats insects and small water animals. It closes its eyes underwater while it hunts. Its flat tail helps it steer as it swims. After finding food, it comes back to the surface to breathe.

1) What does a platypus have that looks like a duck's?

2) What helps a platypus swim and steer?

3) Why does a platypus come back to the surface?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L2

Sugar Glider

A sugar glider is a small animal that spends most of its time in trees. A flap of skin helps it glide from one tree to another. Sugar gliders like to eat sweet sap, nectar, and insects. They are awake at night. During the day, they sleep in tree holes with other sugar gliders.

1) What helps a sugar glider glide from tree to tree?

2) When are sugar gliders awake?

3) What do sugar gliders like to eat?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L2

Tasmanian Devil

The Tasmanian devil has strong jaws and sharp teeth. It can make a loud growling sound when it feels upset. Tasmanian devils mostly eat meat. They also help clean nature by eating dead animals. They have a very strong sense of smell to help them find food.

1) What helps a Tasmanian devil find food?

2) What sound can a Tasmanian devil make when it feels upset?

3) How do Tasmanian devils help nature?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L2

Wombat

A wombat is a furry animal with short, strong legs. It uses its sharp claws to dig long underground burrows. Wombats rest in their burrows during the day. At night, they come out to eat grass and other plants. Their strong bodies help them dig through hard soil.

1) What does a wombat use to dig?

2) When do wombats usually come out to eat?

3) What helps a wombat dig through hard soil?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L2

Bandicoot

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1) What does a bandicoot use to dig?

2) What does a bandicoot look for in the ground?

3) When is a bandicoot most active?

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Level 2

Name: _____

Australian
Animals L3



Blue-Ringed Octopus

The blue-ringed octopus is a very small sea animal. Bright blue rings appear on its body when it feels scared. It can hide among rocks and shells to stay safe. Even though it is small, it is one of the most dangerous octopuses in the world. People should never touch it.

1) What appears on the blue-ringed octopus when it feels scared?

2) Where can the blue-ringed octopus hide?

3) Why should people never touch a blue-ringed octopus?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L3



Echidna

An echidna is covered with sharp spines. It sniffs for ants and termites with its long nose. Then it catches them with its sticky tongue. If danger comes near, an echidna curls into a ball. Its sharp spines help protect it from other animals.

1) What covers an echidna's body?

2) What does it use to catch ants and termites?

3) Why does an echidna curl into a ball?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L3



Frilled-Neck Lizard

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1) What is special about the frilled-neck lizard?

2) Why does the lizard open its frill?

3) What happens after the danger is gone?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L3



Jerboa

A jerboa is a tiny animal with very long back legs. It hops across the ground in big jumps. Its long tail helps it keep its balance. Jerboas eat seeds and plants at night. Their large ears help them hear sounds and stay safe from danger.

1) What helps a jerboa make big jumps?

2) What helps a jerboa keep its balance?

3) Why are a jerboa's large ears helpful?

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Name: _____

Australian
Animals L3



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1) How does a kangaroo move?

2) What is a baby kangaroo called?

3) What does a young joey do as it gets bigger?

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Level
3

Name: _____ **Australian Animals L1**



Tasmanian Devil

The Tasmanian devil has strong jaws and sharp teeth. It can make a loud growling sound when it feels upset. Tasmanian devils mostly eat meat. They also help clean nature by eating dead animals. They have a very strong sense of smell to help them find food.

1) What helps a Tasmanian devil find food?

- ☐ a very strong sense of smell ☐ bright, colorful feathers
☐ long front tusks ☐ webbed feet

2) What sound can a Tasmanian devil make when it feels upset?

- ☐ a soft whistle ☐ a loud growl
☐ a quiet chirp ☐ a gentle hum

3) How do Tasmanian devils help nature?

- ☐ They plant seeds. ☐ They eat dead animals.
☐ They build nests. ☐ They carry water.

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Name: _____ **Australian Animals L2**



Tasmanian Devil

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Tasmanian Devil

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**Low
prep!**

Students can practice critical thinking and deductive reasoning to make meaning of the text!

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- 1) What does a bandicoot use to dig?

☐ strong front teeth	☐ sharp back teeth
☐ long fluffy tail	☐ wide flat paws
- 2) What does a bandicoot look for in the ground?

☐ nuts and seeds	☐ worms and insects
☐ fish and crabs	☐ leaves and flowers
- 3) When is a bandicoot most active?

☐ early morning	☐ during the day
☐ at night	☐ late afternoon

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Name: _____ Australian Animals L2



Blue-Ringed Octopus

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- 1) What appears on the blue-ringed octopus when it feels scared?

- 2) Where can the blue-ringed octopus hide?

- 3) Why should people never touch a blue-ringed octopus?

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Name: _____ Australian Animals L3



Frilled-Neck Lizard

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- 2) Why does the lizard open its frill?

- 3) What happens after the danger is gone?

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Name: _____ Australian Animals L3



Platypus

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**B&W
included!**

Name: **ANSWER-KEY** Australian Animals L1



Jerboa

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☐ small paws ☐ wide feet

2) What helps a jerboa keep its balance?

- ☐ its nose ☒ its tail
☐ its ears ☐ its teeth

3) Why are a jerboa's large ears helpful?

- ☒ to hear sounds ☐ to help it dig burrows
☐ to help it climb trees ☐ to help it swim underwater

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Name: **ANSWER-KEY** Australian Animals L2



Jerboa

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Long back legs help a jerboa make big jumps.

2) What helps a jerboa keep its balance?

A jerboa's tail helps it keeps its balance.

3) Why are a jerboa's large ears helpful?

They help them hear sounds and stay safe from danger.

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Name: **ANSWER KEY** Australian Animals L3



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Answer keys included for quick and easy assessment!

If you like this resource, you may also want to check these out!

CRAFTS AND WRITING ACTIVITIES ABORIGINAL DOT ART CRAFTS!



ALL ABOUT DOT ART

Aboriginal dot art is a special kind of art made by the Aboriginal people of Australia. This art is made by using many small dots and symbols to create pictures and patterns. The artists often painted on rocks, walls, or even the ground. Each painting has a unique meaning, a story, or explained something using dots and special symbols.

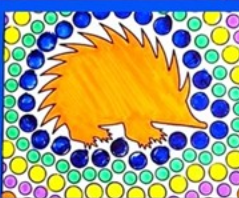


MY AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL

I chose the koala because it is a gentle animal. It can stand for peace and protection in Australia.



I chose the kangaroo because they are an important cultural symbol and food source for many Australian Aboriginals.



DIFFERENTIATED READING COMPREHENSION READING COMP BUNDLE!

Name: Tyrone Native American Heritage LS

Sioux

The Sioux lived in the northern Great Plains. They moved around from place to place following the buffalo. They lived in teepees that could be taken down and set up quickly. They got most of their food from hunting bison, deer, and elk.

1) Where did the Sioux live?

☐ Southeast America ☒ Northern Great Plains

☐ Mexico ☐ Southwest America

2) Which animal did they follow?

☐ giraffe ☐ bird

☐ rat ☒ buffalo

3) Which animals did they hunt?

☐ bison ☐ deer

☐ elk ☒ all of these

Name: Samira Women's History LS

Maya Lin

Maya won a design contest of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Her design was a black granite wall with the names of fallen soldiers. She was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2016 by President Barack Obama.

1) What contest did Maya win?

She won a design contest of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial

2) Who gave her an award?

President Barack Obama gave her an award

3) What was her design?

Her design was

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