



EDUCATION PROGRAM



MERLIN
education

Wild Teens

Classifications and Adaptations Worksheet

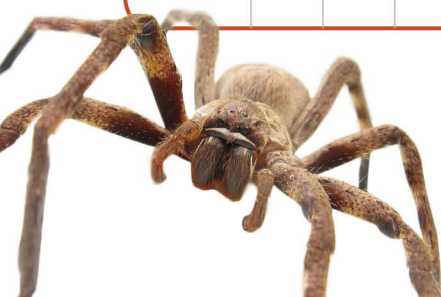
STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8



SECTION 1

On your journey through the zoo, make sure to complete the animal checklist as you observe and discover each animal. Some animals may be hiding so make sure you take a closer look inside each enclosure.

Animal	Body Surface				Reproduction					Temp.		Type of Limb Inc. numbers				Vertebrate Class
	Naked Moist skin	Dry scales	Feather	Fur or hair	Jelly-like eggs	Soft-shelled eggs	Hard-shelled eggs	Live young with pouch	Live young no pouch	Endo-thermic	Ecto-thermic	None	Legs	Wings	Fins/Flippers	
Princess Parrot																
Echidna																
Cassowary																
Green tree frog																
Kangaroo																
Rock Wallaby																
Python																
Saltwater Crocodile																
Turtles																
Wombat																
Spider																
Platypus																



Wild Teens

Worksheet

STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8



SECTION 2

Observe the Koalas closely and read the information presented at the enclosures to answer the questions below.

1. Koalas are classified as marsupials. Marsupials are one of the three groups that make up the larger group called Mammals.

- a. Provide three features that Koalas share with other mammals.

- i.

- ii.

- iii.

- b. Explain why the Koala is a marsupial.

2. Name and describe two features (adaptations) that Koalas possess that allow for survival in trees.

- ii.

- ii.

3. Explain why the Koala joey eats the soft faecal pap excreted by the mother.

4. What does the Koala do to stay cool?

Wild Teens

Worksheet

STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

SECTION 3

To identify an animal using a dichotomous key a number of questions must be followed:

On your discovery, look out for some reptiles and use the key below to determine which type of reptile you can see. Follow the steps and ask the questions, use yes and no answers to help determine which reptile you have found.

	Features	Reptile Order
1	a) Doesn't have eyes or eyelids	Snake
	b) eyelids and legs	Go to 2
2	a) Has a hard shell above and below the body	Turtle / Tortoise
	b) Doesn't have a hard shell	Go to 3
3	a) Has webbed feet	Crocodile
	b) Doesn't have webbed feet	Lizard



Reptile's Name	Features				Reptile Order
	Legs	Eyelids	Shell	Webbed Feet	



Wild Teens

Worksheet

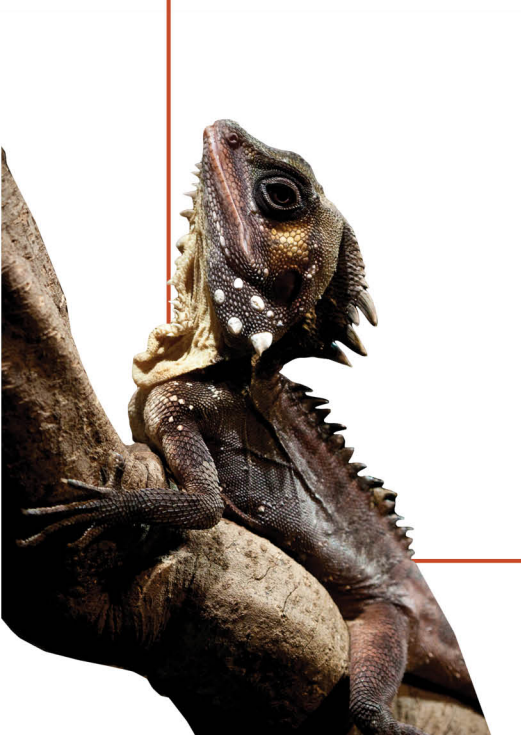
STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

Did you know fact?

Australia is home to many venomous snakes, including the world's deadliest, the inland taipan. The venom of an inland taipan is so potent that a single bite could kill 250 000 mice, which equates to 100 people, or 10 elephants!

Inland Taipans live in the Australian Outback, one of the world's most remote environments. To cope with this harsh environment, they change colour with season. They are lighter during summer to reflect the sun's rays, and become darker in winter to absorb more heat from the sun. While the inland taipan has the world's most lethal venom, they are shy in nature, and rarely attempt to bite, even when provoked. There are no human fatalities on record from this species, and anti-venom is available should a bite occur.

In the space provided below, draw one of the reptiles you have observed today and label its external features that help it to survive.



Wild Teens

Worksheet

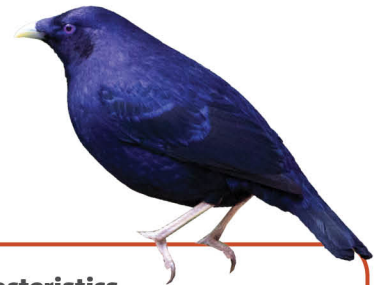
STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

SECTION 4

Animal Focus: Australian Birds

There are so many different types of birds that call Wild Life Sydney Zoo home, each with its own distinct features and characteristics that have helped it to adapt and survive their environments.

Find the following key species and complete the table below to compare the animals listed.



Bird	Habitat Location	Features / Characteristics
Satin bower bird		
White-browed woodswallow		
Red collared lorikeets		
Whistling Ducks		



Wild Teens

Worksheet

STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

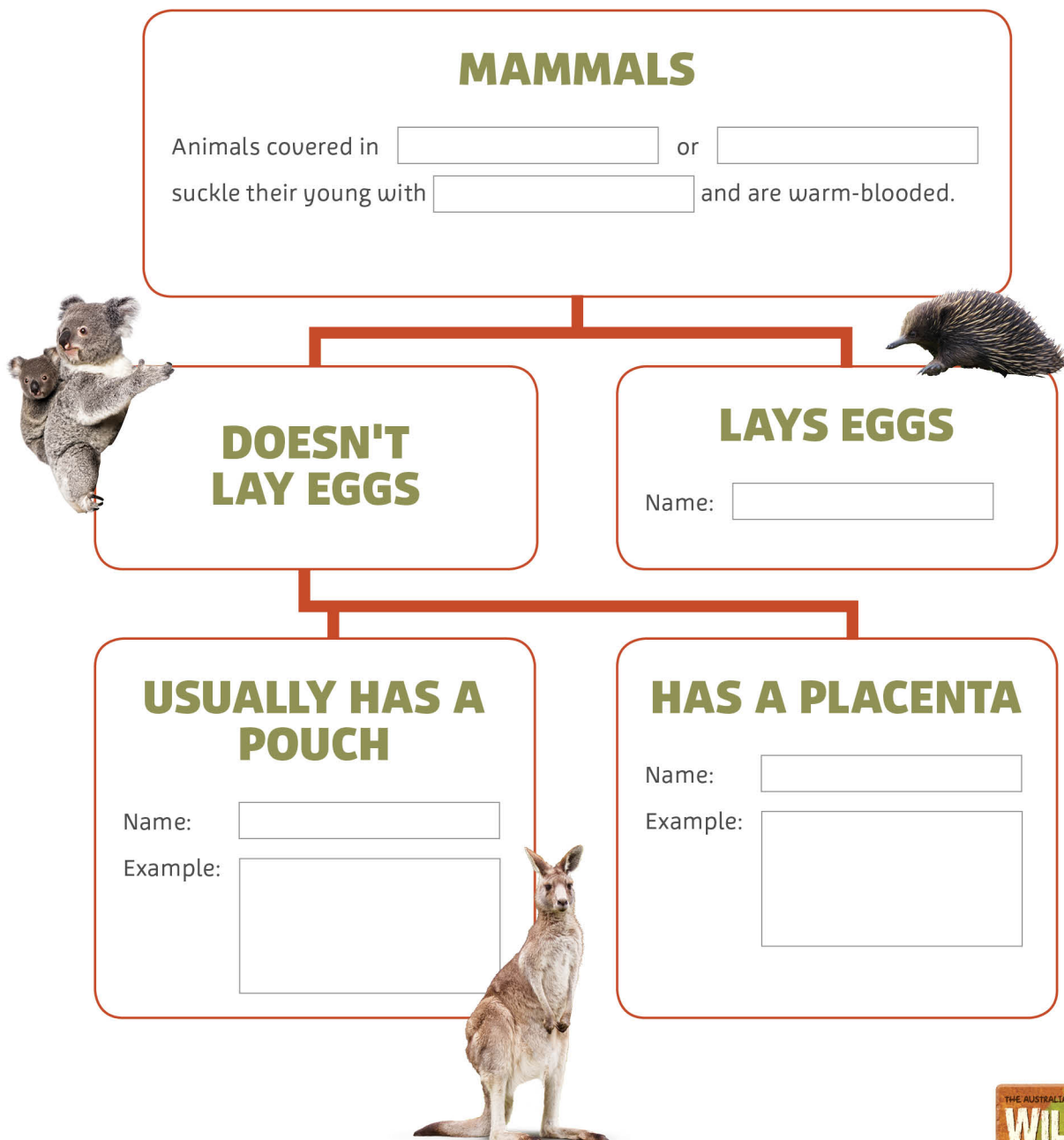
SECTION 5

Animal Focus: Mammals

Mammals can be classified into three smaller groups (Monotremes, Marsupials and Placentals). A mammals reproductive features are used to determine which group it belongs to.

An unfinished flow chart key is provided below. It classifies mammals into one of three groups. Complete this key.

Word bank: Fur, Hair, milk



Wild Teens

Worksheet

STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

SECTION 6

Animal Focus: Wombats

Read the following passage about wombats and use the word bank to help fill in the missing words.

Word bank:

- common
- Ringo,
- forests
- herbivores
- sedges
- survival
- round
- burrows
- arid
- intruders
- backside

Our wombat is a wombat named , the common wombat or Bare-nose wombat is found within the of south-eastern Australia. These large burrowin feed mostly at night on a variety of grasses, , forbs, roots and bulbs. The main threats of their include habitat loss, collision with vehicles, persecution by people and farmers.

Wombats are the lovable layabouts of the Aussie bush with their , stout bodies and shuffling walk. Southern Hairy-nosed Wombats live in , which can give them protection from predators and the elements.

Their range within the southern region of Australia means temperatures can regularly soar to over 35 degrees Celsius in the summer, but the temperatures within the burrow stays at around 25 degrees Celsius, just perfect for escaping the heat.

Anyone who tries to enter had better watch out! Smaller and predators can be squashed against the side of the burrow with the wombats bony-platted , and the wombats powerful claws can make short work of most threats.



Wild Teens

Worksheet

STAGE 4 YEAR 7 & 8

In the space provide draw the wombats burrow and its surrounding environment.

