



EXTERNAL FEATURES

CURRICULUM LINKS:

- STI-SCI-OI – describes characteristics and changes in living things
- STI-PQU-OI – poses questions and investigates cause and effect
- STI-DAT-OI – collects and represents data to identify patterns
- STI-4LW-S – describes observable features of living things and groups them using external features



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SECTION 1

Match it!

Draw a line to match the term to the correct word meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| A non-living thing | is something that eats, breathes air, grows and has babies. |
| Once a living thing | is something that does not eat, breathe air, grow or have babies. |
| A living thing | is something that was once part of a living thing, i.e., echidna quills. |

SECTION 2

What is an external feature?

Animals have different external features, called body parts. These body parts help us identify what type of animal they are. External features are very important, as they help animals survive in their environment.

In this activity, circle the body parts that belong to animals, not humans.



wings



lips



beak



face



claws



quills



hand



tail



feet



whiskers



beak



nose



feathers



ears

SECTION 3

Draw me!

Koalas are known for their strong claws, large nose and fluffy ears.

Draw a koala and include its important external features.

Label at least three body parts that help it survive.



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SECTION 4



True or false

Which of the following statements about Tasmanian devils are true? Circle the answer you think is correct.

- TRUE FALSE 1. Tasmanian devils live in a burrow called a den.
- TRUE FALSE 2. Tasmanian devils only eat plants, roots and flowers.
- TRUE FALSE 3. Tasmanian devils have a pouch in which their babies live when they are born.
- TRUE FALSE 4. Tasmanian devils are only found in the wild in Tasmania.

SECTION 5

Reptiles

Read the following passage about snakes' external features and use the word bank to fill in the missing words.

Word Bank: head, vertebrates, don't, ears, vibrations, slender, shape, carnivores, catch, teeth, whole, jaw.

A snake's body is modified because of its long,

body

The pelvic girdle which is the skeletal arch that supports the hind limbs of most

is missing in most snakes. This is why snakes

have any limbs (arms or legs).

Snakes have internal

but not external ones, so when they are slithering along

the ground, snakes use

to identify if something is coming close to them. Snakes

are

(meat-eaters), which means their bodies have been designed to help them be

able to

other animals. As snakes have no

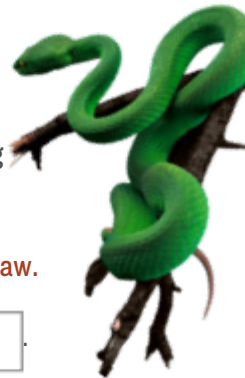
, they have to

swallow their prey

in one piece. In order to be able to do this snakes have a flexible

which allows them to eat food

bigger than the size of their



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SECTION 6

I am not a bear!

Koalas are often called "koala bears", but this is incorrect.. Koalas are very different from bears and have different external features.

Draw a line to match each statement to the correct animal.



I live high up in trees.

I live in caves or on the ground.

I am small in size

I am medium to large in size.

My fur is grey and white in colour.

I eat only Eucalyptus leaves

I eat a mix of plants, roots, small animals like birds and fish.

You can only find me in Australia.

You can find me in many continents across Europe, Asia, North and South America.



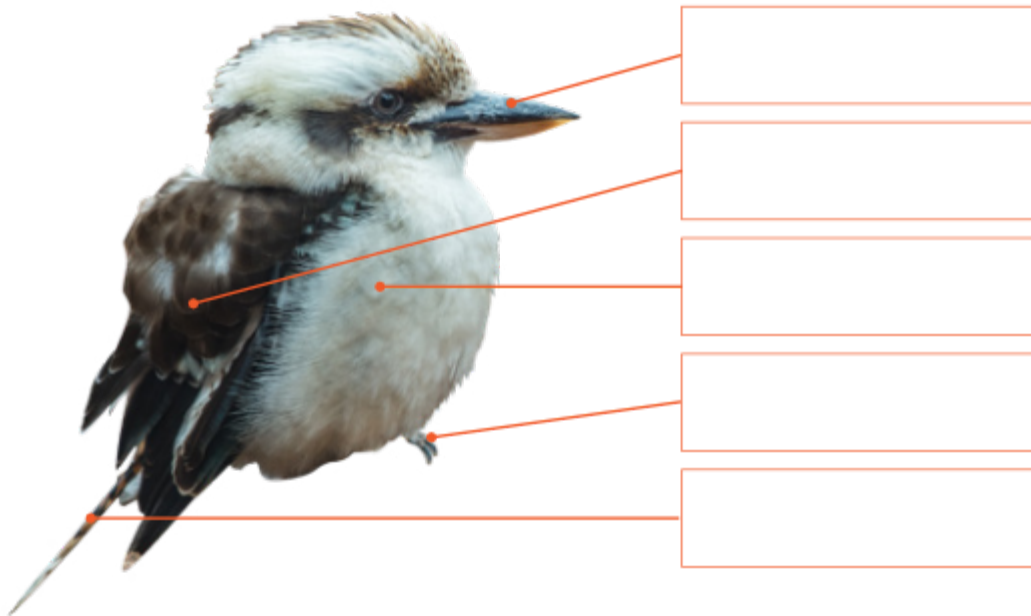
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SECTION 7

Birds

In the space provided, label the kookaburra's external features.



SECTION 8

Vocabulary List

When you return to school, look up the meaning of the following words you learned today at WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo.

External features	
Non-living	
Habitat	
Scales	
Wings	
Vertebrate	
Herbivore	
Desert	