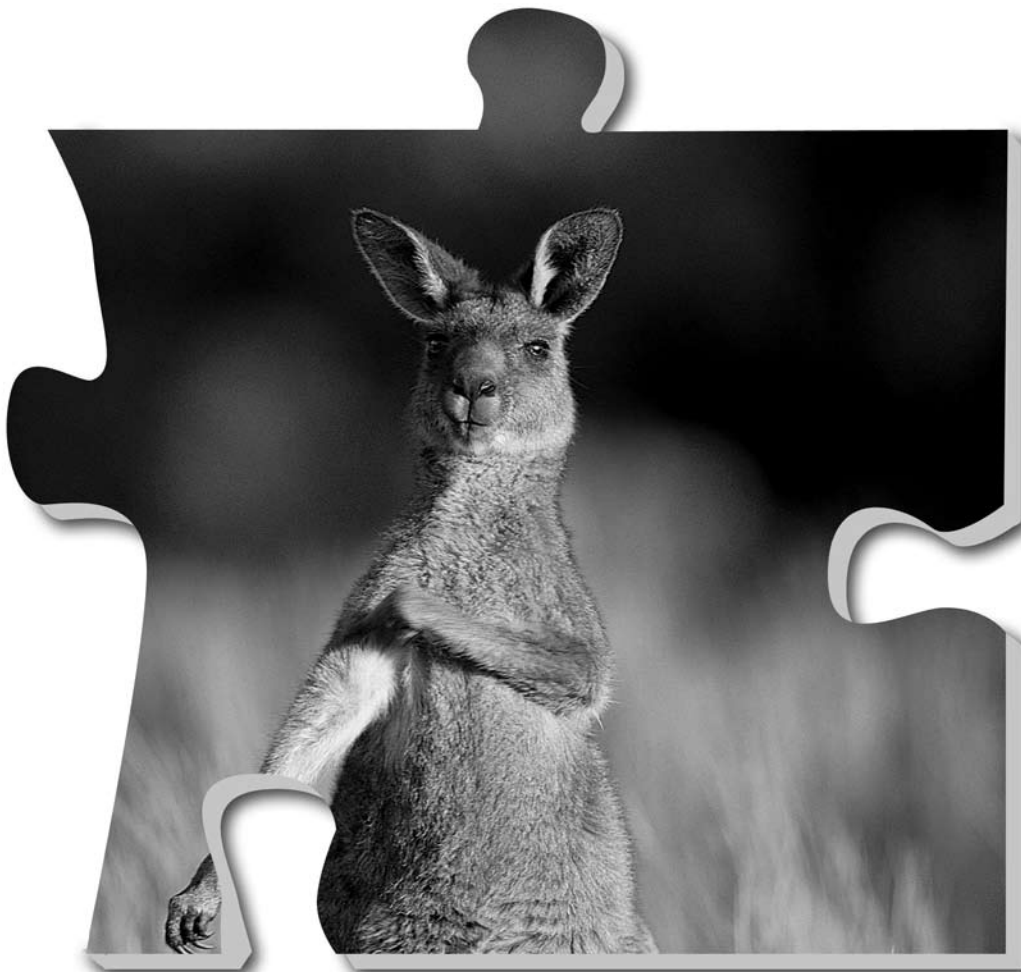




KANGAROOS



(800) 295-5010

Disney's ANIMAL WORLD

KANGAROOS

Objectives

The student in grades K-2 will:

- Become familiar with the physical characteristics of kangaroos
- Learn how kangaroos adapt to their environment
- Be introduced to the behavior of kangaroos and their offspring

Synopsis

Through live-action footage, students observe kangaroos in Australia. Clips from Disney animated films further illustrate key facts about these powerful jumpers. Students learn how female kangaroos carry their baby joeys in their warm pouches for protection, why kangaroos have such strong tails, what kangaroos eat, where they live—and much more. Two short, fun quizzes help students focus on what they've learned.

Preview Questions

1. What do you know about kangaroos? What are some of the distinctive features of a kangaroo? Why do kangaroos have pouches? Why do they hop?
2. Does hopping slow kangaroos down? Why or why not?

Suggested Activities

1. Invite students to create an imaginary tour of the wildlife of Australia and its neighbors including animals such as kangaroos, koala bears, Tasmanian devils, and other favorite creatures. They can check out books about these animals from the library and display them, bring in stuffed animals and/or draw pictures. Then they can take turns visiting the display with partners. Encourage them to write or dictate comments and observations in a "visitor's log."
2. Ask students to each contribute a page about kangaroos for a "Kanga" book. Every page should have a sentence that begins with "Kangas" followed by what kangaroos do. Sample sentences: Kangas kick. Kangas jump with joeys. Kangas drink water. Kangas like to snack. Depending on the age of the students, they can write or dictate words, phrases, or sentences and illustrate their pages. After compiling the pages into a class book, invite students to share their pages with the class.

Subject:
Science

Running Time:
16 minutes



3. Help students complete a chart such as the one below that tells how the special physical characteristics of kangaroos help them survive.

Special parts of a kangaroo's body	How they help kangaroos survive
big feet	help them flee predators
pouches	help them protect their young
large ears	help them hear approaching predators or danger

4. Point out that kangaroos are plant eaters or herbivores. Choose several herbivores such as hippos, cows, and kangaroos, and several carnivores such as wolves, lions, and foxes. Write each animal's name on a separate slip of paper, place the slips in a bag, and mix them up. Draw the slips from the bag one by one. Read each animal's name aloud and ask, "Herbivore or carnivore?" Students can say "Munch, munch, plants for lunch!" if they think the animal eats plants. If they think it eats meat, they can say, "Meat's neat, and it's a treat!" After the class comes to a consensus, write the animal's name on the board under the heading *Plant Eaters/Herbivores* or *Meat Eaters/Carnivores*.
5. Remind students that a family group of kangaroos is called a mob. Help them brainstorm a list of other special words for animal groups. Examples: a troop of monkeys, a school of fish, a herd of sheep, a flock of birds. Students might use the words in simple sentences such as "A school of fish swam by." Encourage them to draw pictures to go with their sentences.

On the DVD

Scene Selection

The program on this DVD is divided into 5 chapters. This allows the user to enter at different points in the program.

- Chapter 1: Mob Life
- Chapter 2: Quiz Time 1
- Chapter 3: Hip Hoppers
- Chapter 4: Quiz Time 2
- Chapter 5: One More Look

DVD Activities

These classroom activities, found on the DVD, include relevant short scenes from the program.

Baby Kangaroos

What are some of the reasons a baby kangaroo, called a joey, spends its first months in its mother's pouch? When does the joey know it is time to leave? Have a conversation about it with a classmate. Make one person the mother kangaroo and the other the joey.



Fast and Faster!

Kangaroos move very quickly. Work in small groups to name three other animals and describe how they move on the ground. Are they fast or slow? Draw a picture of each and put them in order from the slowest to the fastest.

Additional Resources

Disney Educational Productions

<http://www.Edustation.Disney.com>

This award-winning site contains additional activities and resources for use with this DVD.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

www.abc.net.au/schoolstv/animals/KANGAROOS.htm#top

Australian television fact page on kangaroos.

Surfing the Net with Kids

<http://www.surfnetkids.com/games/australia-js2.htm>

