

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Animals of Australia

What unusual animals live in Australia? Fill in the blanks in this article to read about them.

**C**an you find Australia on a world map?

It is a very large island. It is also one of the seven \_\_\_\_\_ . Most of its people live near the coast. The middle of Australia is very dry. Some of it is \_\_\_\_\_. Not too many people live there. But many unusual animals do!

### Word List

continents  
desert  
pouches  
powerful  
webbed

You may recognize Australia's most famous animals.

They are kangaroos. They have \_\_\_\_\_ back legs for hopping. Kangaroos are big, but they can hop very fast. Kangaroo babies are called joeys. Joeys spend their first few months riding in their mother's \_\_\_\_\_ .

You may also know koalas. Some people think they look like teddy bears! But they're not bears at all. Koalas spend almost all of their time in trees. They stay there to avoid bigger animals below.

Now look to the water to find the platypus. Its \_\_\_\_\_ feet and flat bill make it look like a duck with fur!

### Think About It!

What does the platypus have in common with a duck?