



Marsupial's Pouch

PROGRAM GOALS

- ✎ Learn about marsupials
- ✎ To understand why these animals, have a pouch

GRADES
3rd to 5th

MATERIALS

- ✎ Scissors
- ✎ Yarn
- ✎ Hole-punch
- ✎ Crayons

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- ✎ Ensure students are actively engage with the project

Which Animals Have a Pouch?

Practice your students' crafting skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo marsupials. Marsupials make up the largest group of Australian mammals! Ask these variety of questions to students engage your students even further:

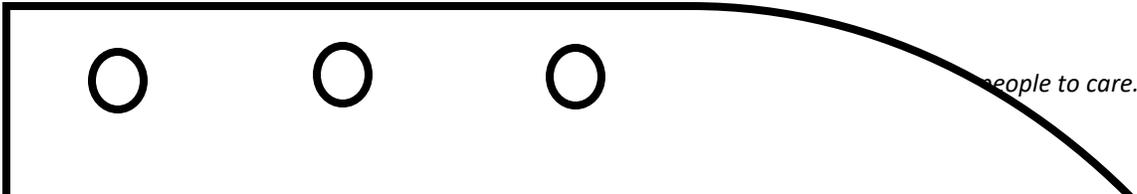
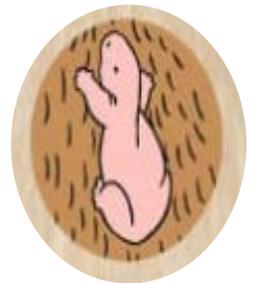
- ✎ Do you know what animals are marsupials?
- ✎ Where do you think you find the most marsupials?
- ✎ What's unique about marsupials?
- ✎ Why do you think they have a pouch?
- ✎ What does the life look like for the baby?

Cut out the pouch and hole punch the holes with students. Have students lace the pouch together. The lacing allows students to practice their fine motor skills. Once they finish lacing their pouch, please encourage them to decorate their pouches and write their name on top. Cut out the animal pieces and ask your students to put which animals they think are marsupials and put them in their pouch. Marsupials are animals that have a pouch. Ensure students are placing the correct animals into their pouches. Dingo and black-headed monitors are the only animals that do not have a pouch.

Once they placed their baby animals in their pouch, encourage them to move like those animals around the classroom. They can hop like a kangaroo, walk on four legs like a Tasmanian Devil, and more. Be on the lookout for the marsupials at the zoo! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email education@kidszoo.org to express how you used these supplemental activities!

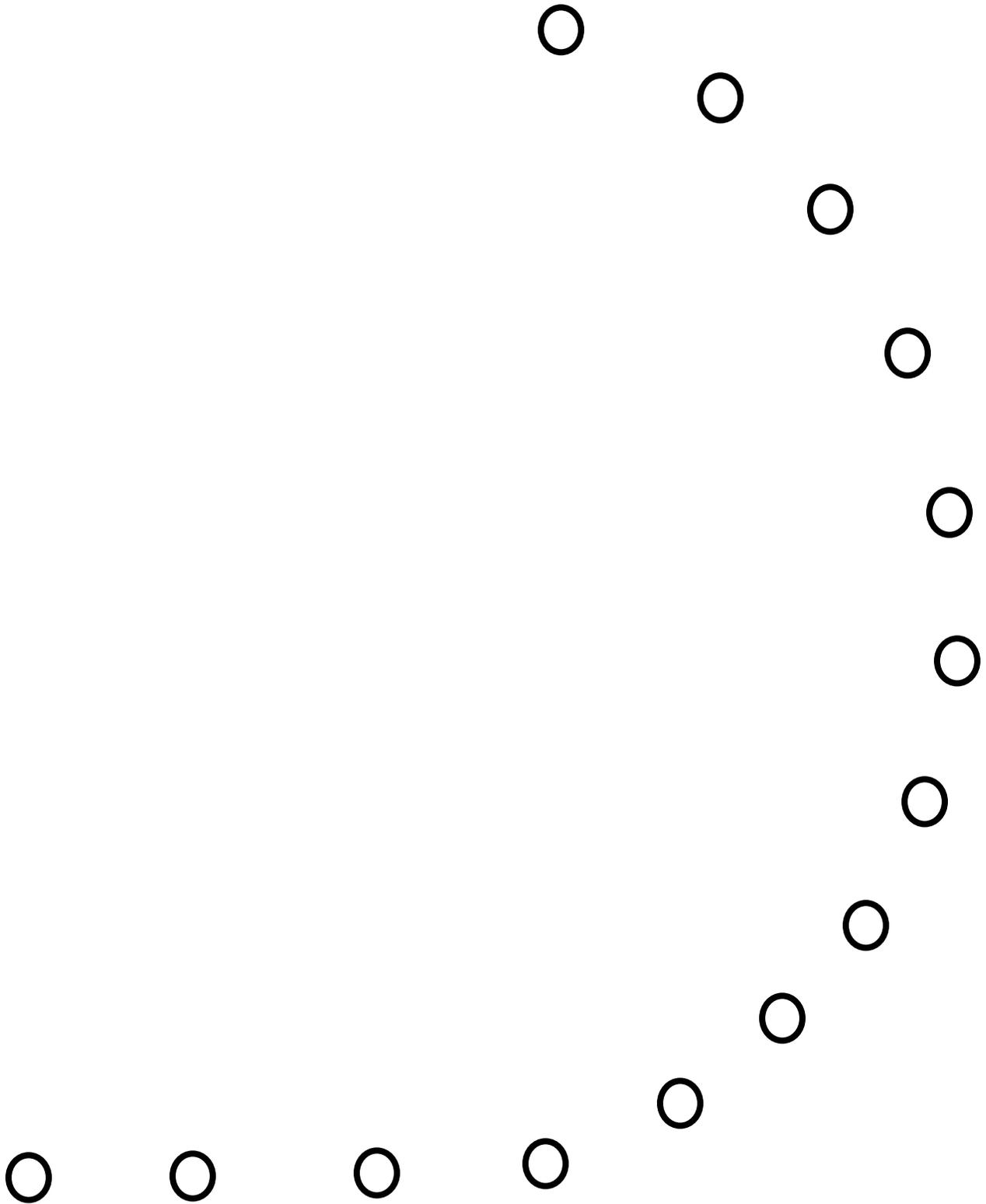
What's the Purpose of the Pouch?

There are more than 100 types of marsupials found in Australia! Some of these animals include kangaroos, koalas, wombats, and Tasmanian Devils. These animals are born in a highly underdeveloped state after a short pregnancy period. The tiny, blind baby, about the size of a bean, must travel on its own from the womb to the pouch. This journey takes only a few minutes as the baby pulls itself across the mother's fur to the pouch. Once inside the pouch, the baby attaches to a teat (nipple) and begins to nurse. After a few months, the baby may get its first glimpse of the world by peeking out from the pouch. Gradually, the youngster comes out from the pouch more and more, eventually leaving for good after a year or more.



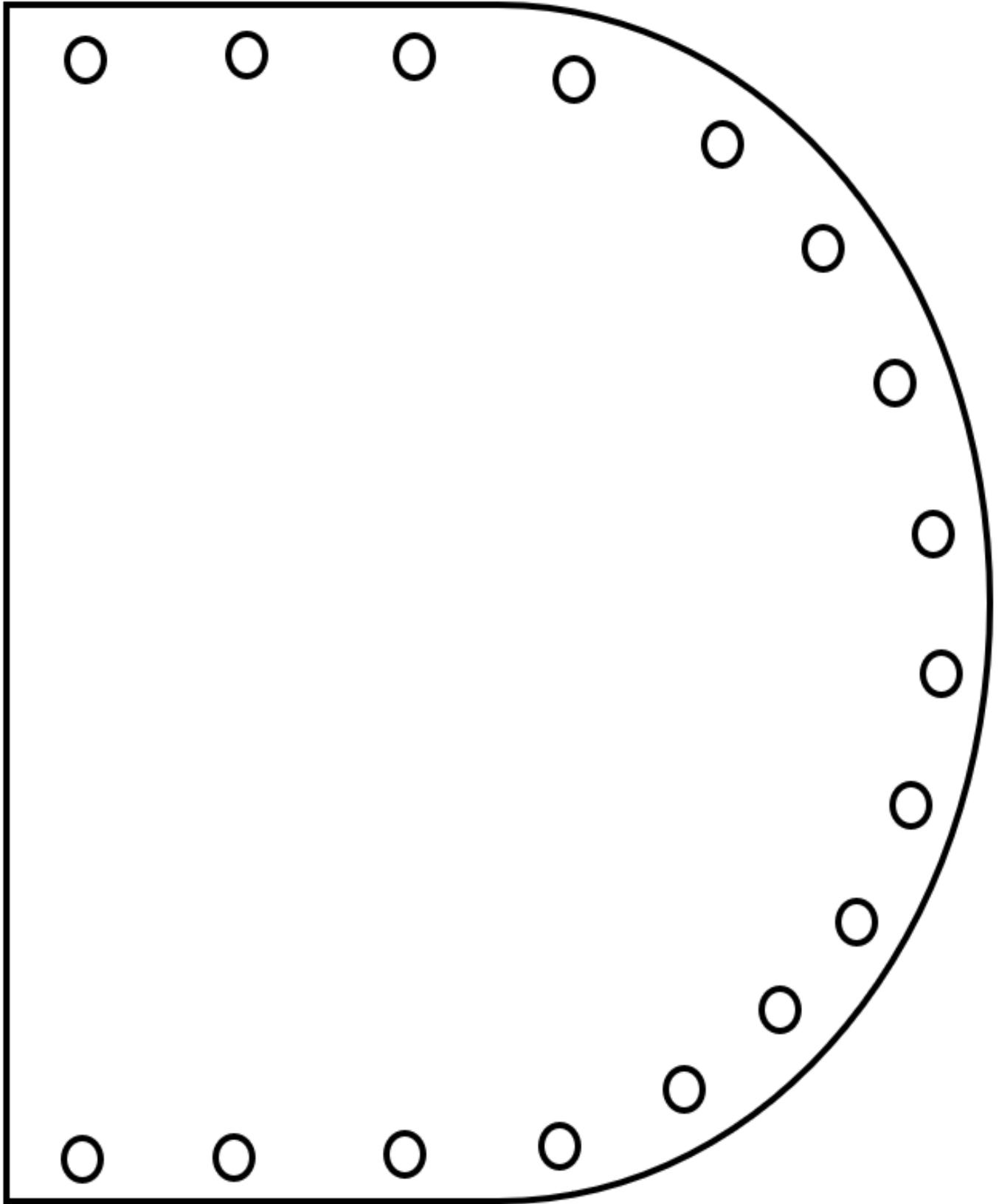


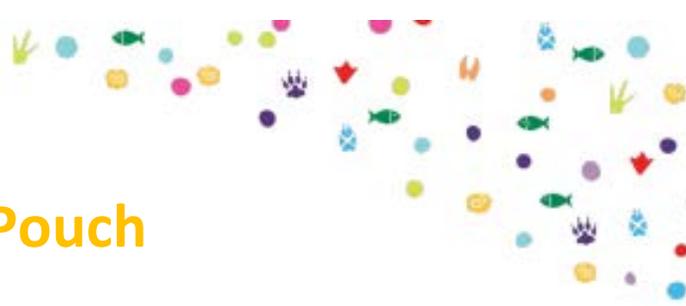
Marsupial's Pouch





Marsupial's Pouch





Marsupial's Pouch

