



## PROGRAM GOALS

- Identify an animal from Australia
- Write detailed information about that animal based on their observations

## GRADES

4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>

## MATERIALS

- Clipboards
- Pencils

## STANDARDS

- SCI.4.3.1
- SCI.4.3.3

## RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Grade worksheet based on completeness
- Assess students on appropriateness of words used to describe animals

## Hey Mate, let's Explore the Outback!

Practice your students' observation skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo Australian animals. Australia is home to a wide variety of reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals. See below for a variety of questions to engage your students even further:

- Do you know much about this animal?
- Observe an animal that you don't know much about!
- Do you want to observe a small or large animal?
- What type of habitat does this animal lives in?
- What's the difference between a reptile, amphibian, bird, and mammal?

Have students select one animal found in Australia Adventure to observe for this assignment. Please encourage them to choose an animal that they do not know much about to expand their knowledge of animals from Australia. Answer students' questions the best you can as they observe individually on their animal. There are many informational signs of each animal, so encourage your students to read them to answer the worksheet's questions. Once they completed their observation, they will find a partner with a different animal to share their findings.

Australia is best known for its 730 species of birds, many of which are colorful parrots. They are well-known as pets and for their ability to talk. Australia is also home to a wide variety of reptiles and amphibians, including snakes, turtles, lizards, crocodiles, frogs, and toads. Marsupials make up the largest group of Australian mammals. Kangaroos and Tasmanian devils are just a few -- more than 100 types of marsupials are found in Australia. Marsupials are born in a highly underdeveloped state after pregnancy. The tiny, blind baby is about the size of a bean must travel on its own from the womb to the pouch. Be on the lookout for other Australian animals at the zoo and ask zookeepers or instructors questions to learn more! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children' Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email [education@kidszoo.org](mailto:education@kidszoo.org) to express how you used these supplemental activities!





## Observing Australian Animals



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANIMAL NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

Find your animal. Use all your senses to answer these questions:

1. Sketch your animal on the empty space of the paper.
2. What does this animal eat?
3. Is this animal cold-blooded or warm-blooded?
4. How does this animal travel from one place to another?
5. What unique body structures do they have? What's the purpose of it?
6. What other animals in the zoo does this animal remind you of?
7. What colors do they have? Where & why do you think they have specific coloration on their body?

