

Glossary



Term	Definition
Animal	A living thing that gets energy by eating other living things. Has senses and can react to things in its environment.
Australia	Name of the country we call home.
Bask	Lie in the sun or warm area get warmth and light
Beak	Where a bird's mouth is. Can open and close as jaws
Bird	A warm-blooded species that has feathers, wings, a beak and lays eggs.
Bony Backside/Plate	A very hard bony plate found on the rump of Wombats. Used to protect themselves from predators.
Burrow	A hole or tunnel dug by an animal. Used to live in.
Bushfire	A fire in scrub or forest environment
Camouflage	The ability to hide or disguise into the surrounding environment.
Carnivore	An animal that feeds on other animals.
Claw	A curved pointed horny nail on each finger or toe in birds, lizards and some mammals.
Clutch	A group of eggs laid by birds, amphibians, or reptiles
Cockatoo	A parrot with a crest.
Crest	A tuft of feathers, fur or skin on the head of a bird or other animal.
Diurnal	Animals that are most active during the day.
Egg	An oval or round sac laid by a female bird, reptile, fish or insect. Usually with baby animal inside.
Endangered	A species at risk of extinction.
Extinct	A species having no living members (either on earth or specific area).
Feathers	Covering that grows over a bird's skin. Many types
Features	A distinctive trait or characteristic of an animal or plant species.
Foot/Feet	Lower part of the leg below the ankle, on which a species stands or walks.
Fly	Move through the air using wings. Seen in birds, bats and insects.
Forage	Search widely for food.
Fur	The short, fine, soft hair of certain animals, especially mammals.
Grass	Vegetation consisting of typically short plants with long, narrow leaves, growing wild or planted on lawns and pasture.
Habitat	The natural home or environment of a plant, animal or other organism.
Herbivore	An animal that only eats plants.
Hide	Keep out of sight.
Hunt	Pursue and kill a wild animal for food.
Insect	A small animal that has six legs and generally one or two pairs of wings.
Joey	A baby or young marsupial.

Keeper	An animal attendant employed at a zoo.
Lifecycle	The series of changes in the life of a species; including reproduction.
Lizard	A reptile that typically has a long body and tail, four legs, eyelids and a rough scaly or spiny skin.
Mammal	A warm-blooded species that has hair or fur, feeds their young milk and typically gives birth to live young.
Marsupial	A mammal that is born under-developed and are typically carried and suckled in a pouch on the mother's belly.
Milk	A white fluid rich in fat and proteins. Only female mammals produce this to feed their young.
Nocturnal	A species that is active at night.
Omnivore	An animal that eats a variety of food of both plant and animal origin.
Plant	A living thing typically that grows and absorbs water and inorganic substances through its roots. Includes trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses and ferns.
Pouch	A pocket-like area on the stomach in which marsupials carry their young.
Predator	An animal that naturally preys on others.
Prey	An animal that is hunted and killed by another for food.
Python	A large non-venomous snake, killing prey by constriction.
Reptile	A cold-blooded animal that often has dry scaly skin and typically lay soft-shelled eggs on land. Includes snakes, lizards, crocodiles, turtles and tortoises.
Scat	Animal faecal droppings.
Scales	Each of the small, thin and bony plates protecting the skin of fish and reptiles.
Solitary	A species that prefers to live alone.
Species	The grouping name we give animals that can breed with each other. There may be many species in a Family of animals. Eg Shingleback Lizard (Skink Family), Major Mitchell Cockatoo (Cockatoo Family)
Tail	Extension from rear of animal. Usually useful for the animal's life. (balance, holding, steering)
Territorial	A species that is protective of an area of land or sea that it occupies and lives in.
Tree-Hollow	A semi-enclosed hole which has naturally formed in the trunk or branch of a tree. Used by some animals for breeding, or sleeping.
Water	A non-living thing that is required for all life. A transparent liquid that forms the seas, lakes, rivers and rain and is the basis of the fluids of living organisms.
Wings	A modified front limb that supports large feathers and is used for flying.
Wombat	A burrowing plant-eating Australian marsupial.
Venom	A poisonous substance injected into prey or predators by biting or stinging. Typically found in snakes, spiders and scorpions.