

LIFE CYCLES

Animals give birth to young in a variety of ways.

Animals that lay eggs are called **Oviparous**. Out of all the animals on earth, over 90% lay eggs.

It's a pretty useful way to have young!



While many lizards lay eggs, some like the Shingleback Lizard, do not. They give birth to live young!

Mammals also give birth to live young. However, mammals like the Koala give birth to a very under developed joey who needs to move into the pouch to grow.

We call these animals **Marsupials**.



The other type of mammal is called a **Placental Mammal**. Their young are ready to be in the world at birth but still need a lot of care. Just like Seal pups and human babies!

Research animals that have babies in these 3 ways



Oviparous

Examples include: Fish

Insects and Spiders

Frogs

Reptiles

Birds

Monotremes (Echidna &

Platypus

Marsupials

Examples include: Koala

Kangaroo

Wombat

Tasmanian Devil

Spot tailed Quoll

Rat Kangaroo

Placental mammals

Examples include: Seals

Humans

Dingo

Whales and dolphins

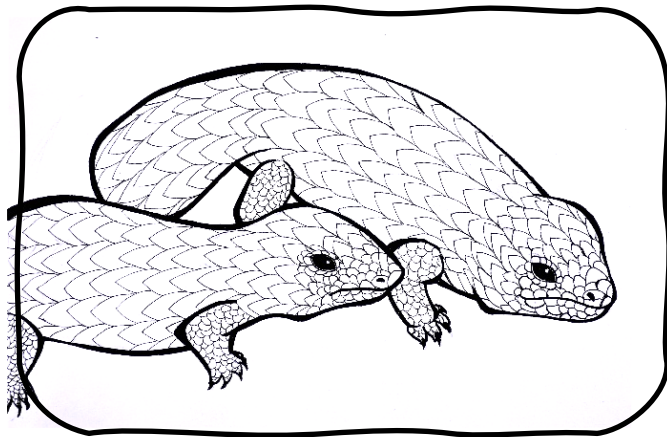
Bats

Bush Rats

SHINGLEBACK LIZARD LIFE CYCLE

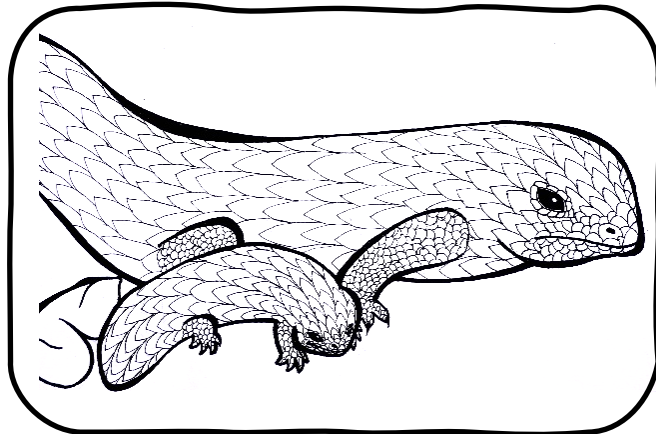
Mother and father

Over their long lifetimes, a Shingleback Lizard male and female may form a bonded pair. They will find each other to mate once every 2 years. After mating, a mother shingleback lizard is pregnant for 5 months.



New-born

Most reptiles lay eggs but the Shingleback Lizard mother will give birth to 1 or 2 live young in the summer. These young are very large and look just like miniature adults. Their first meal will be their own birth sack.



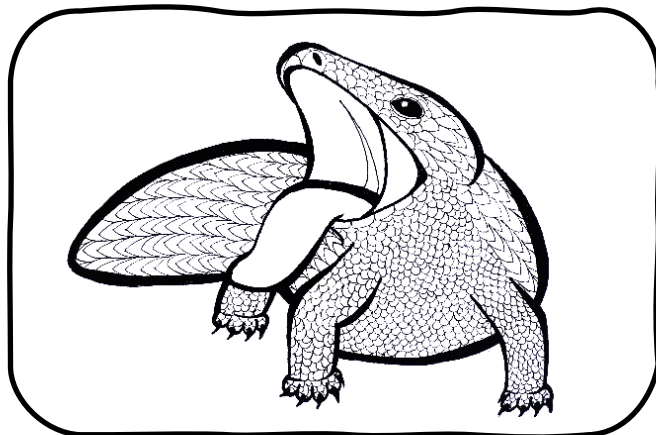
Juvenile with mother

3 days after birth Shingleback Lizards can live on their own and find their own food. They may share habitat with their mother for a few months. Though larger than other young lizards, they are still vulnerable.



Mature adult

A Shingleback will continue to grow over its long life and becomes better at protecting itself. They can have their own young once mature at 5 years old.





Cut out the stages of the life cycle and glue them onto the previous page in the right order.

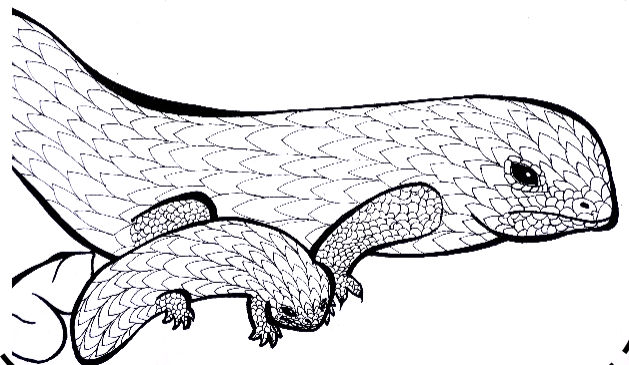
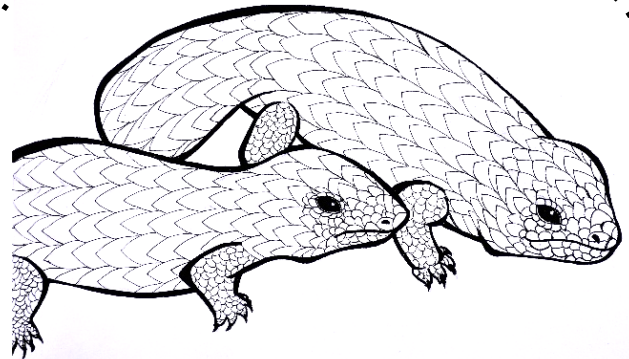
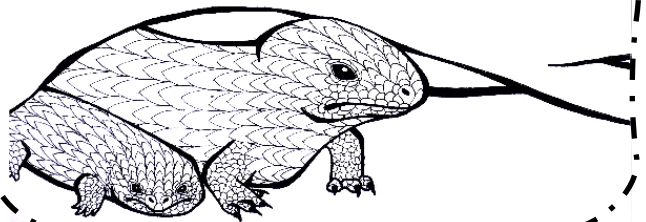
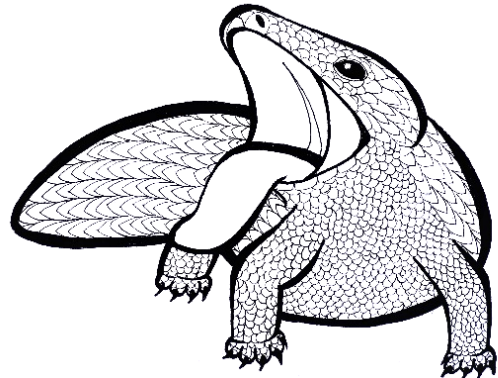
Write or glue the life cycle stage names into the space above their description.

Juvenile with mother

New-born

Mother and father

Mature adult



What do you think are the most interesting facts about the life cycle of a Shingleback Lizard?
