

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Kangaroo Predators and Threats

Kangaroos are unique animals native to Australia, but they face several threats in the wild. Although kangaroos are large and powerful, they are not completely safe from predators and other dangers.

Dingoes are the main natural predators of kangaroos. These wild dogs hunt in packs and target young or injured kangaroos. Eagles may also prey on baby kangaroos, known as joeys, especially when they are left unprotected. Though rare, large pythons can sometimes attack smaller kangaroo species.

Besides animal predators, kangaroos face other significant threats. Habitat destruction due to human activities, such as farming and urban expansion, reduces the spaces where kangaroos can live and find food. This forces kangaroos to move into unfamiliar areas where food and water are scarce.

Kangaroos also face dangers from vehicles. Many kangaroos are injured or killed on roads when they wander too close to highways. This is a major issue in rural Australia where kangaroo populations are high.

Diseases and parasites can also impact kangaroos. Kangaroo blindness, a condition caused by a virus, can affect their ability to find food and avoid predators. Parasites like ticks and mites can weaken kangaroos by feeding on their blood and spreading infections.

Despite these threats, kangaroos have ways to stay safe and healthy. They use their powerful hind legs to kick and defend themselves from predators. Kangaroos also travel in groups called mobs, which helps protect the younger joeys. The mob keeps watch for danger and warns each other of approaching threats.

Kangaroos are strong and adaptable animals, but they still need protection to ensure their survival in the wild.

