

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Unique Look of a Kangaroo

Kangaroos are some of the most recognizable animals in the world. They are native to Australia and are known for their strong back legs and large feet. Kangaroos have a special way of moving—they hop! Their long legs allow them to leap far distances, sometimes as far as 25 feet in a single jump. Their tails help them balance while hopping and can also be used for support when standing still.

Kangaroos vary in size depending on the species. The largest species, the red kangaroo, can grow up to 6 feet tall and weigh as much as 200 pounds. Smaller species, like the eastern grey kangaroo, are usually around 4 feet tall and weigh about 110 pounds. Baby kangaroos, called joeys, are very small when they are born—about the size of a jellybean! They stay in their mother’s pouch to grow and stay safe.

Kangaroos have soft, short fur that can range in color. Red kangaroos have reddish-brown fur, while grey kangaroos can be light grey or brown. Some kangaroos even have a mix of colors. Their fur helps them blend into their surroundings in the dry Australian outback.

One of the most special features of a kangaroo is the pouch. Female kangaroos have a pouch where they carry and nurse their young. This pouch keeps the joey warm and protected while it grows.

Kangaroos have large, upright ears that help them hear well. They use their excellent hearing to detect danger from far away. They also have sharp claws on their front paws, which they use to grab food and defend themselves if needed.

These amazing animals have adapted well to their environment. Their long legs and strong tails make them perfect for hopping across the open lands of Australia.