

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Koala Reproduction: Caring for the Next Generation

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Koalas have a short gestation period likely because their young continue developing in the pouch after birth.
2. The mother koala protects her joey by keeping it safe in her pouch and staying high in the trees.
3. The pouch provides warmth, safety, and nourishment for the joey as it grows.
4. Observers might see the mother carrying the joey, feeding it, and teaching it how to climb and find food.

