**Asset Information Page**

**Platypus**

**Sticky Note 1:**

**Platypus is best described as a hodgepodge of more familiar species: the duck (bill and webbed feet), beaver (tail), and otter (body and fur)**

**Appearance:** Platypuses have a unique look with a duck-like bill, webbed feet, and a flat tail. Their bodies are covered in dense, waterproof fur that keeps them warm.

They have small eyes and ears, which close when they dive underwater.

**Habitat:** Platypuses live in Australia, mainly in freshwater rivers and lakes. They build burrows on the banks of rivers and lakes for shelter.

**Movement:** Platypuses are excellent swimmers, using their webbed front feet to paddle. Their tails help them steer while swimming.

On land, they walk awkwardly on their knuckles to protect their webbed feet.

**Diet:** Platypuses are carnivores and eat small aquatic animals like insects, larvae, and crustaceans. They use their sensitive bills to detect prey underwater.

They store food in their cheek pouches and eat it on the surface or in their burrows!

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 1---------------------------------------------------------

**Sticky Note 2:**

**Platypuses spend most of their time alone, sleeping or eating!**

**Reproduction:** Female platypuses lay eggs, which is unusual for mammals. The mother incubates the eggs by curling around them in her burrow.

After hatching, the babies (called puggles) nurse from their mother until they are old enough to find food.

**Social Structures:** Platypuses are mostly solitary animals, meaning they live alone. They come together only to mate.

Each platypus has its own territory, which it defends from others!

**Communication:** Platypuses are generally quiet animals. They use body language more than sounds to communicate.

They can make low growling noises if threatened!

**Survival Skills:** Platypuses are shy and secretive, staying hidden to avoid predators.

Platypuses are venomous. They have sharp stingers on the heels of their rear feet and can use them to deliver a strong toxic blow to any foe!

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 2---------------------------------------------------------