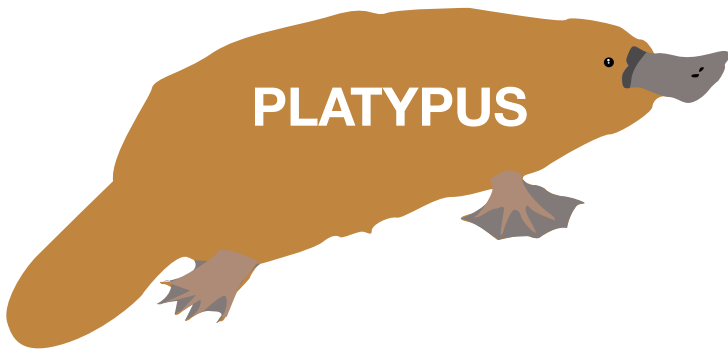

Cute & Deadly

ANIMALS



Slow Loris

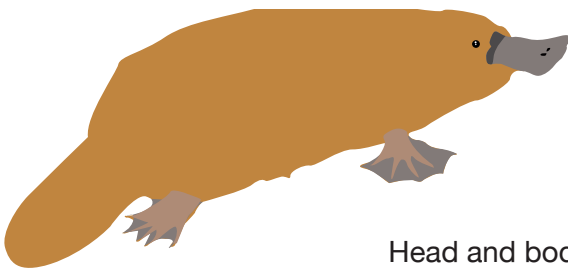
Koala

Jellyfish

The Platypus

COMMON NAME:
Platypus

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
Ornithorhynchus anatinus



TYPE:
Mammals

DIET:
Carnivores

SIZE:
Head and body, 15 in; tail,
5 in

IUCN RED LIST STATUS
Nearly Threatened

WEIGHT:
3 lbs

The platypus is among nature’s most unlikely animals. In fact, the first scientists to examine a specimen believed they were the victims of a hoax. The animal is best described as a hodgepodge of more familiar species: the duck (bill and webbed feet), beaver (tail), and otter (body and fur). Males are also 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.

