

What am I?



Amazing
Australian Animals



What am I?

I live in and around freshwater lakes, rivers and creeks.

I dig my burrow in the river bank.

I am usually active early in the morning and in the evening. I spend the rest of the day in my burrow.

I lay eggs – usually two at a time.

I have thick, waterproof fur.

I am a platypus.



Platypus lay eggs and feed milk to their young. Only one other Australian animal does this – the echidna.

Platypus eat small water animals such as shrimps, water bugs and worms. It is hard for the platypus to see these animals in the dark, muddy water, so they have a special way of finding them. They use nerves on their bills to sense signals in the water made by the animals. Platypus follow these signals to find and catch their food.

Male platypus have sharp spurs on their back legs. They use these spikes to inject venom into other males when they fight.



What am I?

I live in rivers, swamps, inlets and lakes near the coast.

I make a nest out of mud and plants.

I lay about 40 to 60 eggs at a time.

I have been around for 240 million years - since the time of the dinosaurs!

I am a saltwater crocodile.



Saltwater crocodiles are the biggest reptiles in the world.

Saltwater crocodiles are carnivores (meat eaters). They will eat almost any animal that comes into their territory (the area where they live). Crocodiles hide until their prey is close. They then lunge and grab the prey with their sharp teeth.

The female saltwater crocodile is a protective mother. When her eggs hatch, she helps the hatchlings by digging them out of the nest. She then carries them gently in her mouth to the water. The young crocodiles stay with their mother for several months.

A lush tropical rainforest scene with tall trees and dense foliage. The image shows a variety of green plants, including large ferns in the foreground and tall, slender trees in the background. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

What am I?

I live in tropical rainforests.

I have wings and feathers,
but I cannot fly.

I have three toes with long
sharp claws on each foot.

I have a blue face and flaps
of red skin hanging from my
neck.

I am a cassowary.

Cassowaries are the third-largest type of bird in the world.

Cassowaries help to keep rainforests healthy. They eat lots of fruits, and as they walk around the forest the seeds of these fruits are left behind in their dung. New rainforest plants grow from these seeds.

Cassowaries have an unusual looking 'helmet', called a casque, on the top of their head. Scientists are not sure what the casque is for. Some think it releases heat, which helps to cool the cassowary.





What am I?

I live in different habitats including grasslands, bush, rainforests and mountain areas.

I have a pointy pink nose, white spots on my fur, and a long tail.

I am a carnivore (a meat eater). I eat possums, gliders, bandicoots, birds, rats, and other small animals.

I am mainly nocturnal, which means I am active at night.

I am a quoll.

Quolls are marsupials. This means they have a pouch that their young grow in just like kangaroos, koalas and wombats. A female quoll can have six babies growing in her pouch at the same time.

Quolls used to live in most parts of Australia, but now they are very rare. This is because their habitats (their homes) have been destroyed to build cities, towns and farms, and many quolls have been killed by foxes and feral cats.





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