



Australian Adventure Scavenger Hunt Answers: Grades 9-12

1. Pollen vectors, like lorikeets, are important because they spread plants and ensure their continued survival. Lorikeets can travel far distances carrying pollen, which can spread plants very far.
2. Zoos can help combat climate change by educating visitors about the impact of climate change on the environment and on animals. Zoos can also fund conservation programs that protect animals threatened by climate change. Individuals can reducing energy usage, reduce water and food waste, limit use of fossil fuels like gasoline, and support environmental regulations and legislation.
3. Even though echidnas lay eggs, they are still classified as mammals. They feed their young with milk from mammary glands. They are covered in body hair. They are warm-blooded and are vertebrates (they have backbones).
4. Tree kangaroos have strong forelimbs which makes them adept climbers. They have long claws to grip bark and branches. Kangaroos and wallabies have large, powerful hind legs to propel them forward, making them very fast. The large tail helps them balance while also serving as a “third leg” when sitting or resting. Grey and red kangaroos, wallabies, and wallaroos have large ears that can turn 180 degrees to hear approaching predators.
5. Living in groups provides kangaroos safety from predators and facilitates breeding. However, living in groups means sharing food and resources with each other; smaller and more submissive kangaroos may be bullied away from food and water. Living alone allows wallaroos to consume all the food they find, but they are more susceptible to predation. Because the environment doesn’t have to support a large group, wallaroos can live in more sparse areas or in harsher conditions.
6. Kangaroos use their large, thick tails as a “third leg” to rest on when standing. They also use their tail to balance when they hop.
7. Raising offspring is time consuming; males don’t want to waste time raising another male’s offspring, and remaining monogamous ensures that the offspring is only that of one male and one female. Finding a mate and being accepted by a mate can be a long process, being monogamous means only having to engage in courtship once. The major disadvantage of monogamy is the limiting of genetic diversity to only one mate; if the mate one chooses is weak, all of their offspring could be weak as well.
8. Kookaburras are almost exclusively carnivorous; they feed primarily on insects, small birds, eggs, and lizards.
9. Camels, horses, goats, sheep, and rabbits are constant grazers which destroy plant life. All of these animals compete with native species for shelter and food, but often lack predators and reproduce more easily, which gives them an advantage over native species.
10. Dingoes are known to hunt kangaroos and wallabies and rabbits, and some animals we do not have here at CMZ like wombats and possums. Dingoes are considered pests in Australia because they also occasionally attack and kill livestock animals such as sheep and goats.