

Science – Year 5/6A Autumn 1

Living Things and Their Habitats

Illustrating Life Cycles

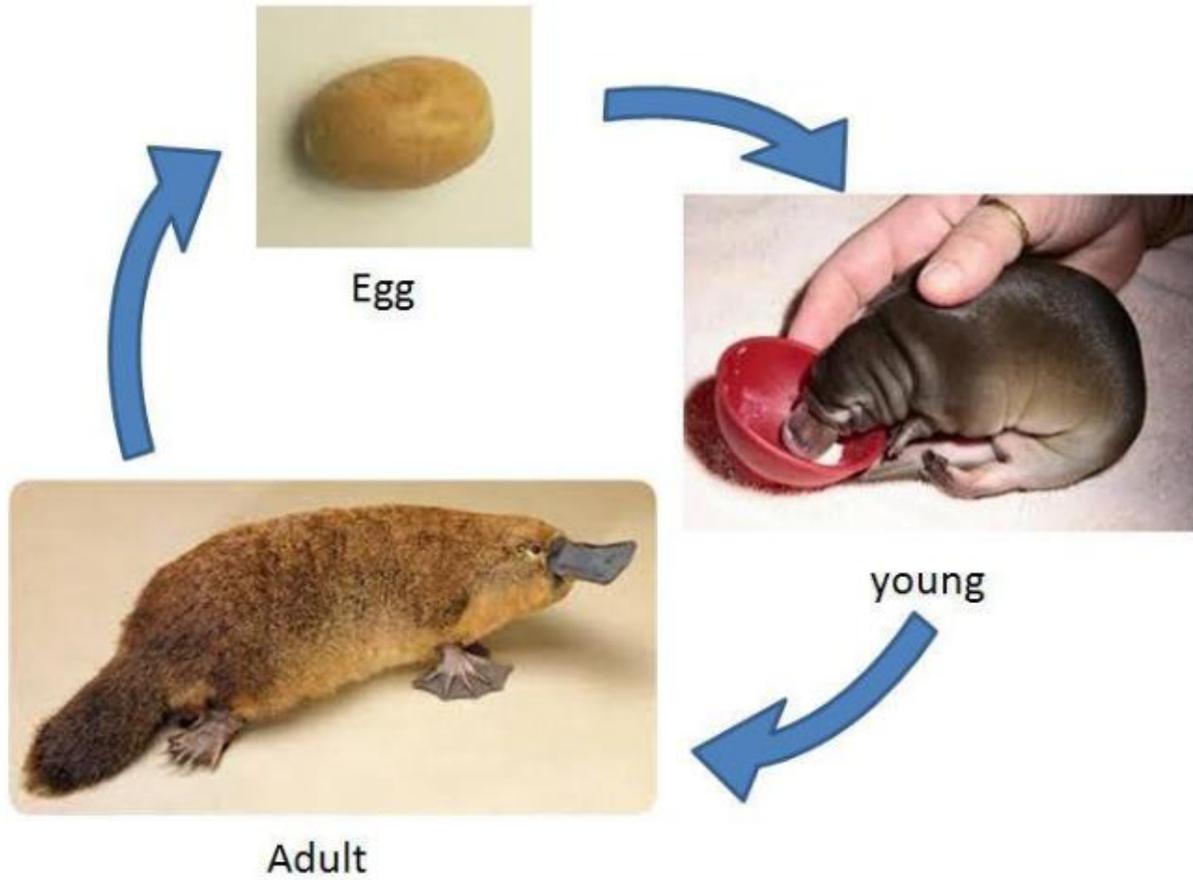
Session 5

Resource Pack

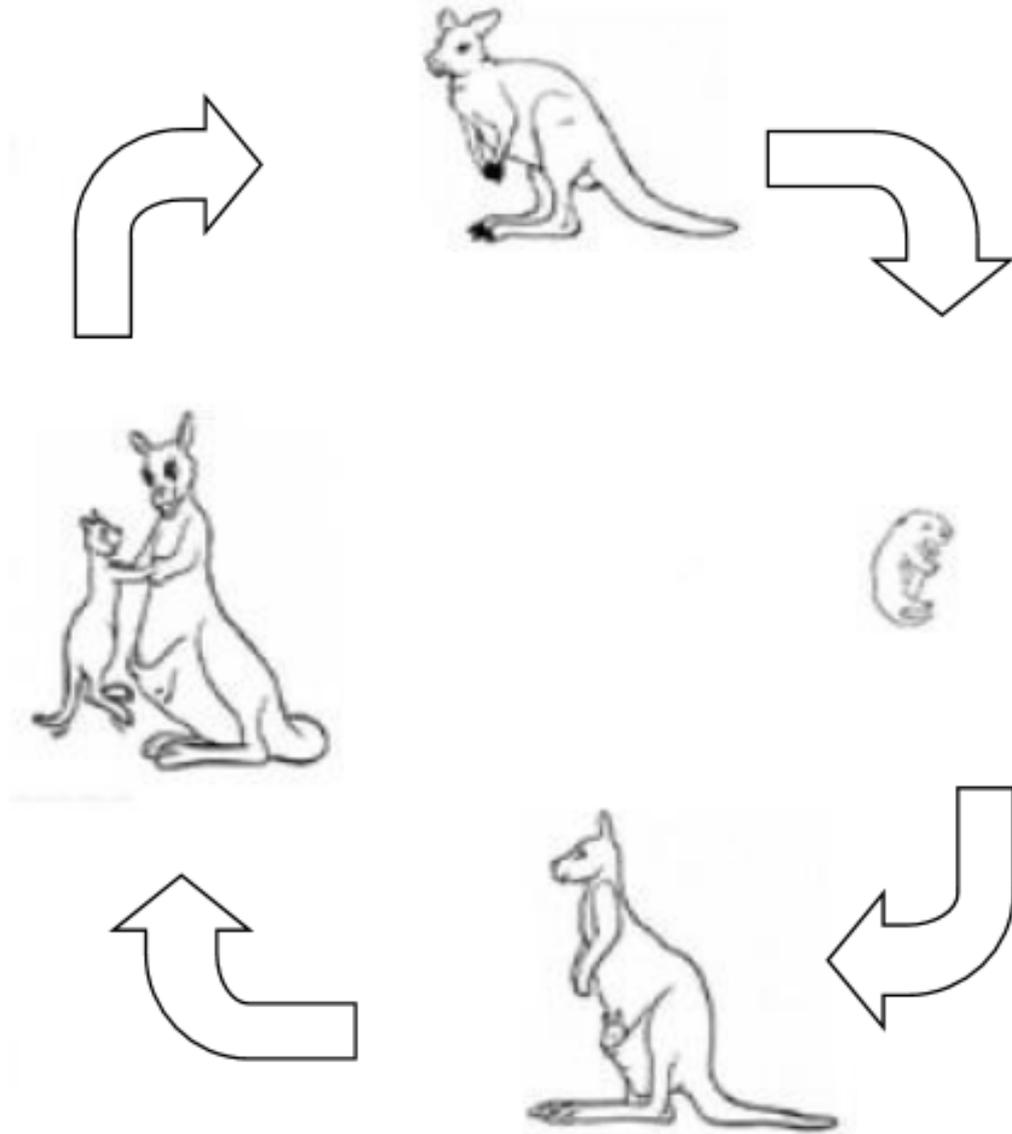
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We refer you to our warning, at the foot of the block overview, about links to other websites.

More unusual mammalian life cycles

Duck-billed platypus



Life Cycle of a Kangaroo

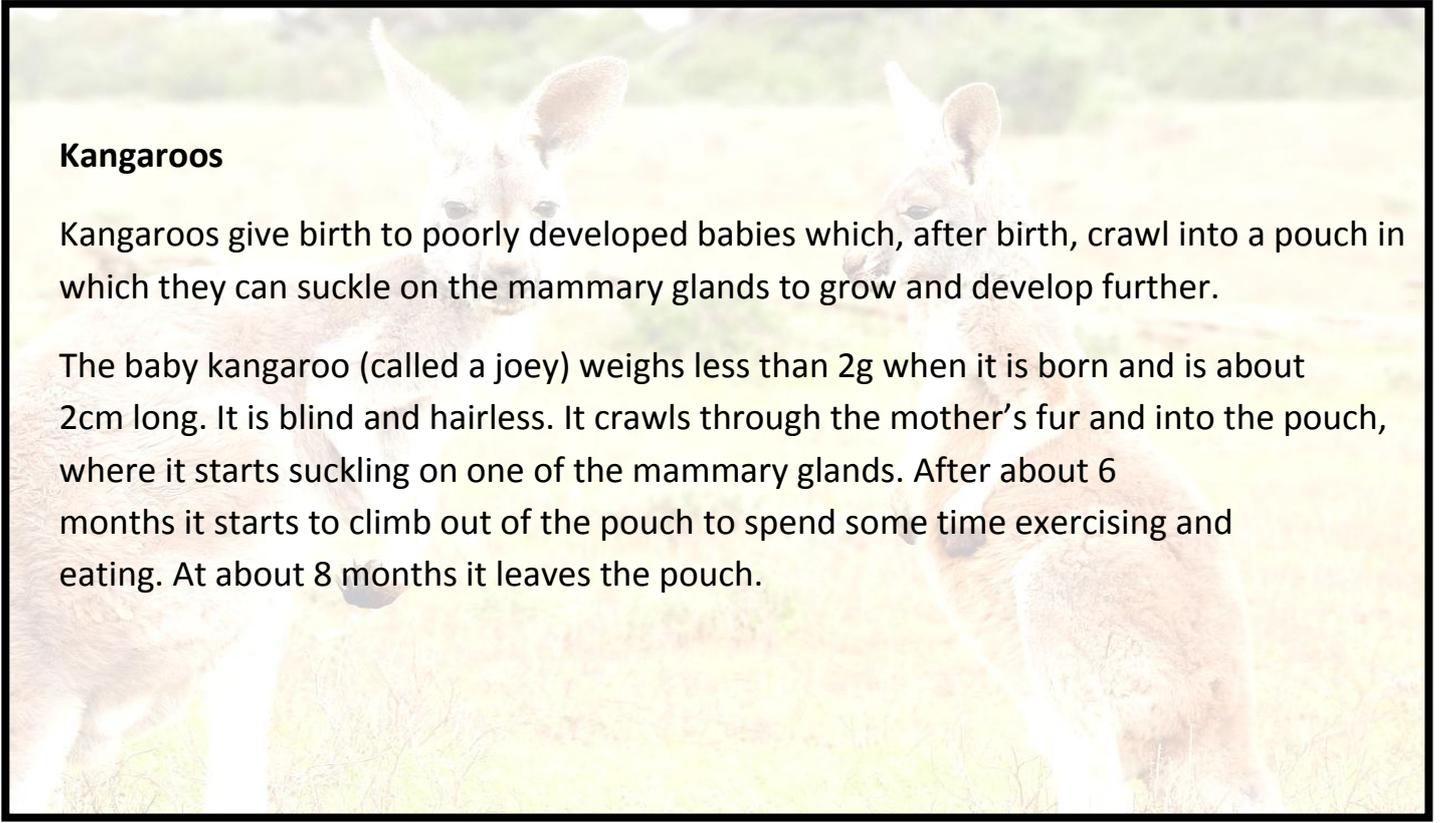


Key Facts sheets

Kangaroos

Kangaroos give birth to poorly developed babies which, after birth, crawl into a pouch in which they can suckle on the mammary glands to grow and develop further.

The baby kangaroo (called a joey) weighs less than 2g when it is born and is about 2cm long. It is blind and hairless. It crawls through the mother's fur and into the pouch, where it starts suckling on one of the mammary glands. After about 6 months it starts to climb out of the pouch to spend some time exercising and eating. At about 8 months it leaves the pouch.



Suggested animals and plants to research

Mammals:

- Dolphin
- Polar bear
- Kangaroo
- Echidna

Birds:

- Penguin
- Kiwi

Amphibians:

- Salamander
- Caecilians

Insects:

- Mosquito
- Dung beetle

Plants:

- Lotus
- Coco de Mer
- Cactus

The evolution behind life cycle and reproductive features and process

Periodical cicadas

'Large numbers of periodical cicadas emerge from the ground every few years, instead of a few every year like most cicadas. There are three species of 17 year cicadas and four species of 13 year cicadas, the number telling how often they emerge. Both thirteen and seventeen are prime numbers, which makes it difficult for predators to time their own population increases to match what the cicadas are up to. This means there are always more cicadas than the predators can possibly eat!'

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/nature/life/Magicicada>

Kangaroo

The kangaroo's pouch ensures that juveniles (joeys) are not exposed to predators but also enables them to continue to develop and wean.

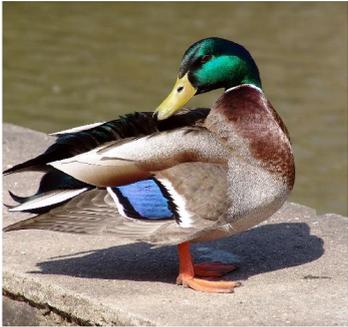
Bingo

Instructions:

You will need – bingo boards, image cards and counters

- Play in groups of 6–8 depending on your Y5/6 ratio
- Y5 to have a bingo card (in pairs)
- Y6 to have the image cards (cut into individual images)
- Y6 pupils pick up an image card (without Y5 seeing it) and offer some key features of that plant or animal's life cycle (e.g. *'this animal comes from an egg and completes full metamorphosis'*)
- Y5 pupils to decide if they have a matching life cycle (note: it may not be the same plant or animal, but as long as the life cycle matches it can count and pupils should place a counter on that image)
- Y6 pupils to check for accuracy

Bingo cards



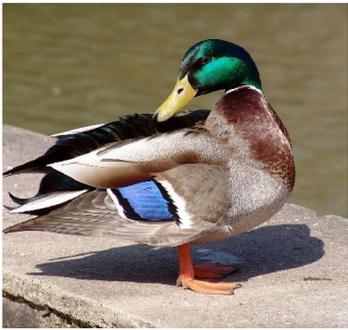


Image cards (Y6)

