

# A Kangaroo's Life Cycle

## By Kate Paixão



A grown-up kangaroo can be bigger than a person. But these animals start out very small. A newborn kangaroo is the size of a jellybean! It has no hair. It cannot see.

The tiny kangaroo crawls into its mother's pouch. In the pouch, it grows bigger. It grows fur. It opens its eyes.

A baby kangaroo is called a joey. When it is big enough, the joey will leave the pouch. The joey returns to the pouch if it is tired or scared.

Very young kangaroos cannot live without their mamas. But an older joey knows how to hop on its own.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For questions 1–4, please circle the correct answer.

1. How big is a newborn kangaroo?

- A) the size of a jelly bean
- B) the size of an ant
- C) the size of a football

2. The text describes baby kangaroos and what happens as they grow up. What will the joey leave when it is big enough?

- A) a cave in the desert
- B) its mother's pouch
- C) the inside of an egg

3. Very young kangaroos cannot hop. What part of the text tells us that this is true?

- A) The tiny kangaroo crawls into its mother's pouch.
- B) The joey returns to the pouch if it is tired or scared.
- C) But an older joey knows how to hop on its own.

4. What is "A Kangaroo's Life Cycle" mostly about?

- A) the diet and lifestyle of a kangaroo
- B) characteristics of a kangaroo
- C) how baby kangaroos grow up

5. What does a tiny kangaroo grow on its body in its mother's pouch?

A tiny kangaroo grows

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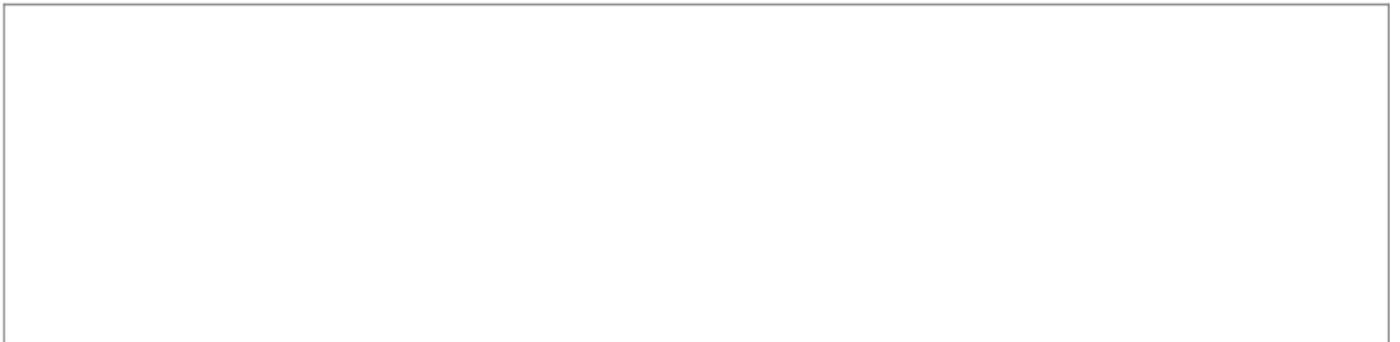
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6. Draw a joey that has not left its mother's pouch yet.



7. What did you learn from "A Kangaroo's Life Cycle"?

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8. **Class Discussion Question:** Describe at least two ways a joey changes as it grows older. Use information from the text to support your answer.