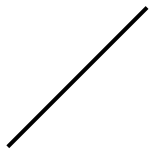


How cute are koalas?

On the picture below, identify as many different koala features as you can. Write a short sentence to say why you think they have this feature. We have given you an example.



Big claws: for climbing trees



Working together to protect koalas



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Can you match the behaviour to the picture?

Koalas can sleep for 20 hours everyday. Their diet is low in energy and they save it for when they need it!

When it is hot, koalas will sprawl out so the air can flow around their body and cool them down.

Koalas mostly groom with their back paws. Their arms are strong and used for climbing and their back legs are flexible and can reach most of their body.

When it is cold, koalas will curl up into a tight ball, tucked up in the leaves to keep as warm as possible.

When it is hot koalas will press their tummies against gum tree trunks. The trees are one to two degrees cooler than the air and will cool their bodies down.



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Biodiversity Health Check

What can we see around us? In the space below draw the habitat around you. Start with the big things (Trees, rivers, buildings), work your way down (bushes, shrubs, logs), and the smallest level (grasses, herbs, mulch). Then go back and add in any animals, birds, or insects that you find.

Note: If you are comparing two habitats you will need two worksheets!

Write a list of what you found below:

Plants

Animals

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Could koalas live here?

- Are there a lot of big tall gum trees?
- Are the habitat you surveyed connected to larger stretches of habitat, or was it a separate pocket?
- Are there roads nearby?
- Are there any land clearing nearby?
- Are dogs allowed in the area?
- Are there cows or horses nearby?
- Are you in VIC, QLD, NSW or the ACT?



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Glossary

Can you match the new words we have learnt to their definitions?

The natural home of plants and animals.

When the weather patterns of the Earth change a lot over time, causing problems.

Breaking something into smaller parts

Going in the opposite direction.

A long time without rain

Stuck together to make one piece.

Something that can cause harm or danger.

Sounds that animals make to communicate.

Living in trees.



- adaptations
- arboreal
- bushfire
- caecum
- cartilage
- climate change
- digestive tract
- drought
- fragmentation
- fused
- grooming
- habitat
- opposing
- scent gland
- threat
- toxins
- translocation
- vocalisations

When animals clean themselves.

Moving something from one place to another.

Changes that animals or plants make to survive better in their home.

A soft, flexible material in your body, found in your ears.

A special pouch in the stomach of some animals where food gets broken down.

A big, dangerous fire in the woodlands or forest.

Poisons that can hurt living things.

A special part of an animal that makes smells for marking territory or communicating.

The path food follows in your body from where it goes in to where it comes out.