

A FOLKTALE FROM AUSTRALIA

How Kangaroo Got a Pouch

Some of the words in the story got washed into the stream. Use them to fill in the blanks.

One day, Mama Kangaroo was _____ with her joey near a stream.

An old, blind wombat wandered close to them. He was _____ and muttering, "Old and useless, old and useless ..."

Mama Kangaroo asked him, "What's the trouble, friend Wombat?"

"I'm old and I'm blind and none of the other _____ want me around. I'm very lonely."

Mama Kangaroo had a kind heart. "I'll be your friend," she said. "My joey and I will _____ you find tasty grass and clean water."

Wombat smiled. It made Mama Kangaroo happy to see him _____ better.

Just then, Mama Kangaroo looked for her joey. He had wandered off! She couldn't _____ him.



Mama Kangaroo was _____. She said to Wombat, "My joey has wandered off! He's always hopping away when I'm not _____!"

Can you help me find my joey? (Joey is what baby kangaroos are called.)

HEART HELP SLEEPING SCARED REALLY PLAYING ANIMALS FEELING CARRY FIND WEeping LOOKING

That afternoon, Mama Kangaroo found her joey _____ under a tree. She was so relieved!

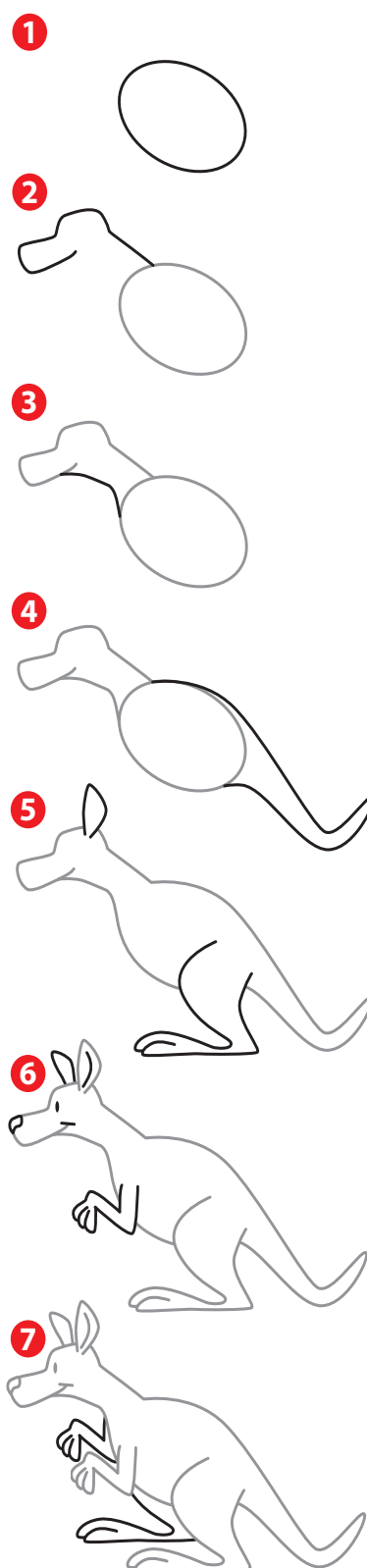
Wombat was not _____ a wombat – he was the god Byamee in disguise. He had come to the world to find out which creature had the kindest _____.

Byamee gave Mama Kangaroo a gift – a pouch where she could carry her joey! Now she could _____ him wherever she went and he could even sleep in the pouch when she did her chores.

Ever since then, kangaroo babies almost never get lost.

Kid Scoop Together:

How to Draw a Kangaroo



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What is a wombat? A wombat looks like a small bear but is, in fact, a marsupial with a pouch to carry its young. They are found in Australia and the surrounding islands.



Kangaroo Code Trivia

 = A	 = J	 = O	 = X
 = B	 = L	 = S	 = Y
 = E	 = M	 = W	 = Z

What's the name for a group of kangaroos?



What do you call a kangaroo that weighs less than 45 lbs (25kg)?



Who is Byamee?

In Australian aboriginal mythology, Byamee is the creator god and sky father. The first inhabitants of Australia have been there for more than 50,000 years.

Extra! Extra!

Looking for Kindness

Look though the newspaper for articles and photos that are examples of kindness. Cut them out and paste them on another sheet of paper to make a kindness poster to display in your home.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Understand meaning from context clues.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

Old folktales like *How Kangaroo Got a Pouch* were often created to teach a lesson. Unscramble each word below to figure out what this folktale teaches.

NEO DOGO NURT
ESVSEDRE HOATNRE.

_____ N _____ T U R N
_____ V S
_____ N _____ H _____

Double Double Word Search

ABORIGINAL
KANGAROO
RELIEVED
WOMBAT
BYAMEE
FATHER
SCARED
POUCH
BLIND
HEART
TEACH
JOEY
LOST
GIFT
MAMA

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

A	B	O	R	I	G	I	N	A	L
R	K	J	G	I	F	T	I	D	N
E	D	O	O	R	A	G	N	A	K
L	E	E	S	B	H	I	T	H	E
I	P	Y	M	C	L	O	S	T	E
E	E	O	A	B	A	A	M	A	M
V	W	E	U	T	R	A	E	H	A
E	T	R	S	C	A	R	E	D	Y
D	T	S	R	E	H	T	A	F	B

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

Write On!

If I Were an Animal

Which kind of animal are you most like? Why? If you were an animal, what kind would you be?



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