

Amazing Creatures



The Bible says God created all animals and their habitats. His design and creativity are on display in each unique creature.

This smiling marsupial is a photo favorite for visitors in Australia. He's known as "the happiest animal on earth." Can you name him?

Did you know?

A marsupial is a mammal that has a pouch to carry its young. When a baby marsupial is born, it's very small and needs time to grow in its mother's protective pouch. Most marsupials are native to Australia. The opossum is the only marsupial found in North America.

Can you name that marsupial?

Use the words below to identify each animal on this page.

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|-----------|
| koala | quoll | kangaroo |
| wombat | sugar glider | bandicoot |
| opossum | Tasmanian devil | quokka |

1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



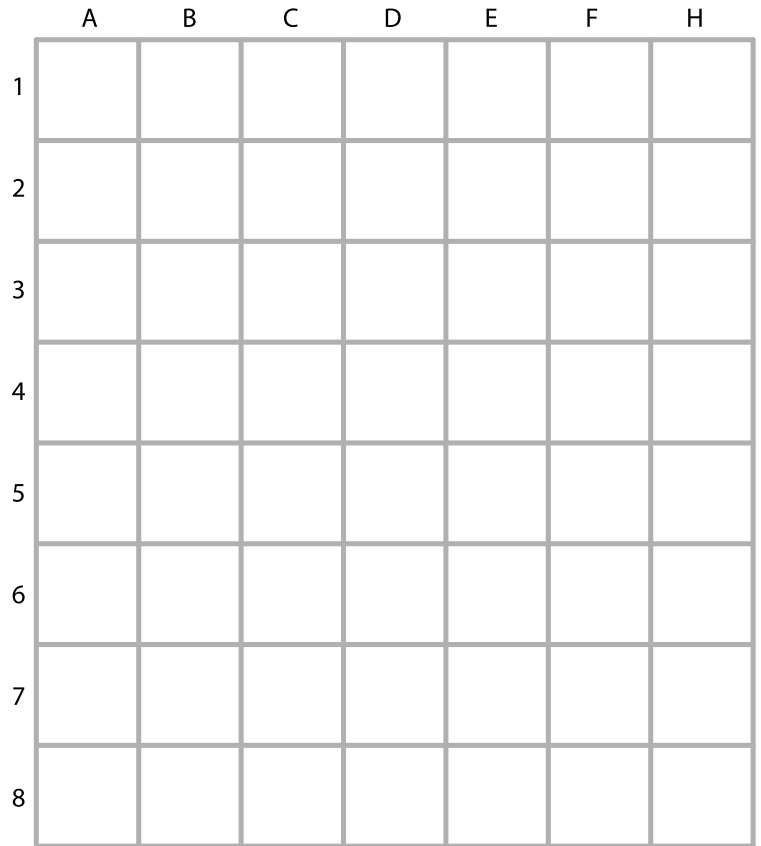
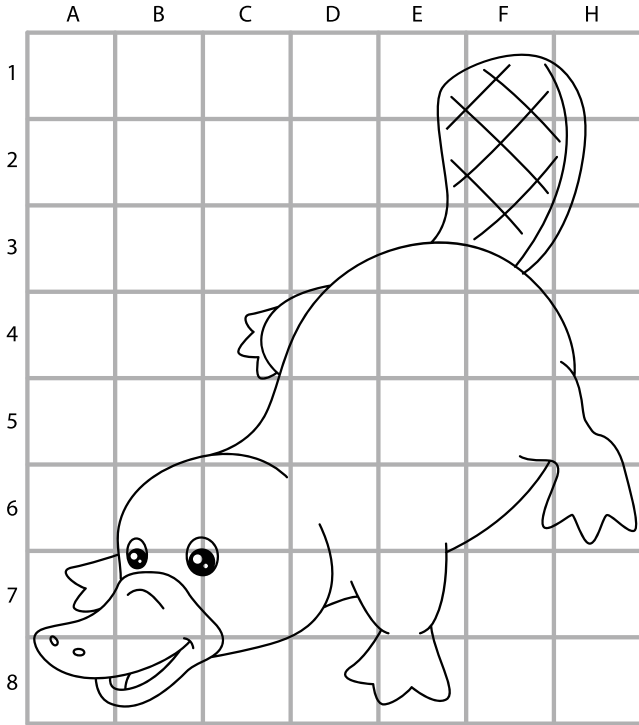
8. _____



9. _____

Answers: 1. quokka, 2. Tasmanian devil, 3. bandicoot, 4. wombat, 5. koala, 6. kangaroo, 7. opossum, 8. sugar glider, 9. quoll

Copy the platypus below using the grid.



An ugly duckling?

Putting animals into categories is usually a simple task for biologists. But the platypus baffles them. It has fur like a mammal, lays eggs like a reptile, and has a bill like a duck. The platypus has spurs like a rooster and a tail like a beaver. How would you categorize the platypus? Is it a bird, a reptile, or a mammal? Or would you make a new category just for this one creature? This unique mammal shows God's creativity.

What's the difference between a kangaroo and a wallaby?

They are both marsupials, bounce as they run, and live in Australia. The biggest difference is their size. At over six feet tall, a normal kangaroo is about twice as tall and weighs three times as much as a typical wallaby. A kangaroo's legs are designed for moving fast. The wallaby has more compact legs. The kangaroo is usually reddish brown or gray, while his little cousin has a glossier coat that can be red, gray, brown, black, or white.



Yellow-footed rock wallaby