

Skimming and Scanning Interesting Australian Animals

Skim and scan the passage below to find the answer to the questions. Remember, you don't need to read the whole text, just look for clues to help you answer each question.



The **saltwater crocodile** is an expert hunter that can be found in the ocean, saltwater creeks and rivers throughout Northern Australia. They are well known for the ferocious way they snap their jaws shut when finding prey. Saltwater crocodiles keep their large jaws open to help them to regulate heat. Did you know crocodiles can't sweat? In order for them to not overheat, they rely on the water to cool them through their open mouth and on their skin.



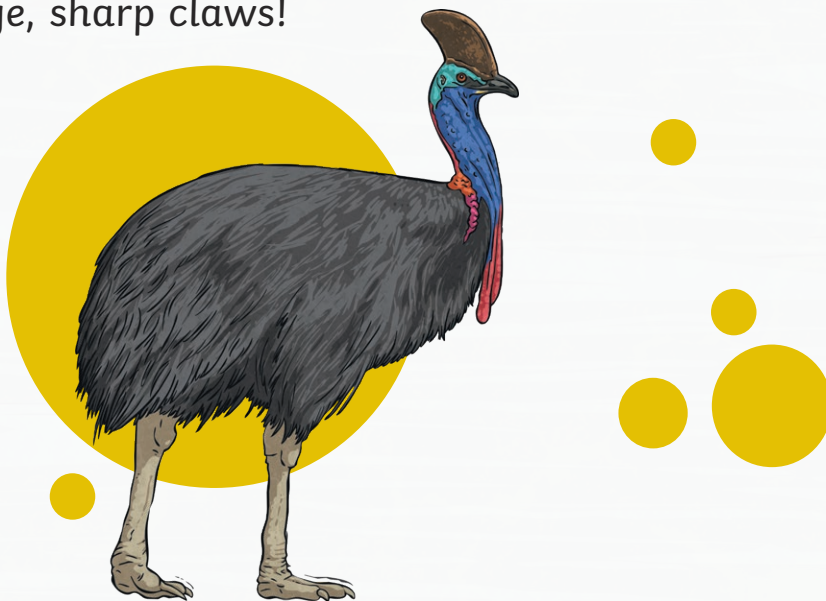
Have you ever seen a snail the size of a tennis ball? Well, the **Giant Panda Snail** is native to Australia and has lived here for millions of years. They live on the forest floor and are more active during and after the rain. The rain helps to keep its fragile body nice and wet. Giant Panda Snails can't be found to the west of the Great Dividing Range.





The happiest animal in Australia has to be the **Quokka**. They are only found in south west Western Australia, including Rottnest Island and Bald Island. Quokkas are mainly nocturnal animals and eat grasses, shrubs and leaves. They are inquisitive and are always happy to be in a photograph.

A bird you can hear long before you see it is the **Southern Cassowary**. These large, flightless birds are easy to notice with their jet black feathers and bright bold neck. They are the third largest bird in the world and can run very fast. They will attack if they feel threatened and have huge, sharp claws!



Questions Interesting Australian Animals

1. What is the happiest animal in Australia?

2. Why does the saltwater crocodile keep its jaws open in water?

3. How long has the Giant Panda Snail lived in Australia?

4. What can you hear before you can see it?

5. Where are saltwater crocodiles found?

6. What does a Southern Cassowary look like?

7. What do Quokkas eat?

8. Which animal is the size of a tennis ball?

9. Which animal is best at posing for a photograph?
