

Kangaroo

Use the following words fill in the missing information. You have been given the beginning letter of each of the missing words.

pests
hopping

hind
found

destruction
prop

kangaroo
mountains

species
endangered

There are about fifty **s**_____ of kangaroos in Australia and they can be **f**_____ in almost all types of habitats. They live high in the **m**_____, in deserts, in rainforests and on the coasts. There is even a type of **k**_____ with a very long tail that lives in trees.

Kangaroos have large **h**_____ legs and a heavy, thick tail, which acts as a counter-balance when they are **h**_____. Their tail is also used as a **p**_____ when the animal stands upright.

Some kangaroos are either **e**_____ or have become extinct through habitat **d**_____ and predation by foxes.

A number of the larger species are regarded as **p**_____ by graziers because they compete with livestock for grass.

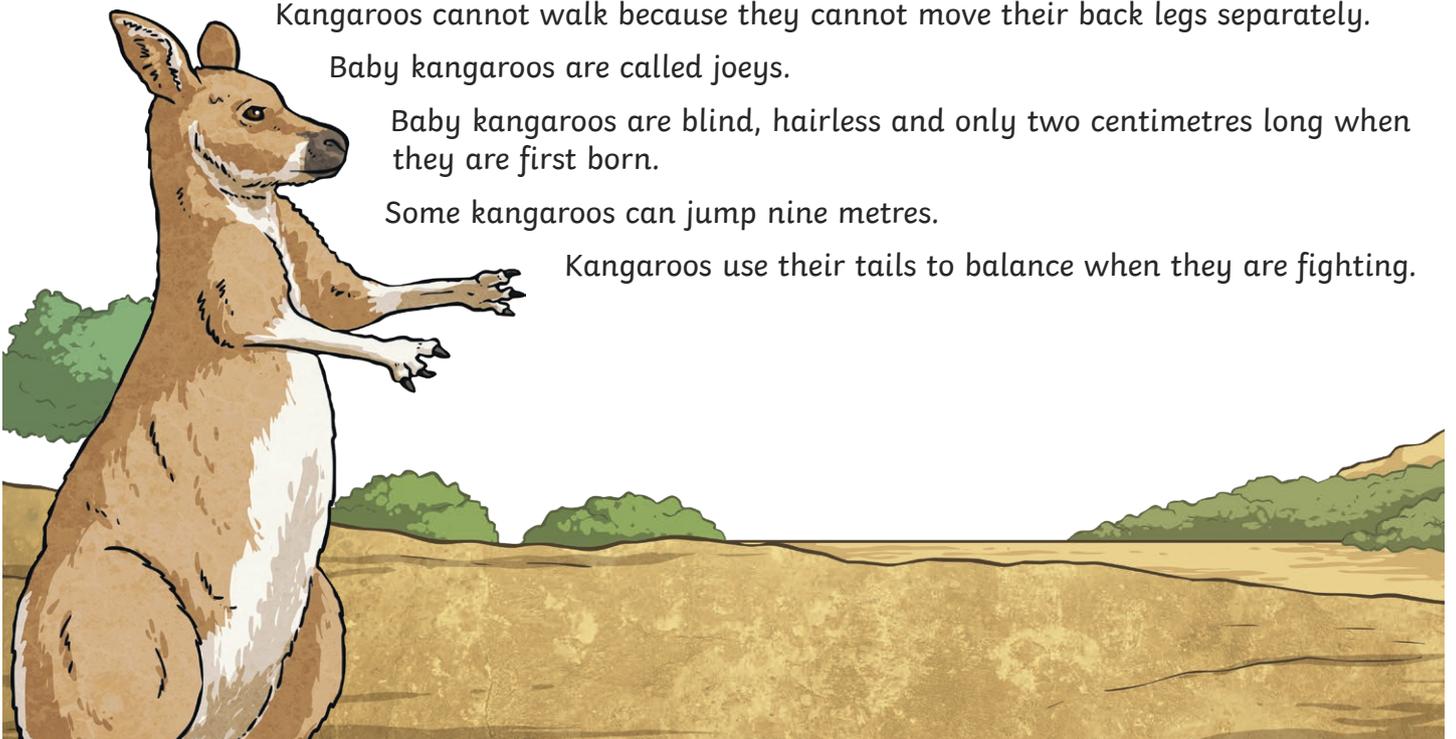
Kangaroos cannot walk because they cannot move their back legs separately.

Baby kangaroos are called joeys.

Baby kangaroos are blind, hairless and only two centimetres long when they are first born.

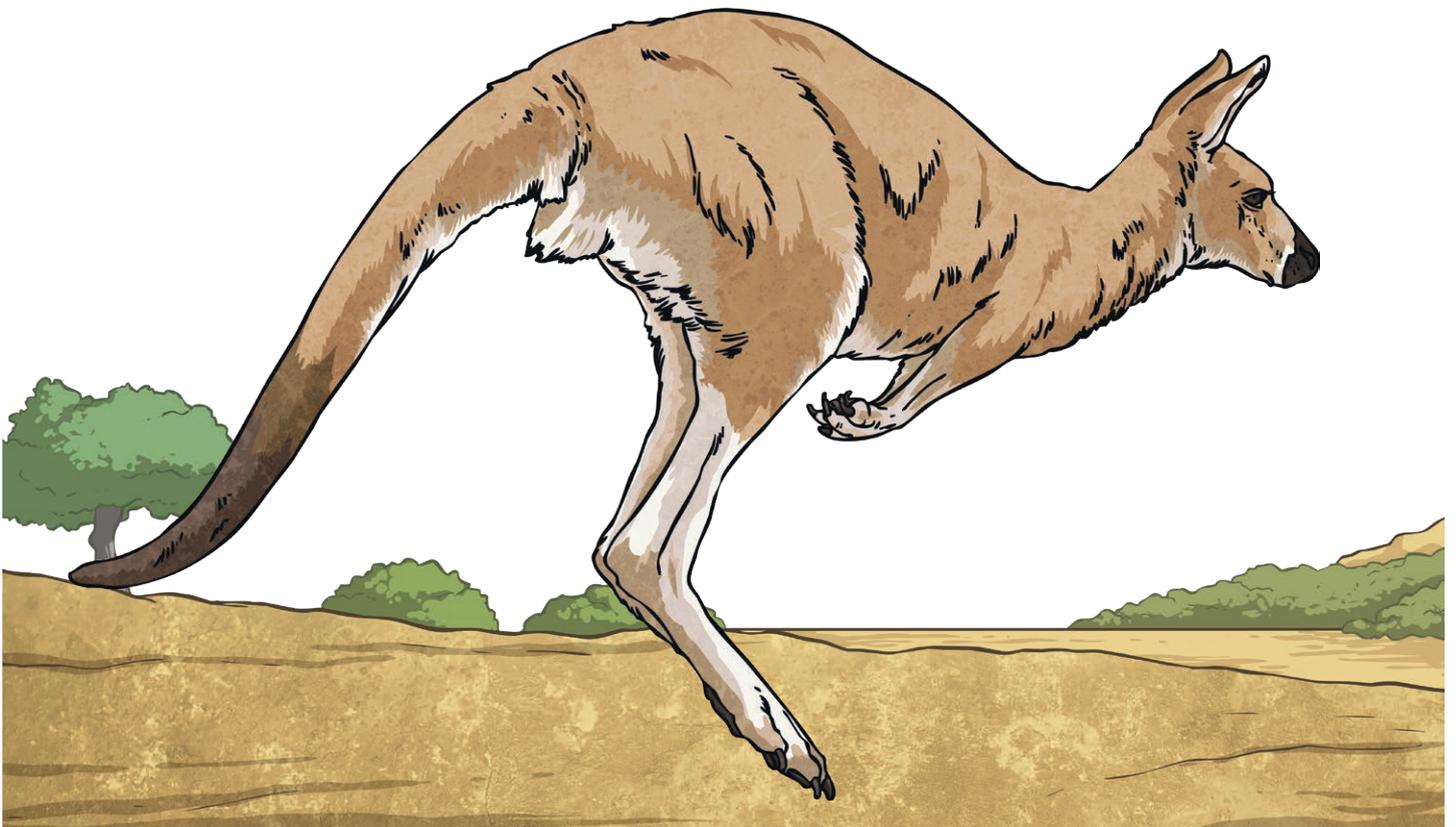
Some kangaroos can jump nine metres.

Kangaroos use their tails to balance when they are fighting.



Fast Finisher Activities

- Use a dictionary to find the following words: counter-balance, extinct, graziers, livestock and predation. Write down each definition and a sentence to go with it.
- Use the word 'kangaroo' and create an acrostic poem. Illustrate your poem.
- Research kangaroos and wallabies. Write a list of similarities and differences between the two Australian animals. Illustrate your ideas.
- Read the Aboriginal Dreamtime story 'How the kangaroo got its tail.' Write a summary of the story and illustrate your favourite part.



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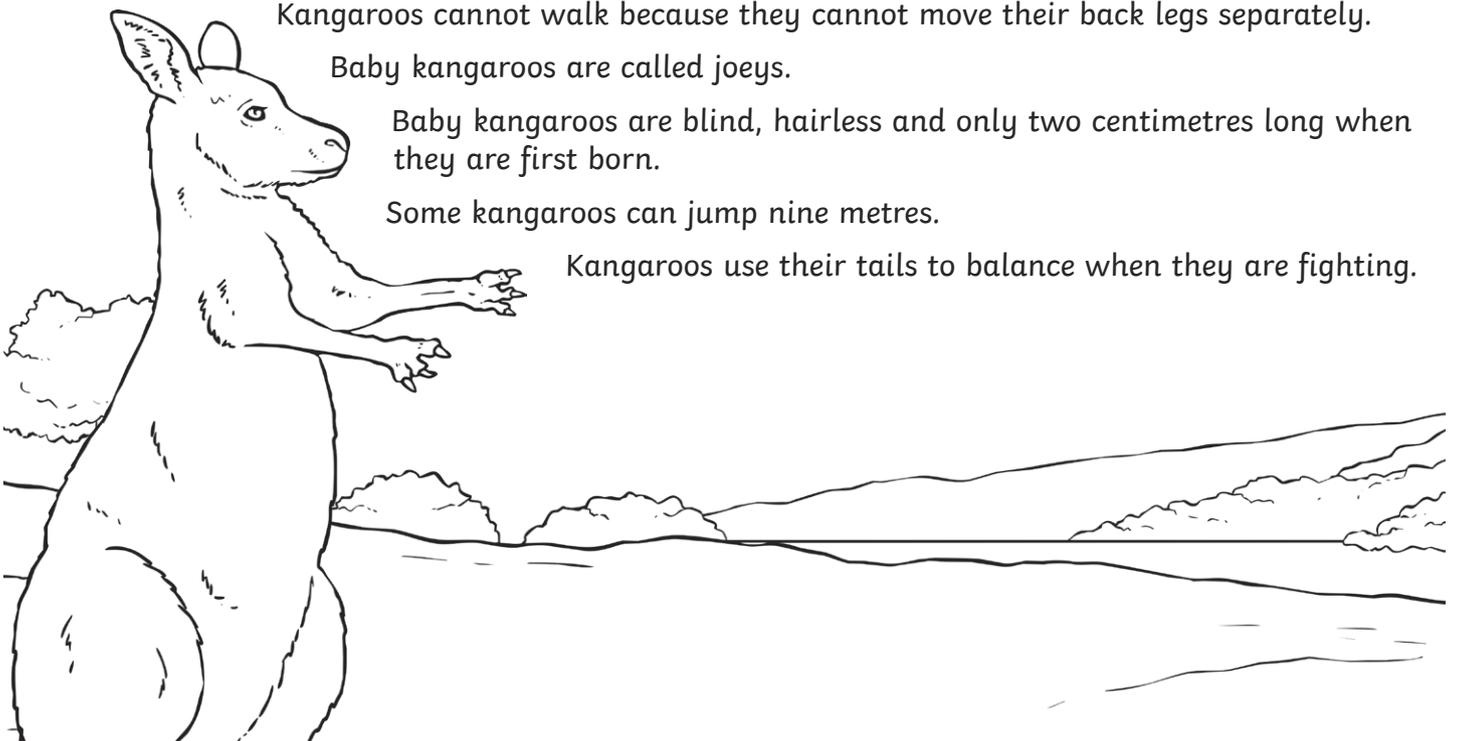
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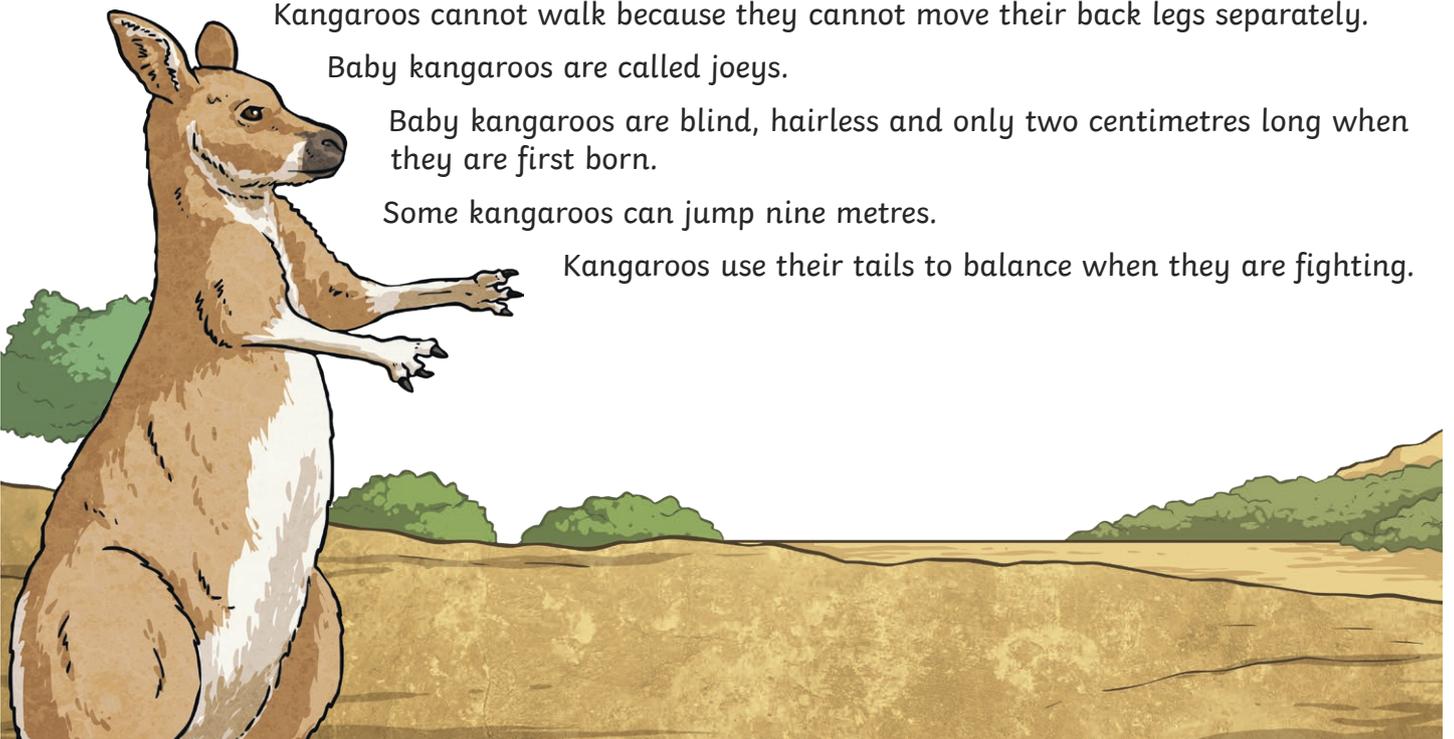
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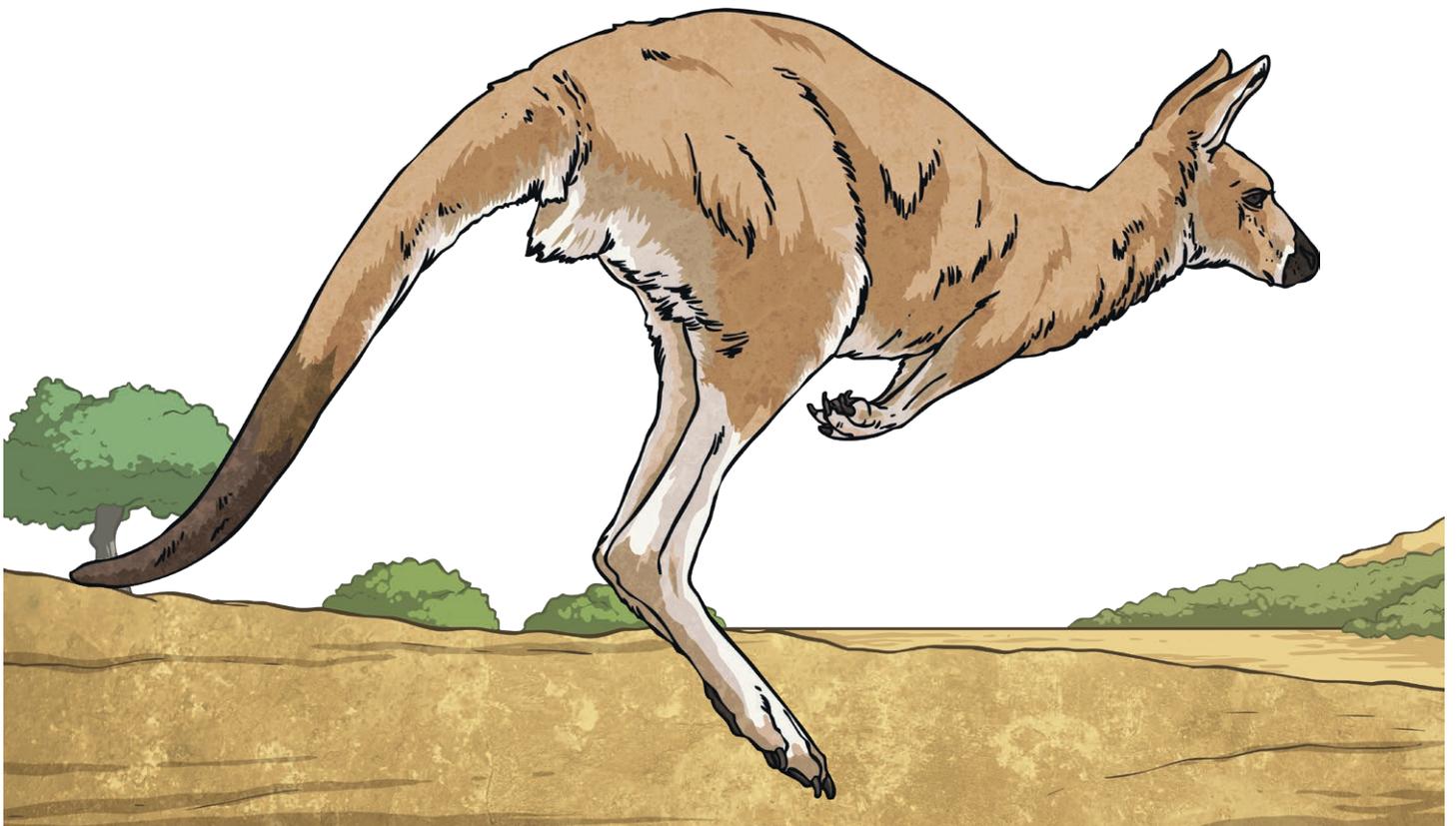
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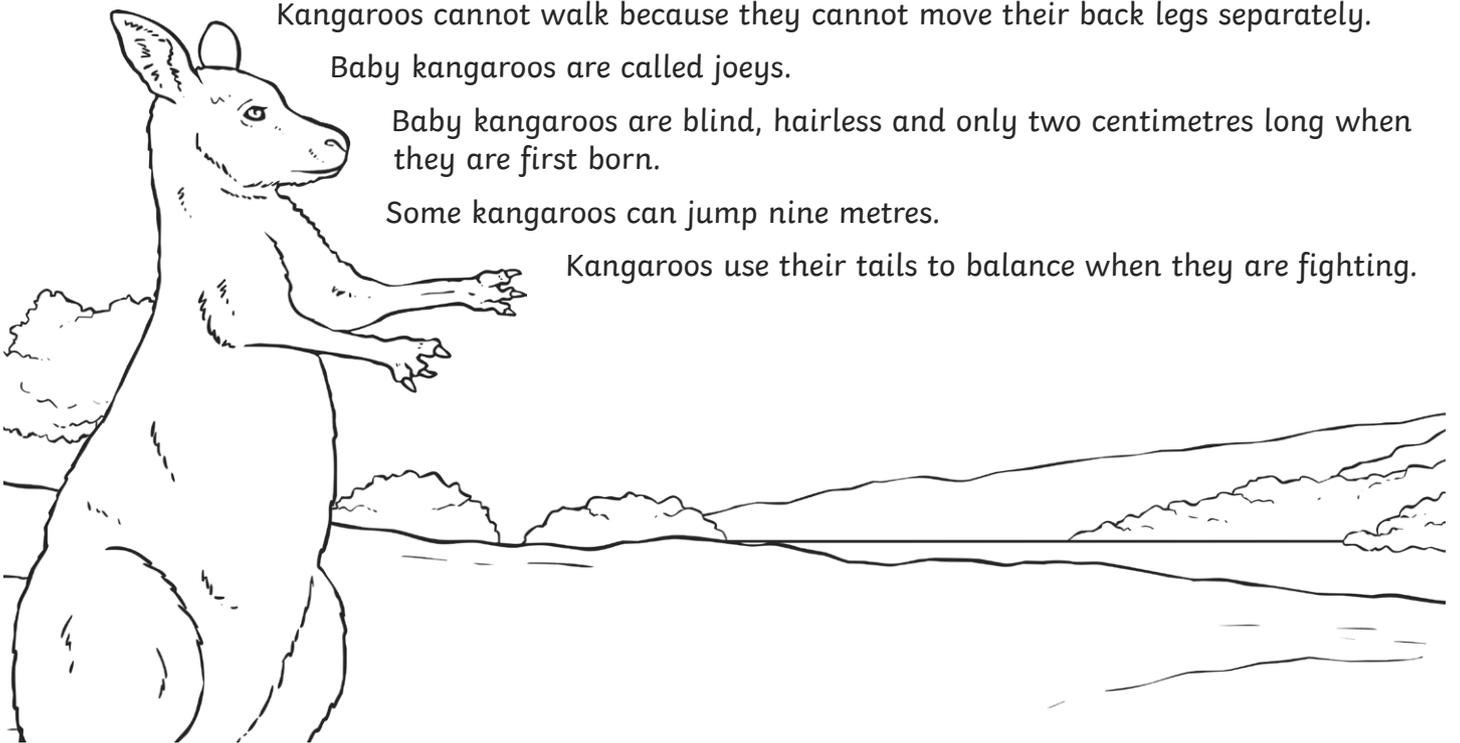
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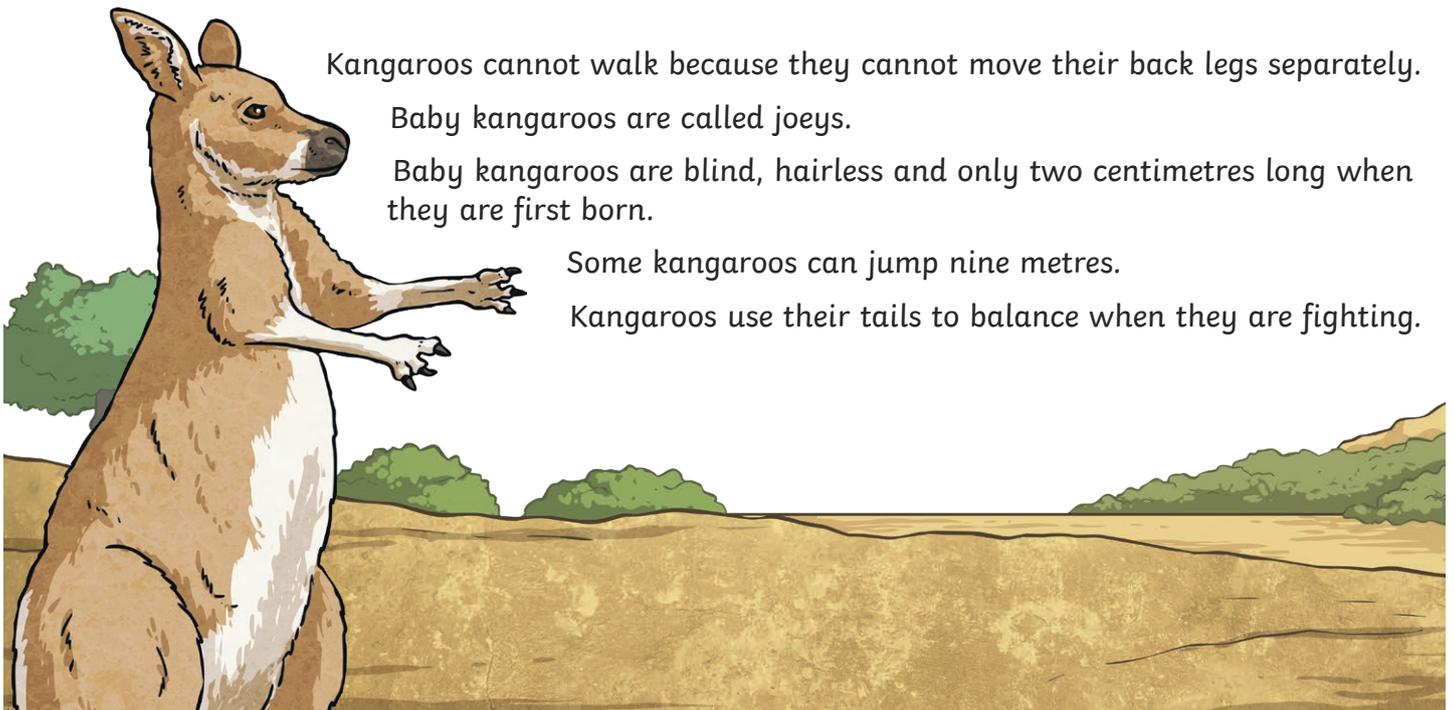
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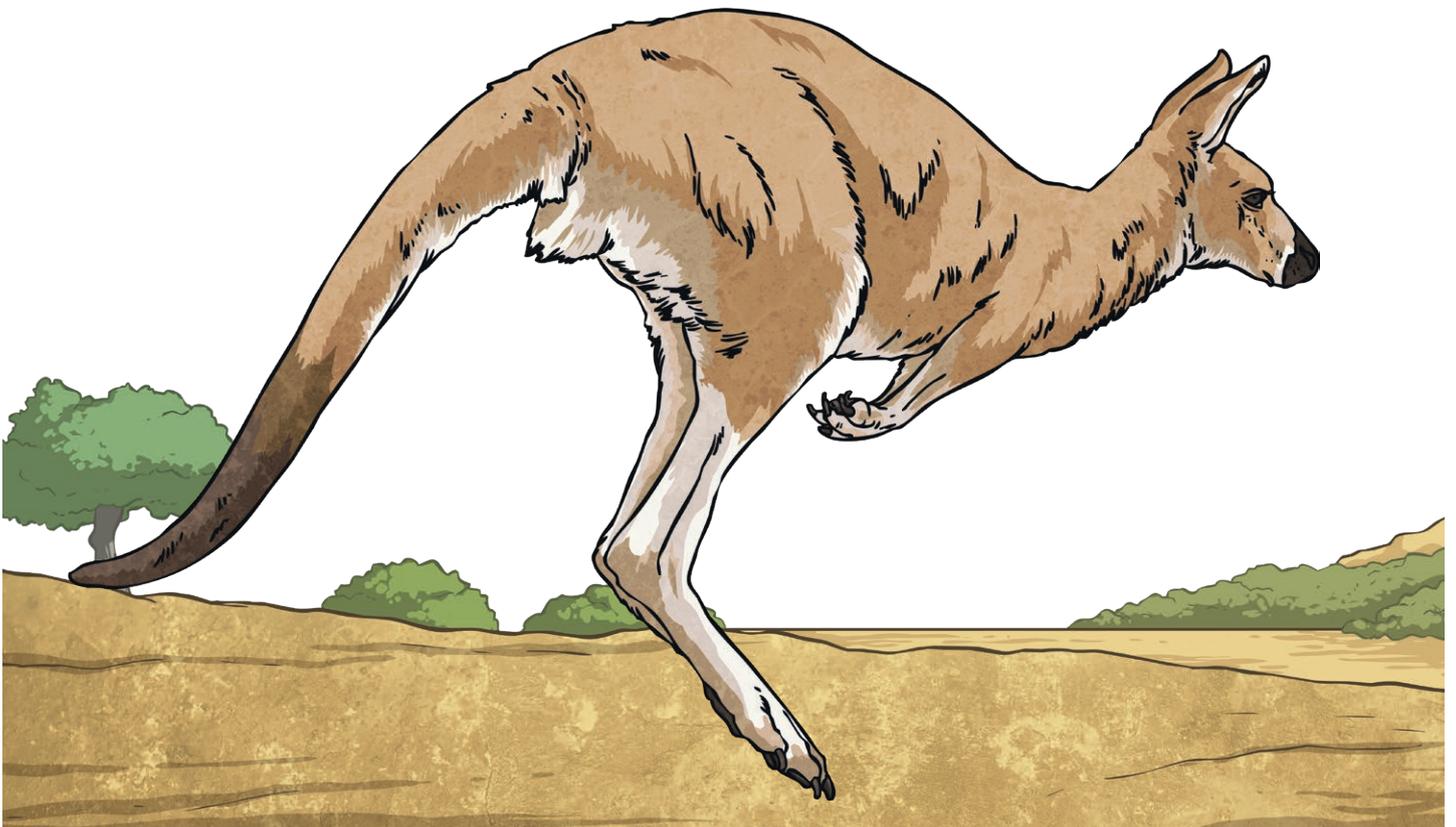
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Fast Finisher Activities

- Research the population of kangaroos. Do you think we need to control the number of kangaroos we have here in Australia? Come up with some reasons for this question.
- Research kangaroos and wallabies. Write a list of differences and illustrate your ideas.
- Listen to John Williamson's song 'The Golden Kangaroo'. Create a poster displaying the lyrics of the song. Write all the adjectives in red and the nouns in blue. Illustrate your poster and make it creative.



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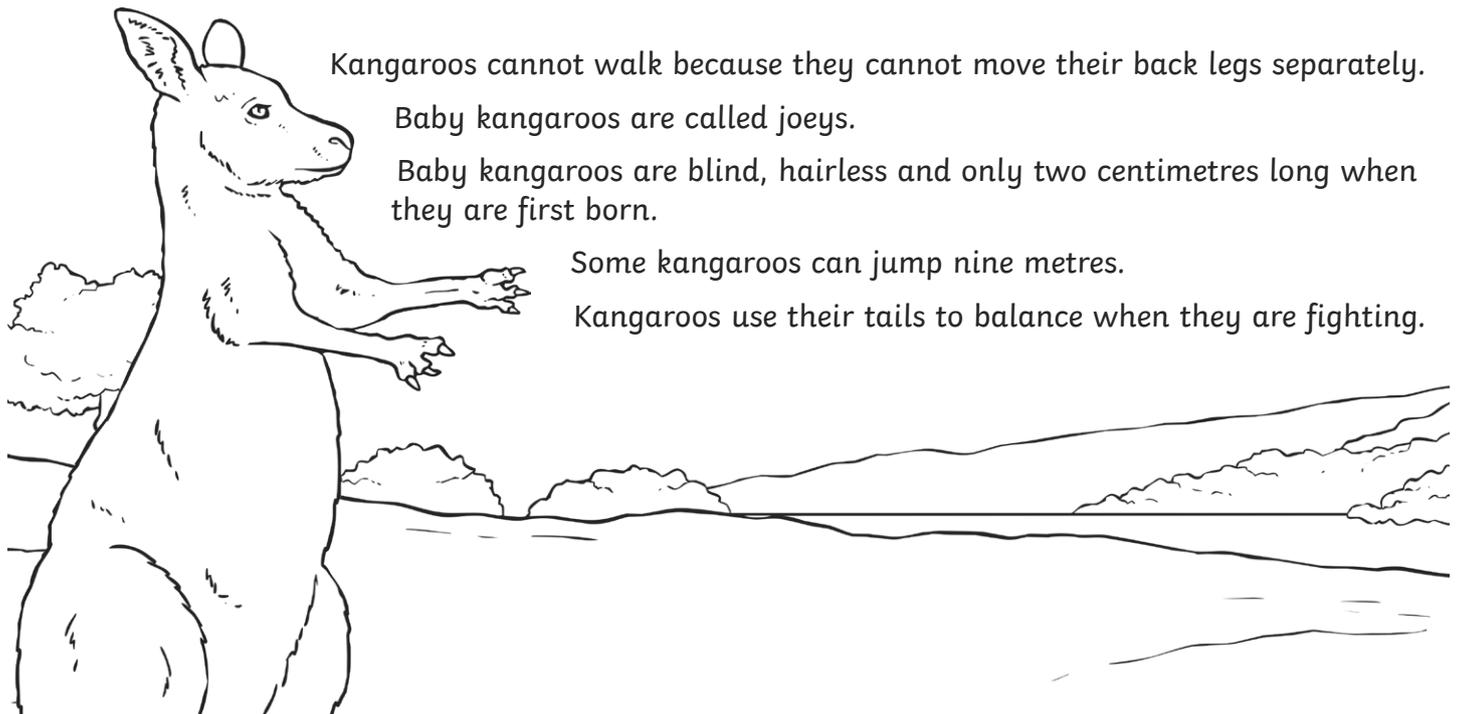
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