Kangaroo

Classification

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Infraclass: Marsupialia
Order: Diprotodontia
Family: Macropodidae
Genus: *Macropus*

For Further details link

Habit and habitat

Kangaroos are herbivores whose diets consist mainly of grasses, leaves, shrubs, and flowers, with the specific foods varying by species and habitat.

Herbivorous Grazers: Kangaroos are herbivores, with their diet consisting mainly of grasses, shoots, leaves, and fruits.

Grassy Plains and Savannas: Many kangaroo species, such as the red kangaroo and eastern grey kangaroo, are found in open grasslands and savannas where they graze on grasses and shrubs.

Woodlands and Forests: Other species prefer more densely vegetated areas like woodlands and forests, including the eastern grey kangaroo and western grey kangaroo, and antilopine kangaroos in tropical woodlands.

Characteristics

- kangaroo family (Macropodidae) rely on long, powerful hind legs and feet for hopping and leaping, their predominant forms of locomotion.
- Their long tails, thickened at the base, are used for balancing. This feature is most obvious in the large kangaroos, which use the tail as a third leg when standing still.
- Each long, narrow hind foot has four toes, the large fourth toe bearing most of the animal's weight.
- The head is relatively small; the ears are (in most macropodids) large and rounded; and the mouth is small, with prominent lips. The larger species of kangaroos have complex, high-crowned teeth.
- The four permanent molars on each side of both jaws erupt in sequence from front to back and move forward in the jaw, eventually being pushed out at the front.
- The pelage is generally soft and woolly; in many species it is grizzled, and stripes may be present on the head, back, or upper limbs.
- Kangaroos have an irregular activity rhythm; generally, they are active at night and during periods of low light, but it is quite possible to find them out in the open in bright sunlight.
- Immediately after birth, it uses its already clawed and well-developed forelimbs to crawl up the mother's body and enter the pouch. The joey attaches its mouth to a teat, which then enlarges and holds the young animal in place.
- The development of the second embryo then resumes and proceeds to birth after a gestation period of about 30 days.