



## Craft Activity

**Theme:** Australian Animals - Kangaroo

**Intro:** Kangaroos are marsupials (meaning the kangaroo has a pouch), that are found in Australia as well as New Guinea. Baby kangaroos are known as 'joeys' and spend a few months developing in their mother's pouch before leaving the pouch to explore the world. Joeys will sometimes jump head first into their mother's pouch when frightened. Learn more about kangaroos at Playgroup today,

**Craft activity:** Paper Plate Pouches

**Children will need:** Large paper plate, joey template, crayons, brown collage pieces (e.g. paper, felt, material), string/ribbon, glue, sticky tape, scissors, hole punch.

### Instructions:

Cut a paper plate in half. Decorate the back of one half with crayons and gluing on brown collage pieces. Tape halves together to form a pouch. Punch a hole on each side of the pouch and tie a length of string to each hole, long enough to go around your waist and tie up. Colour in your joey and draw on a face. Cut it out and put into your pouch. \*If you cut around under the paws your joey can hold onto the pouch.

### Extension ideas:

Give a name to your little joey. Practise hopping around with your pouch. Find out about other animals that are Marsupials (animals that have a pouch). What objects will fit in your pouch?

**Fact:** Because of their thick, muscly tail, kangaroos can't jump backwards. Their long feet also mean that kangaroos cannot walk forwards. Kangaroos hop around quickly on two legs or crawl around slowly on all four.



**Learning Outcome 2:** Children are connected with and contribute to their world.

## Coordinator extension ideas and group time guide

### Sensory activity: Sand Prints

**You will need:** Tray, sand, small sticks, sand print template (attached).

**Instructions:** Place sand in a tray with some small sticks. Put the sand print template close by. Children can practise drawing some kangaroo prints/tracks in the sand.

### Outside activity: Kangaroo Tail Hop

**You will need:** Panty hose, newspaper

**Instructions:** Scrunch up newspaper into balls and put into one leg of the pantyhose. Use the other leg to tie the tail around the waist. Hop around.

### Group time ideas:

Ask children if they have ever seen a real kangaroo? If so, where did they see it?

Has anyone ever touched a real kangaroo? If so, what did it feel like?

Show children some real pictures of kangaroos and talk about them:

- Kangaroos are marsupials that are found in Australia as well as New Guinea.
- Kangaroos can hop around quickly on two legs or crawl around slowly on all fours.
- Kangaroos can't walk backwards.
- Kangaroos living in the wild mostly eat green vegetation like grasses and leaves.
- Baby kangaroos are known as 'joeys' and are born really early into the pregnancy. They spend a few months developing in their mother's pouch before leaving the pouch to explore the world.

Who made a pouch today at the craft table?

What is inside your pouch?

Look out for a kangaroo in our story today.

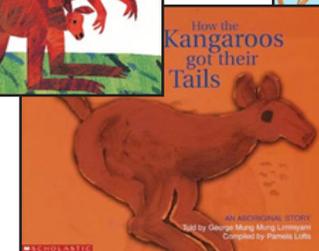
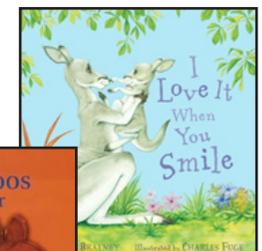
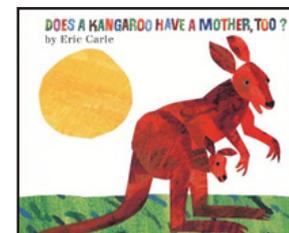


### Book Suggestions:

Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too? by Eric Carle

I Love It When You Smile by Sam McBratney

How the Kangaroos got their Tails told by George Mung Mung Lirrimiyarri & compiled by Pamela Lofts (you can use an iPad or laptop to watch "How the Kangaroos got their Tails" on YouTube).





## Kangaroo Joe (adapted from bussongs.com)

Hop! Hop!  
Kangaroo Joe!  
Hop! Hop!  
Come on, let's Go!  
Hop! Hop!  
Up hill and down!  
Hop! Hop!  
Right into town!

## Mary Had a Kangaroo (supersimpleonline.com)

*(Tune: Mary Had a Little Lamb)*

Mary had a kangaroo, kangaroo, kangaroo.  
Mary had a kangaroo whose pouch was very warm.  
Warm, warm, warm, warm.  
Warm, warm, warm, warm.  
Very very very warm.

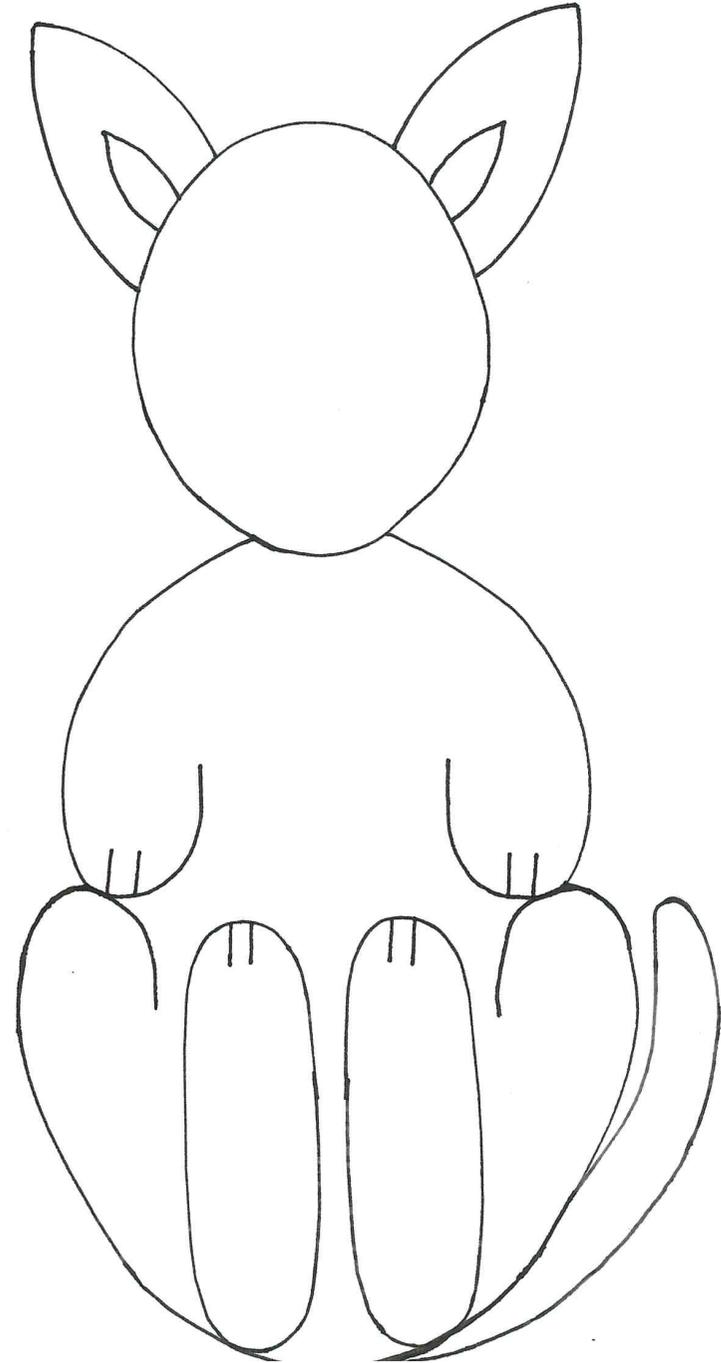
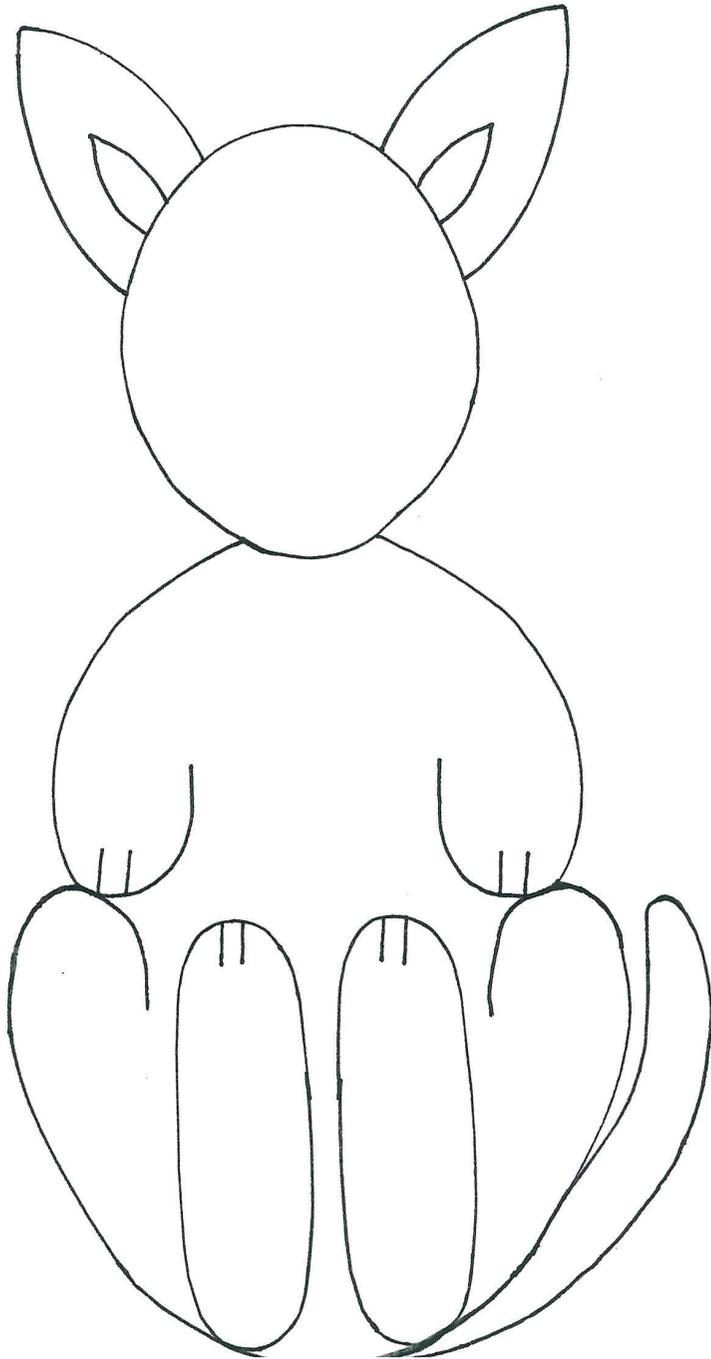
## If You're a Kangaroo and You Know it

If you're a kangaroo and you know it hop around,  
If you're a kangaroo and you know it hop around,  
If you're a kangaroo and you know it then you really ought to show it,  
If you're a kangaroo and you know it hop around.

## Kangaroo, Kangaroo

*(Tune: Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear)*

Kangaroo, kangaroo turn around, (Turn around)  
Kangaroo, kangaroo touch the ground. (Touch the ground)  
Kangaroo, kangaroo dance on your toes, (Dance on tip toes)  
Kangaroo, kangaroo ouch your nose. (Touch your nose)  
Kangaroo, kangaroo hop, hop, hop, (Hop with hands like paws)  
Kangaroo, kangaroo time to stop. (Hand held out upwards)

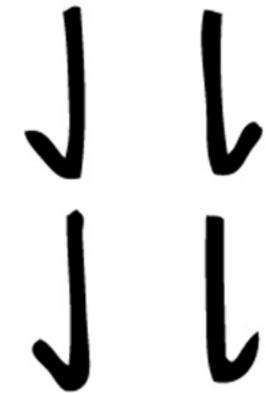


# Playgroup SA Kangaroo - Sand Prints



What do you think kangaroo paw prints would look like?  
Practise drawing some in the sand.

You can also try drawing some Aboriginal Kangaroo Tracks.



KANGAROO TRACK