

UNIT OVERVIEW

“Kute Kuddly Koalas” is a two week language arts unit intended for use with Grade One/Two children who have developed some independent reading and writing skills. It can be used to further strengthen the children’s reading and writing skills. Throughout this unit, children are involved in activities that focus their attention on language and how it is used. They brainstorm, study words, alphabetize, rhyme, use descriptive words, categorize words, read, answer questions in complete sentences, and complete writing activities. They are encouraged to use their knowledge of reading strategies to help them read the koalas fact cards.

A display of books about koalas should be set up in the classroom. The books motivate the children and encourage them to read for enjoyment and for information. Children read these books in their spare time and during silent reading.

Section One: Lesson Plans

Section One contains two weeks of lesson plans. The lesson plans describe the different teaching strategies for using the activities in each day’s lesson. Each lesson includes a spelling activity, a brainstorming activity, a study of new words, work in the student booklet, a writing activity, work at the learning center, playing the koalas trivia game, and a parent page.

Section Two: Student Booklets

Section Two includes a student booklet that is ready to be photocopied for student use. Every page includes four questions about one of the koalas fact cards that the children read in class. The children are encouraged to answer the questions in their student booklets using complete sentences.

Section Three: Parent Pages

Section Three includes ten parent pages. The children take home a parent page at the end of each day’s lesson. The parent pages reinforce what the children learn each day. They are meant to make the parents aware of what their children are learning in school and should only take five to ten minutes each evening to complete.

Koalas



Name: _____

Do koalas belong to the bear family?



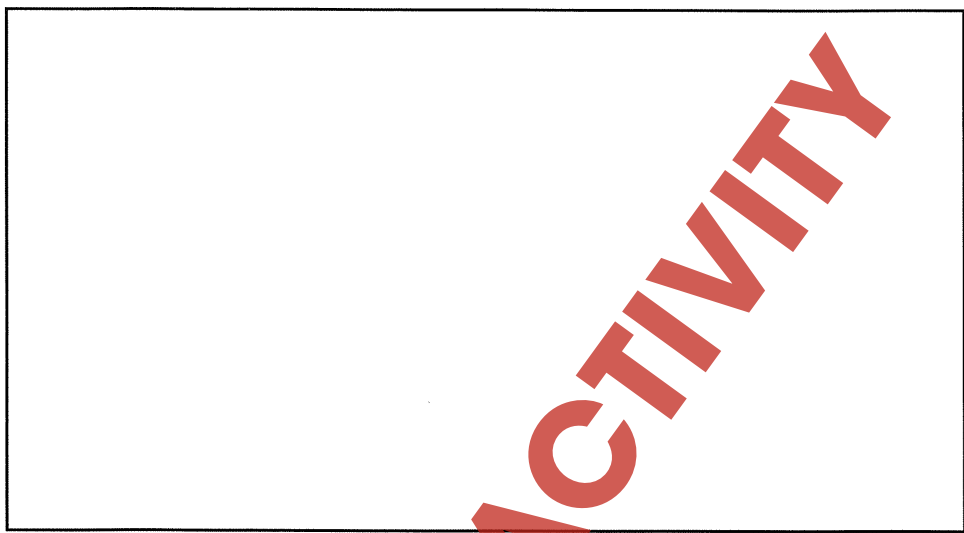
1. What do koalas look like?

2. Do koalas belong to the bear family?

3. What other animals are marsupials?

4. How do we know that koalas are not social animals?

Do koalas belong to the bear family?



WEEK ONE – DAY ONE

Dear Parents: This worksheet reviews the sounds and concepts your child learned at school today. Take five to ten minutes to complete the activities on this page with your child. The activities reinforce today's lessons. Depending on your child's present ability, you may want to do these activities orally or you may want your child to do some or all of the writing. Encourage your child to do as much writing as he/she is able to do on his/her own.

Think of three words that have the 'ar' sound in 'marsupial'.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

'Cute' and 'cuddly' describe koalas. Print five other words that describe koalas.


1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.


sloths marsupial opossums bear pouch

1. The koala looks like a small teddy _____.
2. Koalas are called Australian bears, pouched bears, and native _____.
3. Koalas belong to the _____ family.
4. Marsupials are animals with a _____.
5. Kangaroos, wallabies, and _____ also belong to the marsupial family.

Do koalas belong to the bear family?

Koalas are small Australian animals that look like teddy bears. Koalas are also called Australian bears, pouched bears, and native sloths. Even though koalas are sometimes called bears, they do not belong to the bear family. Koalas are marsupials. Marsupials are animals with a pouch. Kangaroos, wallabies, and opossums are marsupials. Koalas are not social animals. They live alone and do not associate with other koalas. 

What do koalas look like?

Koalas are covered with thick fur that is gray on top and a yellowish-white colour underneath. The fur on their stomach and ears is a lighter colour. Koalas have large round noses, small eyes, and big, round, fur-trimmed ears. They have short, stumpy tails. Adult koalas can be 60 centimetres long and weigh up to 14 kilograms. They live for up to 20 years in the wild. 

GROUP WORD CARDS

koala

marsupial

Australia

pouch

alone

SPELLING LISTS

Week 1 – List A

small
bear
pouch
sloth
thick
fur
gray
round
nose
ear

Week 1 – List B

animal
teddy
family
social
alone
yellow
white
light
colour
large

Week 1 – List C

koala
marsupial
Australia
wallaby
opossum
associate
eastern
eucalyptus
balance
kangaroo

Week 2 – List A

big
tiny
tail
leaf
wild
time
tree
eat
sleep
live

Week 2 – List B

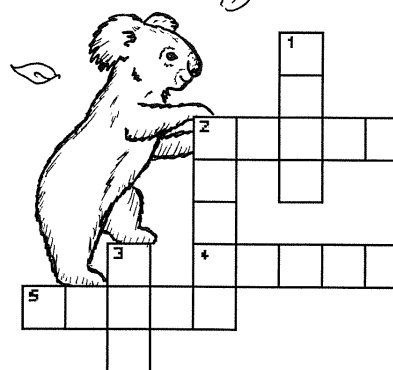
eyes
forests
wedge
branches
leaves
water
thumbs
padding
slowly
joey

Week 2 – List C

position
favourite
activity
rarely
muscles
absolutely
jellybean
enemies
lizards
protect

CROSSWORD PUZZLES

Week 1 – List A



ACROSS

- 2 My sister is very _____.
4 Koalas have _____ fur.
5 Joeys ride in their mother's _____.

DOWN

- 1 I have a teddy _____.
2 A koala is also called a native _____.
3 Many animals are covered in _____.

bear fur pouch sloth
small thick

Week 2 – List A



ACROSS

- 2 It is _____ for bed.
3 The caterpillar was eating the _____.

DOWN

- 1 There was a nest in the _____.
2 My cat has a long _____.
4 I _____ lunch at school.

eat leaf tail time tree