

Bandicoot

A bandicoot is a
small animal that lives
in Australia and New
Guinea. There are

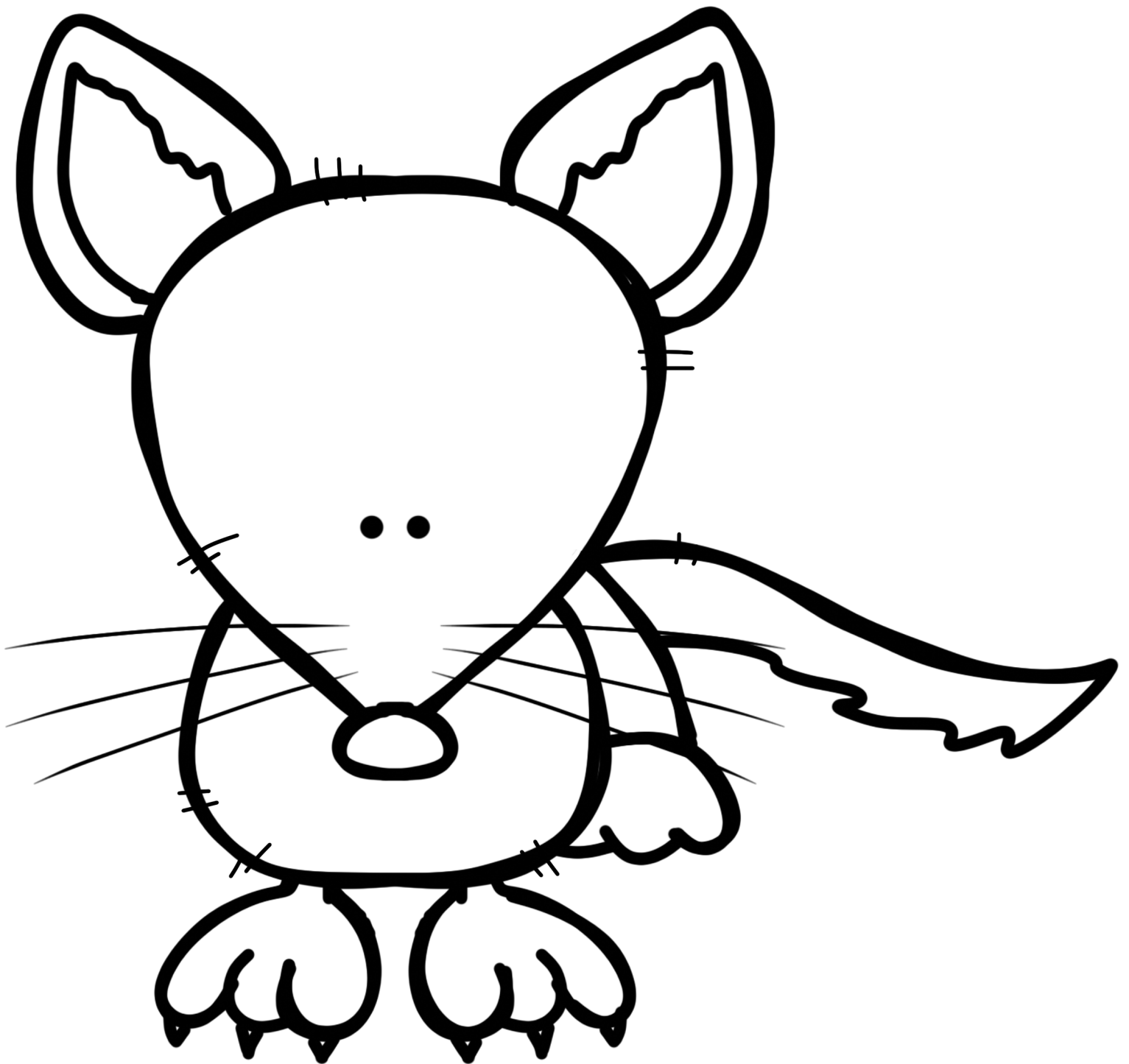
many different kinds,
but many bandicoots
weigh less than 2
pounds and can be
from about 12 inches
to 30 inches long,
which includes a very
long tail. A bandicoot
looks a lot like a rat.
It is a marsupial, but
one difference is that
the pouch opens
toward the back. This

is very helpful when
the mother is digging
for food, because it
doesn't let the dirt
get into the pouch
where the baby is.

Bandicoots have very
coarse hair. Their
heads are long and
come to a point. Their
back legs are longer
than their front legs

and are very strong,
which helps them
jump. Bandicoots live
in many different
habitats. Some types
of bandicoots like
forests, woodlands,
grasslands, and other
dry areas, while some
like very wet areas
such as rainforests
and swamp areas.
They sometimes dig

burrows and build
nests on the ground
out of sticks and
leaves. They eat
mainly insects, spiders,
worms, tubers, and
fruit. Bandicoots like
to come out mostly at
night, so they are
nocturnal. Foxes and
snakes are two of the
main enemies of the
bandicoot.





Dingoo

Dingoes are a type
of wild dog that live
in Australia. They look
a lot like dogs, but

they are also like
wolves in some ways.

For example, dingoes
howl, but they do not
bark very often. They
are 3 to 4 feet long
with a tail about 1
foot long and can
weigh anywhere from
20 to 45 pounds.

Many are a golden
color with white fur at
their feet and on the

tip of their tails, but they can also be a kind of light yellow, red, or black.

Dingoes live in many different areas of Australia, but they try to stay close to a source of drinking water. They eat other animals like rabbits, birds, lizards, or wild

pigs, but sometimes
when food is scarce,
they kill farm animals
for food. They also
eat fruits and plants.

Baby dingoes are
called pups. They
often live with their
parents and help
raise the next pups
that are born.

Depending on where

they live, some

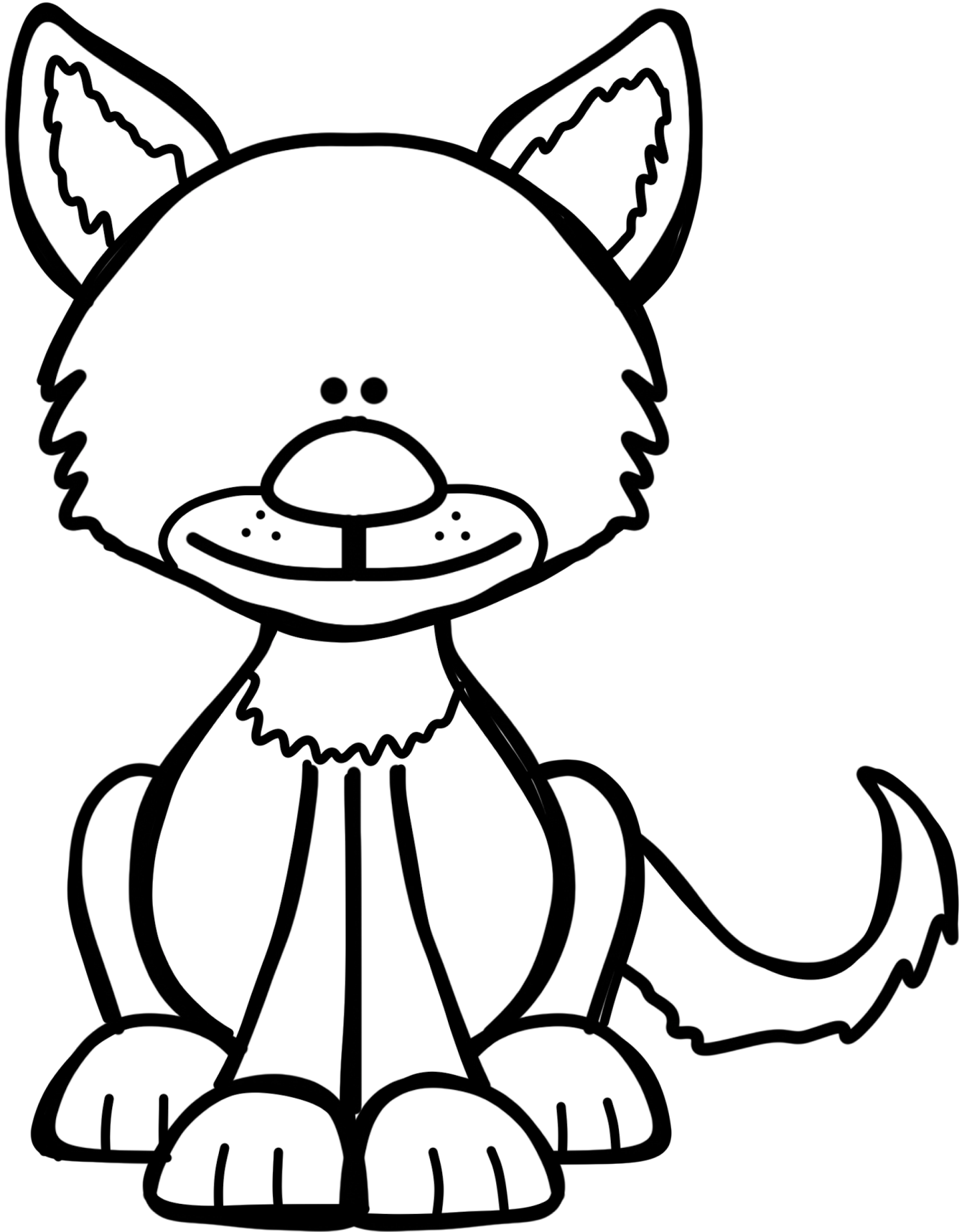
dingoes do most of

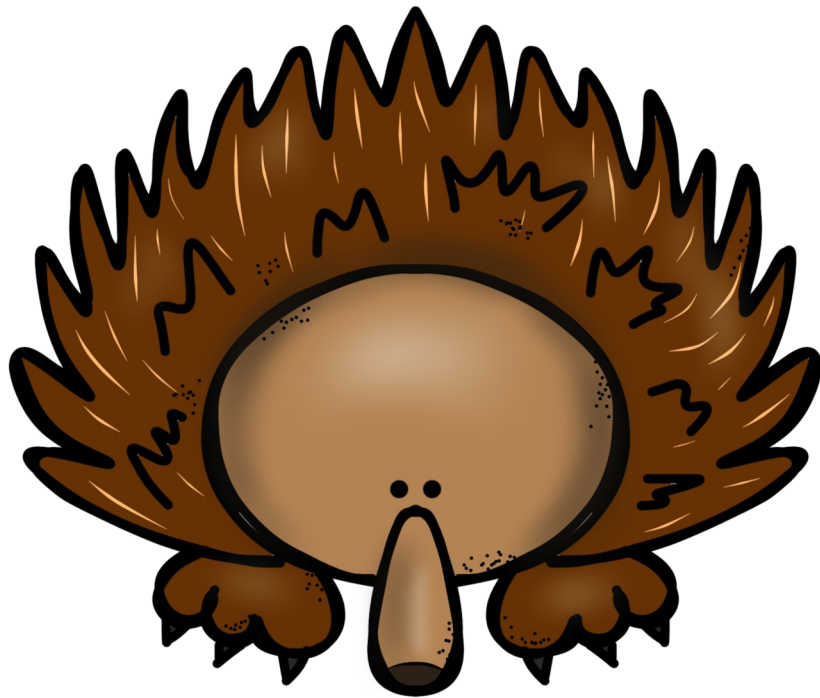
their hunting during

the day, while other

dingoes like to hunt

mainly at night.





Echidna

An echidna is a
mammal that lives in
many different areas
in Australia and New

Guinea. Most mammals, other than the echidna and the platypus, give birth to live babies. The echidna and the platypus lay eggs. The baby hatches in a pouch on the mother and lives there for several weeks. A baby echidna is called a puggle.

An echidna is over 12 inches long and can weigh from 7 to 22 pounds. The echidna has a very long, thin snout with a long tongue. The tongue has sticky saliva that the echidna uses to lick up insects, which is the main thing it eats. The echidna especially likes ants and termites.

Because of what it eats, the echidna is often nicknamed the “spiny anteater.” It has no teeth but has special plates in its mouth that help it crush its food.

The echidna has very strong claws that it uses to dig burrows to live in or tunnels so it

can hide from its
enemies. The color of
the echidna depends
on where it lives. If it
lives in a hotter area,
it is usually a light
brown. In other
climates, the echidna
may have darker,
thicker hair and may
even be all black. It
has sharp spines
covering its back. If

an echidna does not
hide when it is afraid,
it rolls up into a ball
with its sharp spines
sticking out to help
protect it. The echidna
is often found near
rocks, in hollow logs, or
in holes near tree
roots. At times in very
rainy weather, it will
find a safe spot
under a bush.

