

Cockatoo

Cockatoo is the name
given to many
different types of
large parrots.

Cockatoos live in
Australia, New Guinea,
and some of the
other nearby islands.

A cockatoo can be a
combination of colors,
but most are white
with a little red or
yellow. Some are
black.

A cockatoo has a tuft

of feathers on its
head that it can move
up or down.

A cockatoo has a
strong, curved beak it
can use to crack nuts
or dig up roots. It has
strong feet it uses to
climb on the branches
of trees. Cockatoos
sometimes fly in large
flocks, and they can

fly very fast.

At night, dozens or
even hundreds of
cockatoos have been
spotted, resting in the
same place. You can
find them in
woodlands, forests,
and even city parks.

Cockatoos are very
smart. Sometimes

when there are large numbers of cockatoos in an area eating, other cockatoos stand guard in trees to watch for enemies that could hurt the flock. If an enemy is seen, the guards make lots of noise to alert the flock.

Cockatoos like to eat

seeds, nuts, and fruits.

If they are in places

where there are

orchards, they can do

a lot of damage to

the fruit.

Cockatoos build their

nests in hollow trees,

high out of the reach

of enemies. The

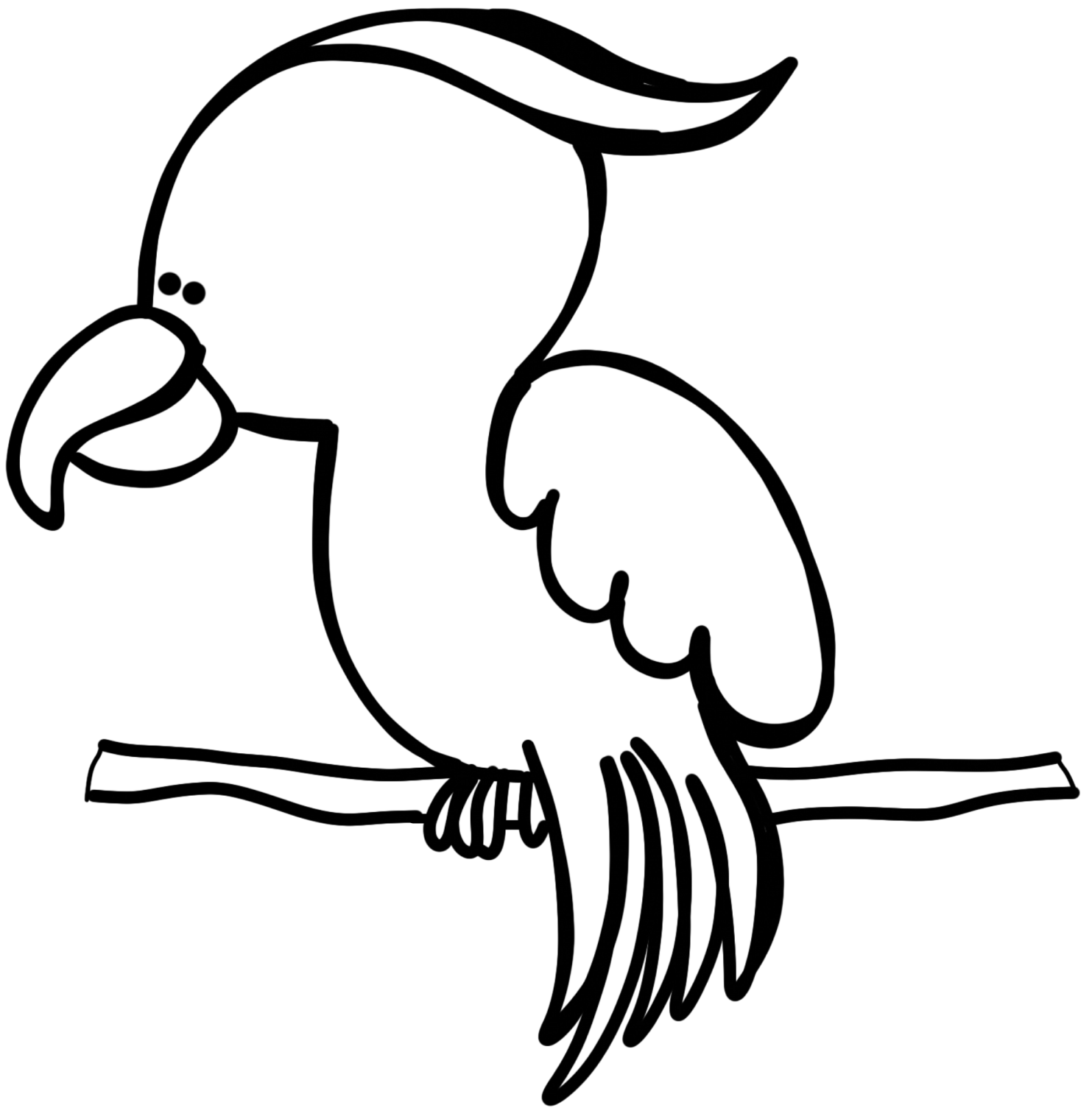
mother and father

work together to feed

and care for the
young birds.

There are laws about
how many cockatoos
can be captured and
sold as pets.

Cockatoos can live
for 70 years or more.





Kangaroo

Kangaroos are large

animals that live

mostly in Australia,

New Guinea, and the

nearby islands. A few
types of kangaroos
live in New Zealand.

A kangaroo is a
marsupial, a type of
animal that has a
baby who lives for a
while in a kind of
pouch on its mother
while it gets big and
strong enough to live
on its own.

There are three main kinds of kangaroos.

Red kangaroos are the largest marsupials alive. They are usually about five feet tall.

The males are a reddish-brown color, and the females are usually a grayish-blue color. There are also eastern gray kangaroos and

western gray

kangaroos.

Kangaroos have small

heads that look a

little like the head of

a deer. Kangaroos

have very short front

legs, but their back

legs are strong

enough to move them

around in hops! They

can hop as high as

seven feet and as fast as thirty miles an hour, but only for a short time. Kangaroos have very long tails that help keep them from falling over when they hop.

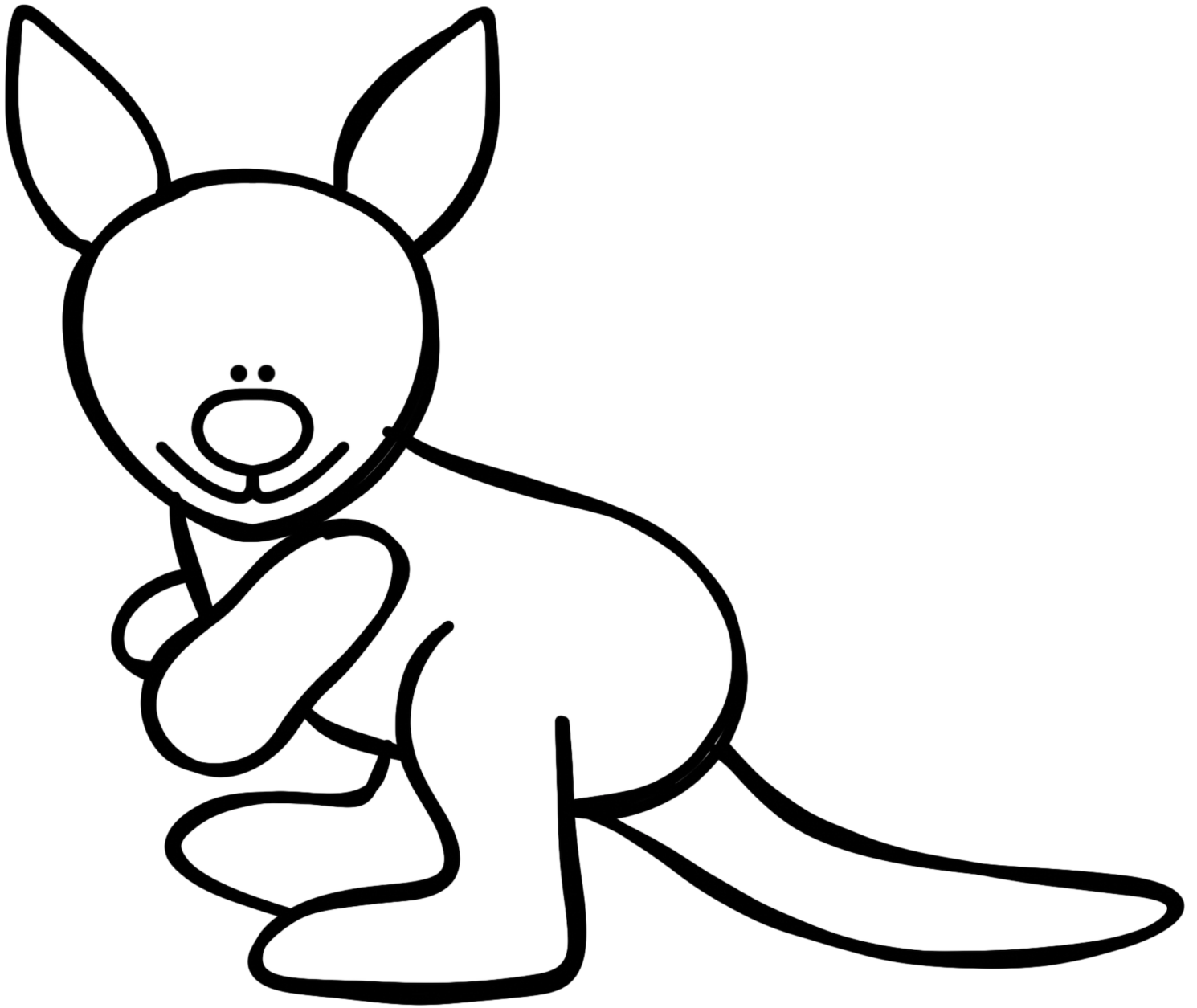
Kangaroos usually only have one baby at a time. After it is born, it lives in its

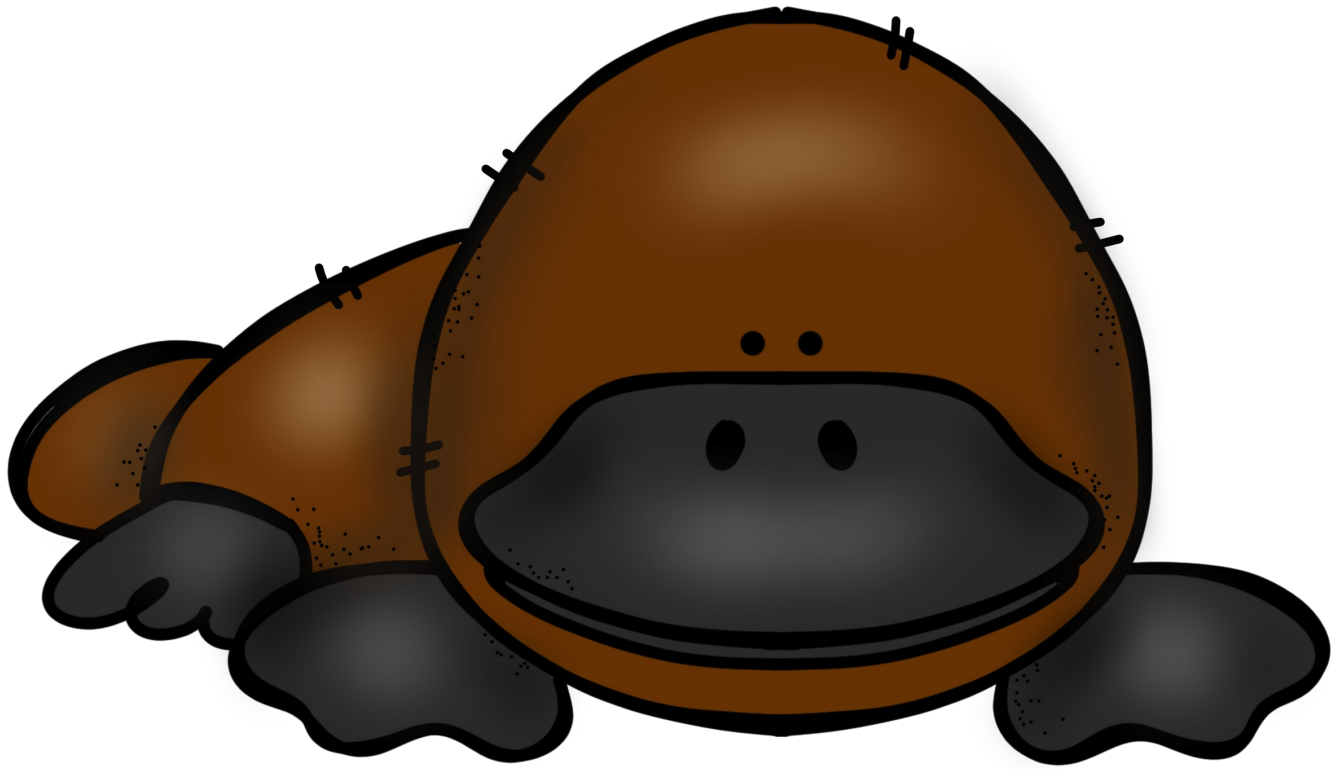
mother's pouch about
seven months. A baby
kangaroo is called a
joey.

Kangaroos like to eat
grass and small
plants. They like to
eat at night or early
in the morning and
rest during the day.
If a kangaroo sees
danger, it will pound

its tail on the ground
to warn other
kangaroos.

Kangaroos are very
good fighters because
they can balance on
their tails and use
their strong back legs
to fight.





Platypus

The platypus is a
mammal from
Australia. Mammals
give birth to babies,

but the platypus lays
eggs. Do you
remember another
mammal from
Australia that lays
eggs?

The platypus has
webbed feet, like a
duck, and even a
large snout that looks
like a duck's bill. It
also has a large, flat

tail that helps it to
swim, and claws on its
feet that help it to
dig in the ground.

A platypus is mostly
either dark or light
brown.

Platypuses dig into
the side of streams in
Australia to make
their homes. The only
time more than one

platypus lives in a burrow is when the babies live with their mother. The mother platypus lays her eggs and takes care of them until they hatch. Then she takes care of the babies until they are big enough to swim. After that, they can all leave the burrow.

The platypus likes to
be out looking for
food at night. During
the day, it usually
spends most of its
time in its burrow.

The platypus likes to
eat worms and tiny
animals from the
bottom of streams.

Baby platypuses have

teeth, but they lose
them soon after they
leave the burrow and
start to live on their
own.

A platypus usually
lives between thirteen
and twenty years.

Many years ago,
people used to hunt
platypuses, but now it
is against the law.

