

platypus

From the makers of the award-winning **Dragons of Galapagos**, **Wolves of the Sea** & **Islands of the Vampire Birds**



world's strangest animal



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David Parer has built his reputation on delivering the pictures we never thought we'd see. His latest venture is no exception, as he sets out to solve the riddle of this quintessentially Australian animal.

Three years in the making, this blue-chip natural history film takes Parer down the east coast of Australia to the many serenely beautiful habitats of the Platypus. Technology specially created for this film captures images from inside the nesting chamber of a wild Platypus and records the extraordinary sounds of the mother suckling her offspring. In the course of the film we see the young grow from six centimetres to four times that size.

Producers

David Parer
Elizabeth Parer-Cook

Executive Producer

Dione Gilmour

Production Company

ABC Natural History Unit

Produced by Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Discovery Channel in association with Telcast International GmbH

1 x 52' documentary

The Platypus has both baffled and inspired the scientific community since its discovery by Europeans over 200 years ago. We meet two scientists from Germany who have spent the last two seasons trying to discover how Platypus breed and raise their babies. Then we journey to Healesville Sanctuary in Victoria, where there is an all out effort to breed Platypus in captivity.

The Platypus is one of only two living mammals to lay eggs. The other is its monotreme cousin, the Echidna - an equally unusual animal with its own band of passionate researchers. We catch up with one of them, Peggy Rismiller, on remote Kangaroo Island, as she seeks to unlock the secret life of the Echidna.

Join David Parer on this fascinating journey from the northern tropical rainforests of Queensland to the frozen mountains of Tasmania in the south, as he reveals new insights into these two mysterious creatures.



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