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The Bouncing Kangaroo Question

How do kangaroos bounce?

In this episode we discover that kangaroos have powerful back legs, long strong tails and long feet that all work together to help them jump. Kangaroos are basically springy, bouncing machines!

Wonder some more ...

1. What are Macropod animals?
2. How high can a kangaroo jump?
3. How does a kangaroo's tail help them bounce?
4. How tall can a kangaroo grow?
5. What colour/s is kangaroo fur?
6. Can kangaroos walk backwards?



Time to explore...

- **MOVE:** Play a 'jumping animals' movement game. Tape large photographs of jumping animals (kangaroo, rabbit, frog) onto the floor. Model how each animal would jump – long, high jumps for the kangaroo; short, quick jumps for the rabbit; low jumps on all fours for the frog. Organise teams and encourage children to take turns jumping like different animals in a relay style.
- **RESEARCH & MAKE:** Look at photographs of different kangaroo species in factual picture books and identify their features – pointy ears, long snout, clawed hands, furry coat, large long legs, long feet, pouch (females), long tail. Invite children to make 'paper bag kangaroo puppets' using material scraps & other collage materials.



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Read and wonder...

- '*Big Red Kangaroo*' (2016) by Claire Saxby & Graham Byrne
- '*Colouroos*' (2019) by Anna McGregor
- '*Kangaroos Hop*' (2012) by Ros Moriarty, John Bradley & Balarinji Designs Studio
- '*A is for Australian Animals*' (2017) by Frane Lessac

Link to EYLF Learning Outcomes including 2.1, 3.2, 4.1 and 5.3.



Early Education