



Listen to the dialogue. Then, answer the questions using what you heard.

1. Where does this dialogue take place?

- a. at school      b. at a pet shop      c. at the zoo

2. Who is John?

- a. a sales-person      b. a teacher      c. a man who is shopping

3. Who is Helen buying a pet for?

- a. herself      b. her mom      c. her brother

4. How old will Helen's brother be?

- a. 2      b. 3      c. 13

5. John offered three animals that Helen turned down. Fill in the table to explain which pets Helen did not want and why she did not want them.

Animal:	Reason she did not want it:

6. What animal does Helen end up buying?

- a. an echidna  
b. a hedgehog  
c. a wombat



## Speaking



Intrapersonal

If you could have any of the animals mentioned in the dialogue, which one would you choose? Why?

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**LIVEWORKSHEETS**

# Australia's

## Weird and Wild Side

Thoughts of Australia usually include cute and cuddly animals. Kangaroos and koalas are among the country's most popular images. These unique animals are found only on this island \_\_\_\_\_. But Australia is home to many more weird and wonderful animals. Many of them seem like they were dreamed up in a lab. Let's have a look at some of Australia's weirdest animals.

What do you think might happen if someone shrunk a bear? They might create a wombat. Wombats might look like tiny bears, but they are really related to koalas and kangaroos. Even though they walk with a \_\_\_\_\_, their seemingly

stubby legs allow them to run at speeds of up to 40 kph. But their most unique \_\_\_\_\_ might just be their behinds. When wombats are scared, they dive head-first into holes dug with their powerful claws. Their butts are coated in armor-thick bones. This helps protect them from \_\_\_\_\_. And that's not all. Wombats poop in the shape of cubes. The smell helps them mark their territory, and the shape prevents it from rolling away.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Lesson 4



Hiking through the woods, you notice something in the trees. Is that a flying koala? No, it's a sugar glider! A sugar glider is a small marsupial with a long tail. As they leap from tree to tree looking to satisfy their sweet tooth, it looks like they are flying. A sugar glider's favorite foods are flower nectar and tree sap; however, they are also known to eat fruit and even insects. Nothing gets in the way of this little creature and its snacks. Sugar gliders can jump up to 45 meters using \_\_\_\_\_ under their arms to help them glide to their goal.



Down on the ground, a different animal shuffles across the trail. This is an echidna. Its name comes from a mythical monster that is half snake and half \_\_\_\_\_. Also known as the spiny anteater, the echidna uses its long, fast tongue to slurp up ants and termites. It might look harmless, but don't get too close! This little fellow is covered in 5-centimeter-long spines. When \_\_\_\_\_ get scared, they can curl up into a ball that nobody wants to play with.



Check



Australia is also home to the world's most mixed-up mammal. While the platypus has the body of a small mammal, like an otter, it has a duck's bill and \_\_\_\_\_ feet. Not only does it look like a duck, it lays eggs like one too! This animal is so strange that when the first one was brought to \_\_\_\_\_, they thought it was fake.

But its appearance isn't the platypus's only weird feature. Male platypuses defend themselves using powerful venom in their webbed claws. Platypuses hunt with their eyes and noses closed. Instead of using these, they send an electric signal into the water, which helps them find \_\_\_\_\_ worms and shrimp. Since they have no teeth, platypuses have to put rocks in their mouths to chew. But even the biggest meal won't fill their stomach. Why? Because they don't have one.

Australia is one of the most biologically diverse countries in the world. It is home to some truly twisted animals. Over millions of years, this \_\_\_\_\_ has produced some of the wildest species on the planet. Which do you think is the weirdest?



Read the following sentences from the story. Underline the independent clauses and circle the dependent clauses.

1. While the platypus has the body of a small mammal, like an otter, it has a duck's bill and webbed feet.
2. Wombats might look like tiny bears, but they are really related to koalas and kangaroos.
3. The smell helps them mark their territory, and the shape prevents it from rolling away.