

ALPHABET ZOO FACTSHEET

storytime™

Letter
Q&R
Animals

QUOKKA



1. **Quokkas** are related to kangaroos and wallabies.
2. Like other marsupials, they have a pouch. The joey stays inside for up to 30 weeks.
3. The biggest population of quokkas live on Rottnest Island off the coast of Western Australia. Explorers thought **quokkas** were large rats, so Rottnest means 'rat's nest'!
4. During the day, they rest or sleep in shady spots.
5. The **quokka** got its unusual name from the aboriginal people of Western Australia.

TRUE!

Quokkas swallow their food whole and regurgitate it to chew it again.

1. **Red pandas** live in the mountain forests of Asia, especially in the Eastern Himalayas.
2. The **red panda's** coat provides excellent camouflage in the red mossy trees where it lives.
3. Though they're called pandas and like eating bamboo, they are not related to giant pandas.
4. Like giant pandas, they have a special thumb-like wrist bone, which helps them to grab bamboo.
5. **Red pandas** can rotate their ankles to walk headfirst down trees.

RED PANDA



FACT!

Their fur is extra thick to keep them warm and, like polar bears, they have fur on the soles of their feet.

RHINOCEROS



1. There are five species of **rhinoceros**. Black and white rhinos live in Africa. Sumatran, Indian and Javan Rhinos live in Southern Asia.
2. Nobody is sure how black rhino and white **rhinos** got their names. Both species are greyish brown.
3. African rhinos and the Sumatran rhino have two horns. Indian and Javan rhinos have one horn.
4. **Rhino** skin is up to 5cm thick, but it's sensitive and can get sunburn.
5. The white **rhinoceros** is the second largest land mammal after the elephant.

WOW!

A black rhino's horn can grow to 1.3 metres long!

1. **Rattlesnakes** live in North and South America – from Canada in the north down to Argentina in the south.
2. The special Jacobson's organ on the roof of a **rattlesnake's** mouth helps it to pick up the scent of its prey.
3. Their favourite food is small rodents and lizards, but they can go for two weeks without food.
4. **Rattlesnake** mums give birth to up to 20 tiny snakes at a time. As soon as the babies are born, mum slithers away.
5. Every time a rattlesnake sheds its skin, it grows another part of its rattle.

RATTLESNAKE

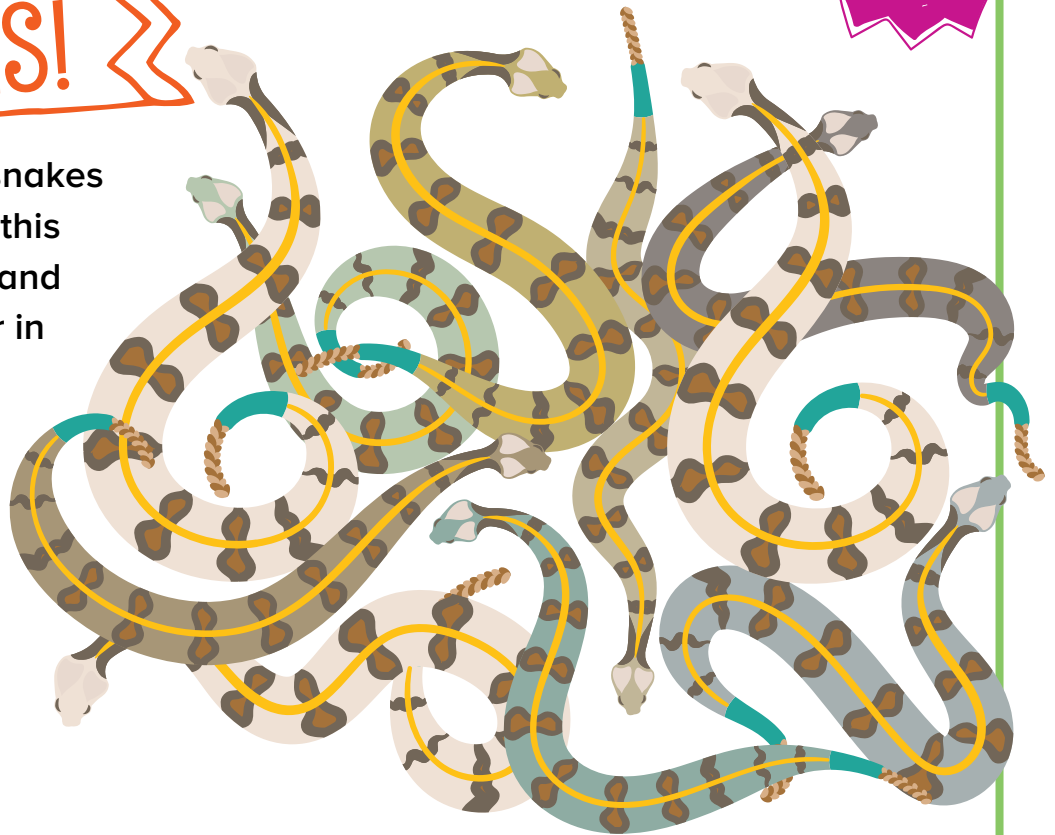
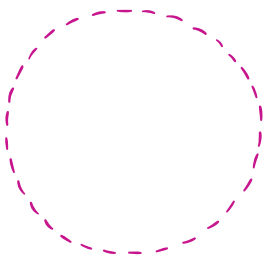


YIKES!

Rattlesnakes are great swimmers and have been found several kilometres out at sea.

TANGLE SNAKES!

How many rattlesnakes are tangled up in this pile? Count them and write your answer in the box.



QUICK QUIZ

Read our Alphabet Zoo poem and animal facts, then see if you can answer these questions.

1 Which animal lives only in South and North America?

2 Which animal can walk headfirst down trees?

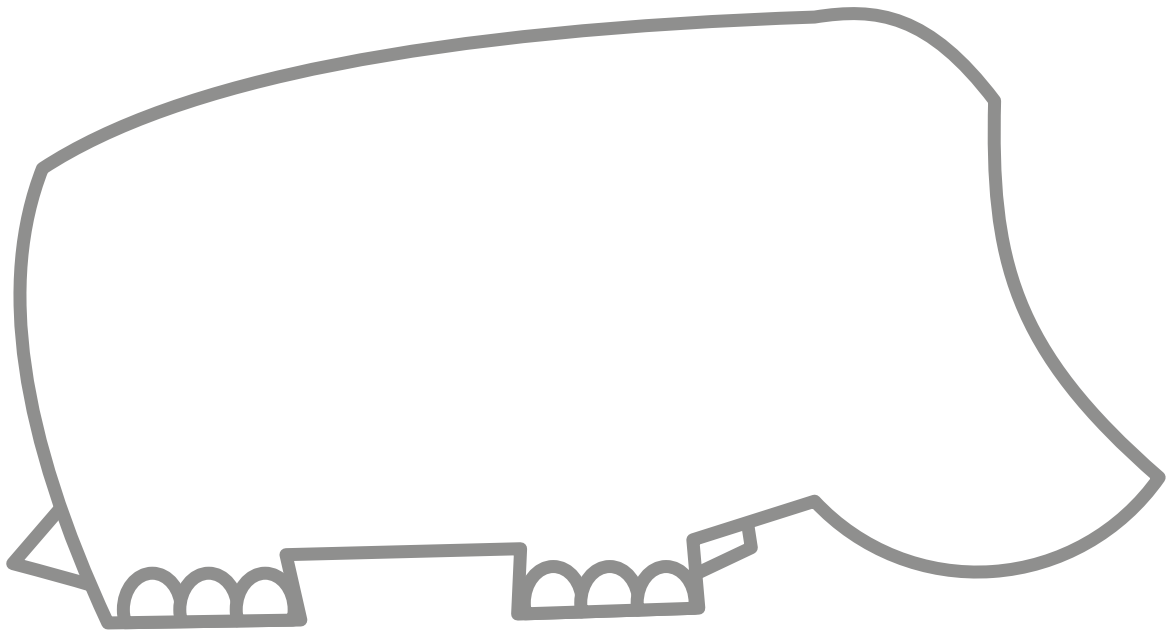
3 Which animal is a marsupial?

4 Which animal has super thick skin?

Answers: Tangle Snakes – 10; Quick Quiz – 1. Rattlesnake, 2. Red Panda, 3. Quokka, 4. Rhinoceros.

**FINISH THE
RHINO!**

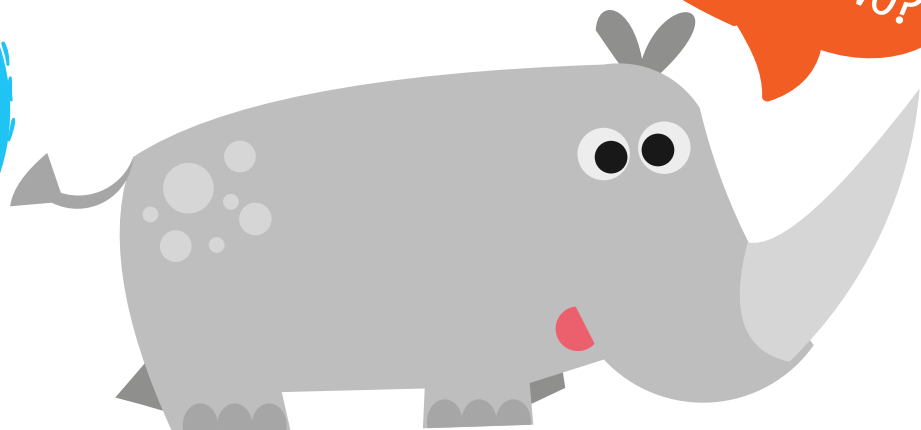
Copy the picture below to
complete the rhino picture.



JOKE!

What is a snake's
favourite lesson
at school?
Hiss-tory!

Will you give me
one horn or two?



Qq

Quokka



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Rr

Rattlesnake
Rhinoceros
Red Panda



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