

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aborigine – one of the native peoples of Australia

adaptations – a change that a living thing goes through so it can survive in its environment

arboreal – describing an animal that lives in trees

Australia – an island country and continent in the southern hemisphere, in the southwestern Pacific Ocean

carnivore – an animal that feeds only on animals

characteristics – a typical quality or feature

consumer – an animal that consumes food

decomposer – an organism that consumes and breaks-down organic material

endangered species – a species or type of plant or animal that is in seriously at risk of becoming extinct

environment – the natural world of the land, sea and air

food chain – an ordered arrangement of animals and plants in which each feeds on the one below it in the chain

habitat – the place and natural conditions in which a plant or animal lives

herbivore – an animal that feeds only on plants

joey – a baby marsupial

koala – a small Australian marsupial that lives in the eucalyptus forest

live born – animals born alive from the mother’s body instead of hatching from an egg

mammal – warm-blooded, vertebrate animals that have hair or fur on their bodies and feed milk to their young

marsupial – a family of mammals whose females carry their babies in a pouch (such as the koala)

monotreme – unusual Australian mammals that hatch from eggs (echidna, platypus)

nocturnal – describing an animals that is most active at night

omnivore – an animal that feeds on plants and animals

pap – a food produced by a mother koala that is a mixture of partly digested eucalyptus leaves and dung

pouch – pocket-like opening on the underbelly of female marsupials where young are raised/nurtured

predator – an animal that hunts other animals for food

prey – an animal that is hunted by another animal for food

producer – a plant that produces food energy

