



**Year 3**  
**Wild Transformations: Life Cycles**  
**Lesson 1 –What is a life cycle?**

# Hobart Zoo and Aquarium

Stuart Webster has been enchanted by animals and zoos since a young age. Growing up with limited means, he found immense joy wandering Melbourne Zoo alone, promising himself that one day he would own one. That promise became his lifelong mission — pursuing the dream through keeping animals and travelling the world to study hundreds of zoos.

His journey was far from simple. After leaving school early and facing addiction and personal hardship, he rebuilt his life, found stability, and created the financial footing that eventually allowed him to buy the dream.



In 2024, Webster purchased Zoodoo Zoo in Tasmania and rebranded it as Hobart Zoo & Aquarium. He has since launched major upgrades, from new exhibits and an aquarium with future plans for accommodation beside the lion habitat and plans for future species including red pandas, otters, cheetahs and eventually gorillas.

Stuart reinvests everything into creating a world-class, welcoming zoo with a team that share his fierce passion for animal conservation and education. He is finally living the dream he held onto for 50 years!

# HZAA Owner Stuart Webster





# Six Pillars of Conservation at Hobart Zoo and Aquarium



## Pillar One

Supporting ex-situ animal populations



## Pillar Two

Educate and inspiring positive change for wildlife



## Pillar Three

Protecting wild species and habitats



## Pillar Four

Enhancing the value of zoos for nature and society



## Pillar Five

Sustaining and caring for our local ecosystems



## Pillar Six

Maintaining environmental sustainability



# Wild Transformations: The Circle of Life

## What is a life cycle?

### Learning Intention

We are learning about life cycles of animals and the main stages they go through.

### Success Criteria

We will be successful when we can explain what a life cycle is and how people use this information.



# KNOW - WANT TO KNOW - LEARNED



Topic:



## Know

What do you know about the topic?



## Want to know

What would you like to know about the topic?



## Learned

What have you learned about the topic?



# KNOW - WANT TO KNOW - LEARNED

Topic:



## Know

What do you know about the topic?



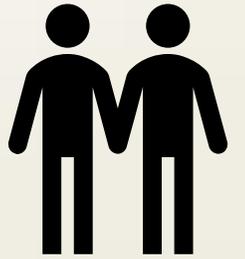
## Want to know

What would you like to know about the topic?



## Learned

What have you learned about the topic?



We do



# What is a life cycle?

## Glossary

- **Life cycle** – the stages a living thing goes through from birth to adulthood
- **Reproduce** – to make new living things of the same kind (species)
- **Stage** – one part of a life cycle
- **Habitat** – the natural home of a plant or animal



# Reading

## Year 3 - Life Cycles of Animals

All animals have a life cycle. A life cycle is the way an animal grows and changes during its life. Animals start life as babies and grow into adults.

As animals grow, their bodies change. These changes help animals move, find food, and stay safe. When animals become adults, they can reproduce and have babies of their own. This helps their species stay alive.

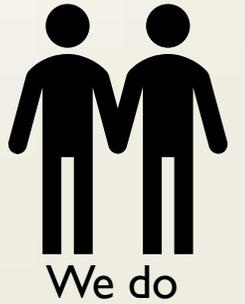
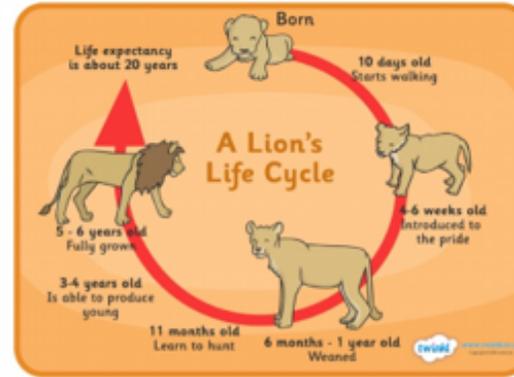
Animals need life cycles to survive. As they grow bigger, they learn how to find food and avoid danger. Some animals care for their young until they are ready to live on their own.

Learning about life cycles helps people understand animals better. Scientists use this knowledge to help look after animals and their homes. Farmers, wildlife carers, and park rangers also use life cycle knowledge to care for animals properly.

When people understand life cycles, they can help protect animals and the places they live. This helps animals stay safe now and in the future.

### Glossary

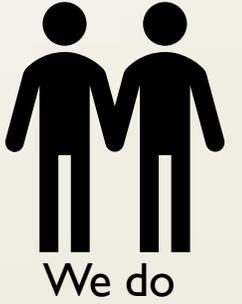
- **Life cycle** – the stages a living thing goes through from birth to adulthood
- **Reproduce** – to make new living things of the same kind (species)
- **Stage** – one part of a life cycle
- **Habitat** – the natural home of a plant or animal



Help Hobart Zoo and Aquarium to be sustainable by only printing what you need.



# What is a life cycle?



All animals have a life cycle. A life cycle shows how an animal grows and changes. Animals start life as babies. They grow into adults.

As animals grow, their bodies change. These changes help them move. They help them find food. They help them stay safe. When animals are adults, they can reproduce and have babies. This helps animals live on.

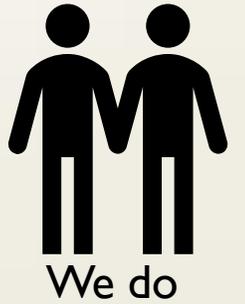
Animals need life cycles. As they grow bigger, they learn how to find food. They also learn how to stay safe from danger. Some animals look after their babies. They care for them until the babies can live on their own.



# What is a life cycle?

People who study animals use life cycles to help care for them. Farmers and wildlife carers use this too.

When people know about life cycles, they can help keep animals safe. They can help care for the places animals live. This helps animals now and later.



# KNOW - WANT TO KNOW - LEARNED



Topic:



## Know

What do you know about the topic?



## Want to know

What would you like to know about the topic?



## Learned

What have you learned about the topic?



You Do





## **Lesson 2**

**What are the stages of a life cycle?**

# Wild Transformations: The Circle of Life

## What is a life cycle?

### Learning Intention

We are learning about life cycles of animals and the main stages they go through.

### Success Criteria

We will be successful when we can order key life stages of an animal and explain a life cycle.



# How do animals change to become adults?



# How do animals change to become adults?

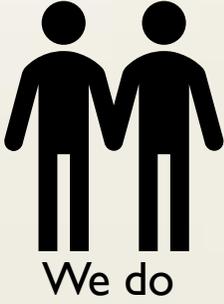


Photo: Sam Ruttyn © News Corp Australia, via news.com.au



# How do animals change to become adults?

2. The joey grows fur and is getting bigger.



1. A joey is born in the mum's pouch.



3. The joey leaves the pouch.



4. The wombat is a fully grown adult.





You Do

# Your Task

1. Create a life cycle of an animal from Hobart Zoo and Aquarium.

Choose from:

2. Cut and paste or draw the animal at the 4 key stages.

3. Write a sentence to describe

**Koala**



**Blue Tang**



**Albino Bennetts**

**Wallaby**

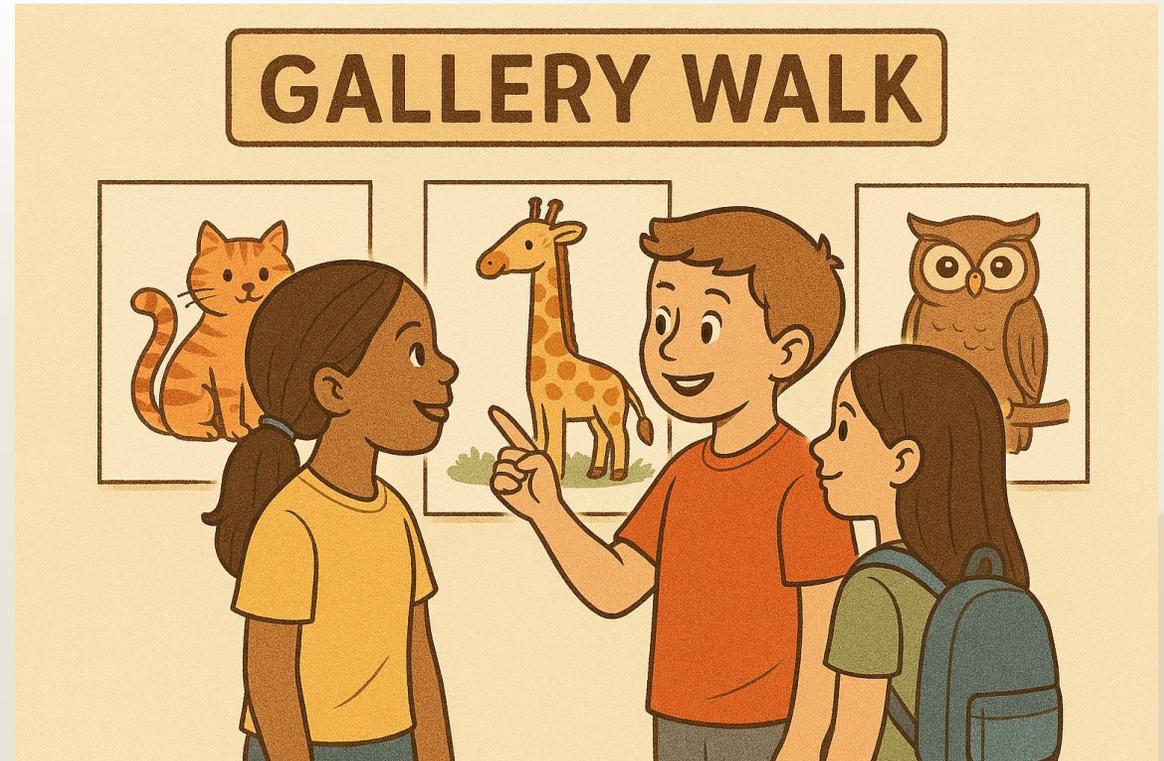


**Budgerigar**



# Plenary

- Walk around and admire everyone's lifecycles.
- Tell a partner one key stage of the life cycle for the animal you chose.





## **Lesson 3**

**How do life cycles help humans know if animals are at risk of extinction?**

# Wild Transformations: Life Cycles

## Learning Intention Success Criteria

We are learning how life cycles are used by scientists and identify animal species that are at risk of extinction.

We will be successful when we...

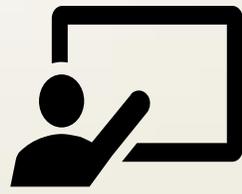
... describe how scientists use knowledge of life cycles to conserve animal species.

... define the purpose of the IUCN red list.

...identify Tasmanian animals that are at risk.



# extinction (adjective)



I do

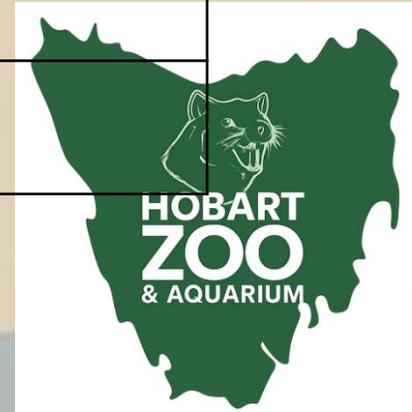
<b>Definition</b>	When a plant or animal species no longer exists on Earth.
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<b>Example</b>	Hunting led to the extinction of Tasmanian Tigers in the 1900s.
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Base Word	Origin	Meaning
<i>extinct</i> originally <i>extinctio</i>	Latin	to quench

General Rule	when a noun ends in a consonant + tion
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Suffix	Origin	Meaning
tion	Latin	action



# conservation (adjective)



I do

<b>Definition</b>	The protection of plants, animals and natural areas.
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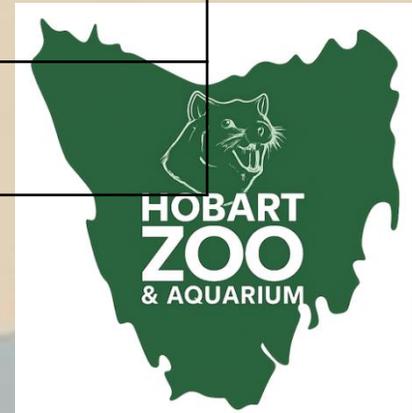
<b>Example</b>	At Hobart Zoo and Aquarium, we are helping the conservation of Lions by promoting the Zambian Carnivore Program.
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Base Word	Origin	Meaning
serve from the word, <i>servae</i> .	Latin	To keep or save.

Pre-fix	Origin	Meaning
con	Latin	together

General Rule	drop the e + tion
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Suffix	Origin	Meaning
tion	Latin	action



# Word Building



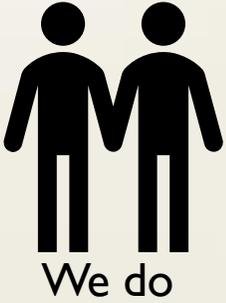
I do

When adding tion to a verb ending with **e** to form an adjective...

**General Rule** ... drop the e + tion



# Word Building



When adding tion to a verb ending with **e** to form an adjective...

**General Rule** ... drop the e + tion

Your Turn		
solute	becomes	<b>solution</b>
operate	becomes	<b>operation</b>
pollute	becomes	<b>pollution</b>
celebrate	becomes	<b>celebration</b>





# How do life cycles help humans know if animals are at risk of extinction?

The **IUCN Red List** is a list that shows if animals and plants are safe or in danger. Scientists from around the world help make this list. They look at how many animals are left, where they live, and what dangers they face. Then the animals are put into groups to show how much help they need.

In Tasmania, some animals are **critically endangered**. This means they are in very big danger of disappearing forever. The **swift parrot** is one of these animals.

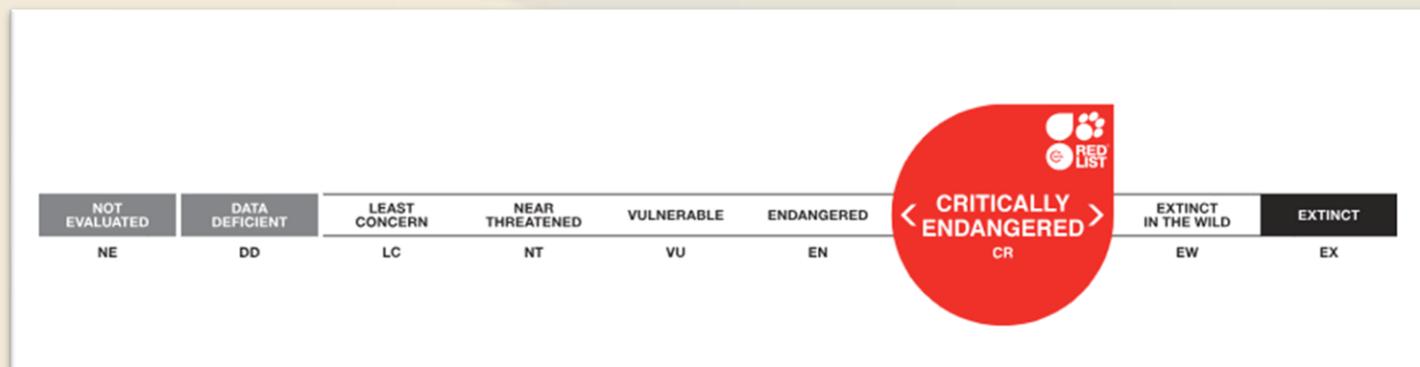
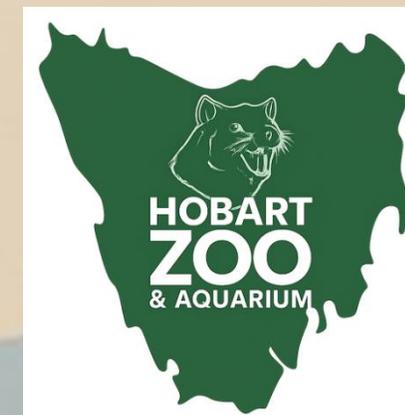


Figure 2 Swift Parrot IUCN Red Listing



# The IUCN Red List

International Union for Conservation of Nature



Swift parrots fly to Tasmania every spring. They lay their eggs and look after their babies in trees. Tasmania is the only place in the world where swift parrots raise their chicks.

Scientists learn about the swift parrot's **life cycle** to know when to protect the forests where the birds nest. This helps keep the young parrots safe.

By using the Red List and learning about life cycles, people can help look after Tasmanian animals now and in the future.



Figure 1 Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*



# Your Task

Go to...

[www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)

to research the global extinction risk status of animals.

## Wild Transformations: The Red List

Learning Intention	Success Criteria
We are learning to identify animal species that are at risk of extinction and describe how this information is shared globally.	We will be successful when we define purpose of the IUCN red list and identify Tasmanian animals that are at risk.

When you come to Hobart Zoo and Aquarium, you will see many Tasmanian animals.

Use the IUCN Red List Website to research and record the measure of endangerment for the following species:

Animal Species	Global Extinction Risk Status
Swift Parrot 	Critically Endangered
Platypus 	
Echidna 	
Spotted-tailed Quoll 	
Eastern Quoll 	

Which animal/animals are most at risk?

Which animal/animals on your list are least at risk?

**Extension:** Choose two animals of your choice from anywhere in the world to research and record their measure of endangerment in the table:

Animal Species	Global Extinction Risk Status

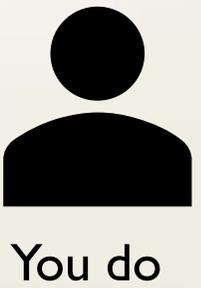
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You Do



# Lesson 1: IUCN Red List Plenary Quiz

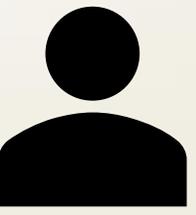


## Question 1 What is the IUCN red list?

- A** A list of all non-living things.
- B** A list of animals and plants and they danger they face.
- C** A list of animals and plants in Tasmania.



# Lesson 1: IUCN Red List Plenary Quiz



You do

## Question 2 Conservation means to...

- A** ...study living things.
- B** ...protect and care for living things.
- C** ...research living things.



# Lesson 1: IUCN Red List Plenary Quiz



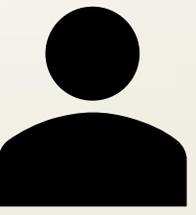
You do

**Question 3** Which Tasmanian animals are critically endangered?

- A** Eastern Quolls
- B** Tasmanian Devils
- C** Swift Parrots



# Lesson 1: IUCN Red List Plenary Quiz



You do

## Question 4

Conservation means to...

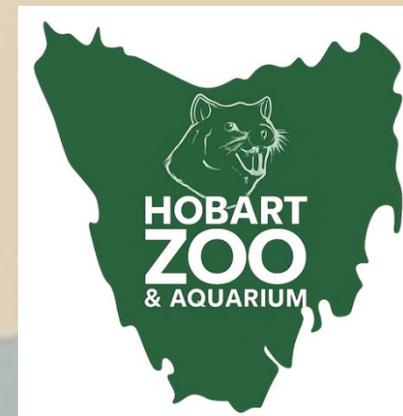
- A** ...study living things.
- B** ...protect and care for living things.
- C** ...research living things.





Now, it's time to get ready  
for your excursion to  
Hobart Zoo and Aquarium!

See you soon!





# **Lesson 3**

## **Communicating the life cycle of a monotreme.**

# Wild Transformations: The Circle of Life

## Monotremes

### Learning Intention

We are learning to explain the life cycle of monotremes and identify unique features that help it survive.

### Success Criteria

We will be successful when we identify and explain the key stages in a monotreme's life and how their unique features that help them survive.



# Discussion: What is a monotreme?

What animals are monotremes?

How are monotremes different to other mammals?

What features make them unique?



# Your Task – Monotreme Life Cycle

You will choose a monotreme and communicate its life cycle with your classmates.

Things that you will need to include are:

- pictures or models of each stage
- headings – animal name and class
- labelled stages
- short description with key vocabulary
- what **Red List** group it belongs to



# Record your research in the table.

<b>Common Animal Name</b>		
<b>Animal Class (mammal, reptile, monotreme etc.)</b>		
<b>Life Cycle</b>	<b>Approximate Age</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Stage</b>		
<b>Stage (optional)</b>		





2. The joey grows fur and is getting bigger.



3. The joey leaves the pouch.

# Wombat Life Cycle



4. The wombat is a fully grown adult.



Scientific Vocab



1. A joey is born in the mum's pouch.



Unique Feature

# Plenary – Exit Ticket

- Write one sentence to describe what you have done that you are proud of about your life cycle.
- I am proud of myself for...

