

## These Animals Are Mammals

### Platypus and Echidna



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**An echidna on the move**

A mammal is a kind of animal. It has warm blood. It has hair. It gives birth to live babies. It feeds milk to its babies.

Only two mammals lay eggs. One is the Echidna [eh-KID-nuh]. One is the Platypus [PLAH-tuh-puss]. They both live in Australia.

The echidna has a long nose. It has a long tongue. It uses this to lick up ants. It has sharp spines. The spines protect it. It has short legs. It has large claws. It uses them to dig up ants. It can dig very fast.

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The echidna is a mammal. It lays eggs. The mom lays one egg. It is soft. It is rubbery. She puts it in her pouch. The egg hatches after 10 days. The baby is as big as a jellybean. It is called a puggle. The mom feeds milk to her baby. It comes from her pouch. The baby laps it up.

The baby grows inside the pouch. It stays there until it grows spines. Then the mom takes it out.



By Stefan Kraif via Wikimedia Commons

**A platypus swimming**

The platypus lives near water. It is a good swimmer. It has a nose like a duck. It has a tail like a beaver.

The platypus is a mammal. It lays eggs. The mom makes a burrow. She lays one or two eggs. They are soft. They are rubbery. She stays with the eggs. They hatch after 10 days. The mom feeds milk to the babies. They lap it up. They grow for three to four months. Then they leave the burrow. They can now swim.

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### Platypus and Echidna



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#### An echidna on the move

A mammal is a kind of animal. It has warm blood. It has hair. It gives birth to live babies. It feeds milk to its babies.

Only two mammals lay eggs. One is the Echidna [eh-KID-nuh] and the other is the Platypus [PLAH-tuh-puss]. They both live in Australia.

The echidna looks like a spiny anteater. It has a long, narrow snout. It has a long, sticky tongue that it uses to lick up ants. The echidna also has sharp spines covering its back. The spines protect it from predators. It has short legs with large claws. It uses these claws to dig up ants. It can dig very fast.

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## These Animals Are Mammals

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The echidna is a mammal that lays eggs. It has a pouch kind of like a kangaroo. The mom lays one soft, rubbery egg. She puts it in her pouch. The egg hatches after 10 days. The baby is as big as a jellybean. It is called a puggle. The mom feeds milk to her baby. It comes from inside her pouch. The baby laps it up with its tongue.

The baby grows inside the pouch. It stays there until it starts to grow spines. Then the mom takes it out. She hides it in a burrow until it grows big.



By Stelcan Kraft via Wikimedia Commons

**A platypus swimming**

The platypus lives near water. It is a good swimmer. It has a nose like a duck. It has a tail like a beaver.

The platypus is a mammal that lays eggs. The mom makes a burrow. She lays one or two soft, rubbery eggs inside. She keeps them warm. They hatch after 10 days. The mom feeds milk to the babies. She does this from a special place on her body. They lap it up. She stays with them for three to four months. Then they leave the burrow. They can now swim.

## These Animals Are Mammals

### Platypus and Echidna



Lyle Radford via Wikimedia Commons

**An echidna on the move**

A mammal is a kind of animal. It has warm blood. It has hair. It gives birth to live babies. It feeds milk to its babies.

Only two mammals lay eggs: the Echidna [eh-KID-nuh] and the Platypus [PLAH-tuh-puss]. Both of these animals are native to Australia.

The echidna looks like a spiny anteater. It has a long, narrow snout. It has a long, sticky tongue that it uses to lick up ants. The echidna also has sharp spines covering its back that protect it from predators. It has short legs with large claws that it uses to dig up ants. It can dig very fast.

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## These Animals Are Mammals

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The echidna is a mammal that lays eggs. It has a pouch kind of like a kangaroo. The mom lays one soft, rubbery egg and then puts it in her pouch. When the egg hatches after 10 days, the baby is the size of a jellybean. A baby echidna is called a puggle. The mom feeds milk to her baby. The milk comes from a special place inside her pouch and baby laps it up with its tongue.

The puggle stays inside the pouch until it starts to grow spines. Then the mom takes it out and hides it in a burrow until it is large enough to take care of itself.



By Stefan Kraft via Wikimedia Commons

**A platypus swimming**

The platypus lives near water and is a good swimmer. It has a nose like a duck and a tail like a beaver.

The platypus is a mammal that lays eggs. The mom makes a burrow and then lays one or two soft, rubbery eggs inside. She keeps them warm for 10 days until they hatch. The mom feeds milk to the babies from a special place on her body and they lap it up. She stays with them for three to four months. When they finally leave the burrow, the babies are big and strong enough to swim on their own.