



About The Platypus

By Hilal!!!



Introduction:

When scientists first saw platypuses, they thought they were a fake animal made out of parts of different animals stitched together. After a lot more research they found out that platypuses weren't a **hoax**! And did you know that the platypuses scientific name is *ornithorhynchus anatinus*? And its family name is *Ornithorhynchidae*! Platypuses are really weird animals! Read more to find out more about this weird creature!



Appearance:

As you might already know, platypuses are a weird creature that people thought was fake, but that was because they have the feet of a duck, the body of a beaver, a duck bill and the tail of a beaver! Their fur is brown, their bill is grey, their feet are grey, and their tail is also grey! That's a lot of grey is you ask me!



Diet:

Platypuses are **carnivores** which mean they only eat meat, no vegetables! They eat small water animals such as: insect larvae, freshwater shrimps, crayfish, small fish, worms, and yabbies! Platypuses eat small things because they are already really small enough so if they try to eat big things, then they might get eaten by them!



Habitat:

Platypuses are native to Eastern Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria, and Western Australia! Platypuses dig long burrows in the riverbank with the entrance above the water to keep it well hidden! They hide in **burrows** so they can sleep for most of the day and shelter!



Map of Australia:



Life cycle:



Baby platypuses are born blind and hairless. They stay inside their burrow and drink milk from their mother! By 4 years old, they are ready to live on their own and hunt their little prey. Platypuses live for 20 years in captivity, and only 12 years in the wild!

Fun facts!

1. Platypuses lay eggs even though they have a pouch!
2. Male platypuses are actually venomous!
3. They ooze milk from their **mammary gland ducts!**
4. Adult platypuses don't have teeth!
5. Their babies are called puggles!
6. They weigh 2.4kg and their speed is 35k per hour

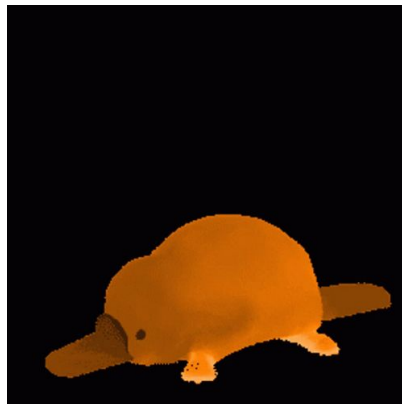


Glossary:

1. **Mammary gland ducts:** a place where you carry milk in.
2. **Burrow:** a tunnel or hole underground that an animal digs.
3. **Captivity:** the state or period of being confined or like a house pet
4. **Carnivores:** a human or animal that only eats meat
5. **Hoax:** an act intended to trick or deceive someone



Cute Platypus (•⊖•∞)



The end :)

