

# Platypus

## Ancient watery wonders

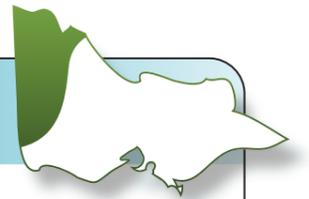


### Features

#### Platypus:

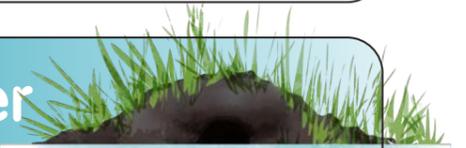
- Are mammals that lay eggs
- Have waterproof fur that helps them stay warm
- Swim using their webbed front feet like paddles
- Use their back feet and tail to steer underwater
- Have a special bill that can sense moving food
- Are about as long as three adult hands
- Are about as heavy as 10 oranges

### Habitat



Platypus love freshwater rivers, creeks and lakes. Their favourite places have muddy banks with lots of plants growing on them. Underwater stones and logs make finding food easy.

### Shelter



Platypus shelter inside dry burrows built in the bank. They tuck up in a furry ball and sleep the day away. These mammals can use more than one burrow.

### Food



These nocturnal carnivores use their bill to find insects, shrimp and worms. They take a breath, close their eyes and dive underwater. They search for snacks under sand, stones, logs and branches.

### Protection



You'll never find a platypus swimming in polluted water. They get sick when water isn't healthy. Litter like fishing line can tangle around and harm platypus. Off-leash dogs can attack them.

### Care



Rangers and friends care for this habitat by removing litter and planting shrubs near waterways. You can help by walking your dog on a leash and putting your rubbish in the bin.

