

Name: _____ Date: _____



Platypus

Ornithorhynchus anatinus

The platypus is a unique, semi-aquatic mammal endemic to eastern Australia, including Tasmania. It is known for its distinctive duck-bill, webbed feet, and beaver-like tail, which make it easily reco...

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal

Family: Ornithorhynchidae

Habitat: Freshwater rivers and streams

Diet: Carnivore

Conservation status: Near Threatened

Lifespan: 10-17 years

Weight: 0.7-2.4 kg

Scientific name: *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*

Did you know?

- The platypus was so strange-looking that early European scientists thought the first specimen sent to England was a hoax, believing it to be a stitch...
- Male platypuses possess venomous spurs on their hind legs, making them one of the few venomous mammals. Platypuses close their eyes, ears, and nostrils...

What I learned
