CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Quokka

Setonix brachyurus

The quokka's fame as "the world's happiest animal" is a trick of anatomy rather than temperament: the shape of its mouth and cheeks makes it appear to smile no matter what it is doing, and the intern…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Macropodidae
Habitat: Dense vegetation in coastal scrublands, woodlands, and island forests
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 10-12 years
Weight: 2.5-5 kg
Scientific name: Setonix brachyurus

Did you know?

- Quokkas can breed twice a year and, like other marsupials, can pause embryo development if conditions are unfavorable—a process called embryonic diap…
- The quokka's "smile" is a fixed feature of its mouth shape, not a mood — it looks cheerful whatever it is doing. Unusually for a wallaby, it climbs t…

What I learned

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