

SAFE TUTOR

AUSTRALIAN ANIMAL DISCOVERY



Short-beaked Echidna

My 10-page learning book

For curious learners aged 5 to 9

What am I?



I am a spiny monotreme, which means I am an egg-laying mammal.

Spell my name

SHORT-BEAKED ECHIDNA

E C H I D N A

Clap the syllables

e - chid - na

Say it slowly. Clap once for each part.

Now say the whole name smoothly.

Write the name three times:

What do I look like?



I have strong digging claws, protective spines and a long sticky tongue.

Look closely. Point to one feature that helps you recognise me.

What do I do?



I dig into soil and logs to search for food. I can curl and dig down when frightened.

Movement challenge: Can you move safely like me for five seconds?

What do I eat?



I mainly eat ants and termites.

Think: Am I a herbivore, carnivore or omnivore? Use my food clues to explain.

Where do I live?



I live in many habitats across Australia,
from forests to dry country.

**Draw my habitat here: trees, water,
grass, rocks or another safe home.**

How do I grow up?



My baby is called a puggle. It hatches from an egg and stays in a temporary pouch.

Tell a partner: What does the parent or habitat provide for the young?

Amazing fact!



An echidna has no teeth. It crushes food between its tongue and the floor of its mouth.

Share the fact in your own words. Start with: "Did you know...?"

Show what you know

1. Spell Short-beaked Echidna.

2. Where does this animal live?

3. What does it eat?

4. Name one special body feature.

5. Tell one amazing fact.

Great work, wildlife explorer!