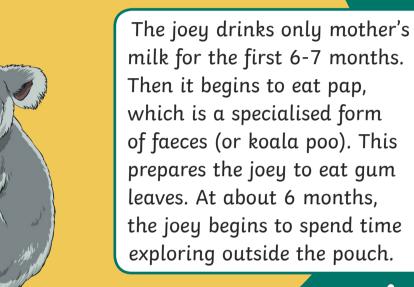
The Koala Life Cycle

The female koala breeds between September and February. She is pregnant for about 35 days before typically giving birth to 1 joey that looks like a pink jellybean. The joey attaches itself to a teat inside its mother's pouch.



At around 1 year old, the joey leaves its mother. The joey is a fully-grown adult koala by about 4 years old. On average, koalas live to 10

to 12 years of age.





As soon as it begins eating gum leaves, the joey grows at a much faster rate. At first, it clings onto its mother's belly or back. Eventually, it begins to make short trips away from its mother.



Koalas are not bears. They are marsupials, which means that they carry their young in a pouch. Eucalyptus leaves are tough and poisonous! Luckily for koalas, they have a long digestive organ called a cecum which allows them to break down the leaves unharmed.

