Tasmanian Devils

Elizabeth Russell-Arnot



Tasmanian Devils

Elizabeth Russell-Arnot

Contents

What are Tasmanian Devils?	2
Devil homes	4
How devils hunt	6
Noisy eating parties	8
Devil babies	10
Growing up	12
Shy little devils	14
Zoo devils	15
Where Tasmanian Devils live	16
Index	17

For Review Only

What are Tasmanian Devils?

The Tasmanian Devil is a small animal, about the size of a little dog.

It sleeps during the day and wakes up at night. This is called being **nocturnal**.



For Review Only

The Tasmanian Devil
has a short thick head.
It has very strong jaw muscles
and sharp teeth.

It has small eyes
and large,
bright pink ears.

Some Tasmanian Devils
have black coats
with white patches.
Other devils are all black.

Female devils are smaller
than male devils.



For Review Only

Are male and female devils the same size?

Devil homes

The Tasmanian Devil comes from Tasmania, a small island state of Australia.



Devils used to live on the mainland of Australia.

They became **extinct** on the mainland many years ago. There was not enough food for them to share with the wild dogs (dingoes).

Tasmanian Devils are forest animals.

No. Male devils are larger than female devils.

For Review Only



In the daytime,
devils sleep in hollow logs,
in caves, or in the burrows
of other animals, such as wombats.

A devil's home is called a **den**.

At night, devils wake up
and search for food.
When they have eaten, they go back
to their dens to sleep again.

What do devils do during the day?

For Review Only

How devils hunt

The Tasmanian Devil is not a fast runner.

When it is young, a devil will spend a long time chasing small animals. It will hunt sugar gliders, possums, lizards, frogs and insects.

When a devil is older, it will hunt live animals as well as feed on dead animals, called **carrion**.

When a devil is too old and slow to chase animals, it will only eat carrion.

A devil has a keen sense of smell. It can smell carrion several kilometres away.

During the day, devils sleep in their dens.

For Review Only

The Tasmanian Devil
has very powerful jaws.

Devils' jaws are more powerful
than dogs' jaws.

A devil will eat every bit of the animal
it is feeding on — even the small bones!



For Review Only

What do devils eat?