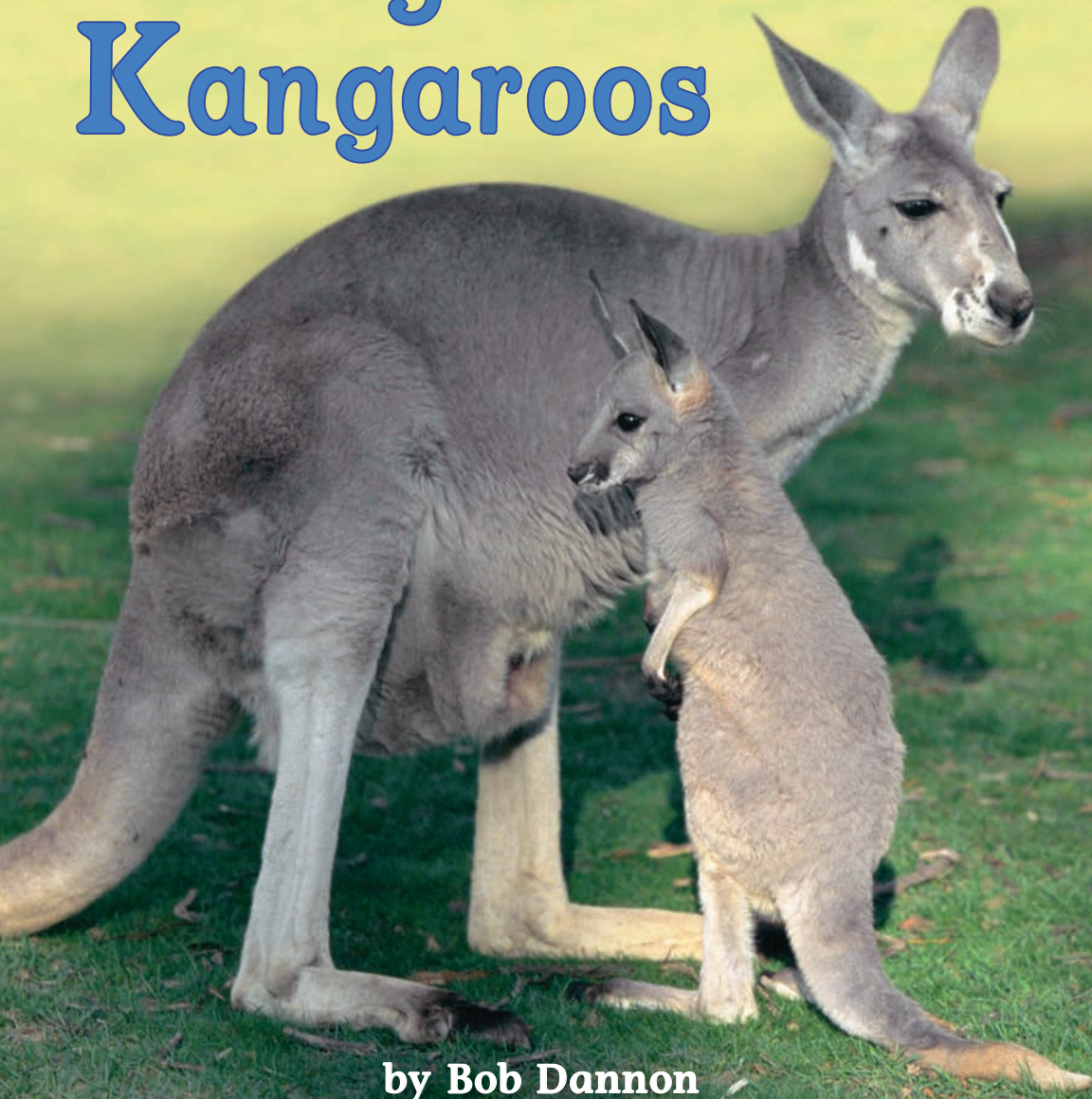




Baby Kangaroos



by Bob Dannon

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

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🔊 Kangaroos live in Australia.
Every mother kangaroo has
a pouch.

🔊 The pouch is like a pocket
on her body.

A **baby** kangaroo stays inside its
mother's pouch for the first few
months of its life.



🔊 Baby Kangaroos

A **young** kangaroo is called a joey.

- 🔊 A joey crawls right into its mother's pouch after it is born. The joey cannot see or hear. It is as small as a fingernail.



🔊 **The First Few Months**

The pouch protects the joey.

🔊 It keeps the joey warm and cozy.

The joey grows inside the pouch.

After a few months,

it has ears, legs, and fur.



▶ Leaving the Pouch

When the joey gets bigger, it **begins** to move around.

▶ After six to **eight** months, the joey can leave the pouch for a few minutes.

Then it climbs back into the pouch.



🔊 **Learning** How to Hop

The joey keeps growing.

🔊 The joey **follows** its mother.

It learns to hop.



- ▶ The joey returns to the pouch when it gets scared or wants to rest.
- ▶ Sometimes a mother kangaroo has another baby.
Then the big joey shares the pouch with its tiny brother or sister.



🔊 Growing Up

A joey drinks milk from its mother's pouch **until** it is about a **year** old.

🔊 Then the big joey can find its own food.

It is now as big as an adult.



- ▶ Some girl kangaroos stay with their mothers.
- ▶ When they have joeys of their own, the big family lives together.

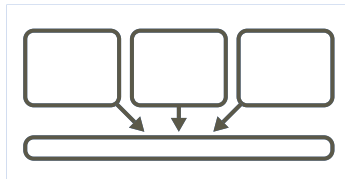


- ▶ Most boy kangaroos leave their mothers.
- ▶ They look for other kangaroos. They start a new family.

Responding

TARGET SKILL Conclusions

How does a mother kangaroo's pouch help her joey? Make a chart and list three ways.



Write About It

Text to World Draw a picture of a joey and its mother. Write a sentence about the joey.



WORDS TO KNOW

baby

begins

eight

follow

learning

until

years

young



TARGET SKILL

Conclusions

Use details to figure out more about the text.



TARGET STRATEGY

Visualize

Picture what is happening as you read.



GENRE

Informational text gives facts about a topic.

Level: I

DRA: 16

Genre:
Informational Text

Strategy:
Visualize

Skill:
Conclusions

Word Count: 256

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