

## God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

# *Kangaroo*



The kangaroo is a strange and wonderful animal. It seems oddly shaped and awkward looking as it crawls around on all four feet when eating, yet is very beautiful to watch when it hops with grace and speed. When in danger the kangaroo will hop away at great speed. If no other escape is possible, the kangaroo will kick with its very

powerful back legs. A kick from a kangaroo is painful at best and deadly at worst.

Another unusual thing about the kangaroo is that when a baby kangaroo is born, it must make its way into the mother's pouch where it will remain until it is old enough to survive on its own - nearly a year. The young kangaroo will leave the pouch at that time but will still remain with the mother for several more months.

What can we learn from the kangaroo?

The kangaroo teaches us that appearances can fool us. We should not judge people by how they look. The kangaroo may look awkward but in reality it is very graceful. Jesus tells us in Matthew 7:1, *"Do not judge or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others you will be judged."*

The kangaroo also teaches us the wisdom of fleeing from evil. The kangaroo is well equipped to fight an enemy just as we are through the power of God; however, it prefers to flee from evil with grace and speed. When we are tempted by sin we should run from it quickly and at the same time ask God to protect us from sin. The Bible teaches us in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:22, *"Flee the evil desires of youth and*

*pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace along with those who call on the Lord.”*

When the kangaroo cannot flee danger, it fights. We too should be prepared to fight our enemy - Satan and sin. The Bible tells us in James 4:7, *“Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”* Just as the kangaroo can give a deadly kick to its enemy, God tells us that through His power, we can deliver a deadly punch to Satan and he will flee from us.

The kangaroo mother is a loving and caring mother. She raises her young by providing for all its needs and comfort until it is ready to survive on its own. Even after the young kangaroo leaves its mother’s pouch, it is still cared for and fed by the mother kangaroo. We learn to be loving and compassionate from the kangaroo. The Bible tells us in 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:3, *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort.”* The Bible tells us in 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:19, *“We loved because he first loved us.”* If God has been so loving to us, should we not also be loving to others?

The mother kangaroo teaches us how to be a good parent. She does not stop nurturing and teaching her young until they are completely ready

to face the world. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 22:6, *“Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not turn from it.”*

The love of a mother kangaroo teaches us something about the love of God. Jesus tells us in Matthew 7:11, *“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”* God the Father gave us His Son Jesus so that we would have forgiveness of sin and eternal life. What a wonderful family we have with God as our Father and Jesus as our brother!

