

# Tree Kangaroo

Shy marsupial living up high

- Their motley brown fur provides camouflage to blend into their environment.
- When a shy, quiet, still tree kangaroo is at the top of the canopy, they are very difficult to see.
- They are agile animals that can walk, balance, and jump on and in the trunks and branches of trees, moving up, down, backwards and forwards.
- Short, muscular forearms with sharp claws to pull their body close to the trunk, keeping their centre of gravity closer to the centre of the tree.
- When up in the trees, balance is just as important as grip. Their long tails that act as a counterweight, giving them greater balance while they hop through the treetops.
- Tiny organisms in tree kangaroos' stomachs (gut bacteria) helps to break down the poisons in toxic leaves. This means that they can eat and digest toxic leave, transforming them from dangerous to delicious.

Rainforests are often wet and slippery, so tree kangaroos have evolved to have shorter, wider feet with thick, soft pads on the soles of their hind feet. This helps them to navigate their environment without slipping or falling.



**“We end up going out every day and getting lots and lots of leaves... Because they’re folivores, they eat lots of leaves.”**

DOCTOR KAREN COOMBES,  
TREE KANGAROO RESCUE AND REHABILITATION.