

GREATER BILBY

Set 2



Scientific Name: *Macrotis lagotis*
Common Name: Greater Bilby

Bilbies are omnivores that eat insects, seeds, bulbs, fungi and roots. Their keen sense of smell helps them locate food.

Major threats include foxes and feral cats, which hunt bilbies. Habitat loss from agriculture and land clearing also reduces their chances of survival.

Bilbies are nocturnal and avoid daytime heat by staying in their cool burrows. Their backward-facing pouch prevents soil from filling it while digging. They dig constantly, helping to aerate soil.

The Greater Bilby is an important ecological engineer. Protecting its habitats is essential in Australia's desert ecosystems.

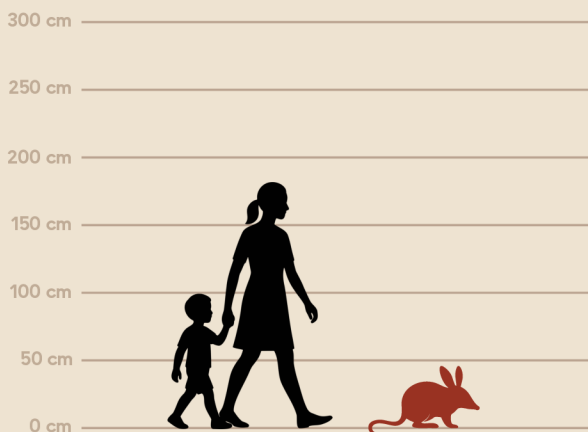
The Greater Bilby is a unique Australian marsupial known for its long ears, soft grey fur and impressive digging skills. Once widespread, it now survives only in small populations.

Bilbies have silky grey fur, a long snout and a slender tongue for finding food. Their large, hairless ears help release body heat, and their strong claws are perfect for digging deep spiral burrows that can reach 3 metres long.

Greater Bilbies live in arid and semi-arid regions of Australia. They use underground burrows to stay cool during the day and emerge at night to forage.



HOW BIG ARE THEY?



DID YOU KNOW?

- Bilbies don't drink water. They get all their moisture from their food.
- Bilbies' long ears help them hear from far away.
- Bilbies dig up to 12 burrows throughout their range.



Gifted and Talented Teacher

