



Evie is all Ears

Written by Kellie Byrnes
Illustrated by Lesley McGee

Evie & Her Australian Desert Friends

Evie is a bilby. She lives in the desert of the Northern Territory, in Australia. Evie and her family are nocturnal, which means they prefer to come out to hunt and play at night. When Evie comes out to enjoy the starry desert night, she often sees many native friends among the spinifex grasses. Some of them are also nocturnal, but many are busy all through the day.

Gertrude



Gertrude is a Galah.

Galahs can be easily identified by their rose-pink heads, neck and underparts, with paler pink crowns, and grey back, wings and undertails. Galahs form huge, noisy flocks which feed on seeds, mostly from the ground and may travel large distances in search of favourable feeding grounds.

To find out more about Gertrude and her family visit:

www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Eolophus-roseicapillus

Spencer



Spencer is a Burrowing Frog.

Spencer's burrowing frogs live in the sandy riverbeds of Central Australia, eating whatever insects are available. However, termites are their favourite. Frogs don't drink like we do. Instead, they absorb water directly through their skin. When water isn't available they bury themselves underneath the sand and wait until rain comes.

To find out more about Spencer and his family visit:

www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au/connect-with-nature/animals/animals/spencers-burrowing-frog

Minnie



Minnie is a Spinifex Hopping Mouse.

Spinifex Hopping Mice live and burrow in mounds of spinifex (a type of grass). Hopping mice love to be together and can live in one deep, humid burrow, protecting themselves from the daytime heat and huddling together in winter.

To find out more about Minnie and her family visit:

www.bushheritage.org.au/species/hopping-mice

Geoffrey



Geoffrey is a Goanna.

Goannas (also known as Monitor Lizards) have camouflage bands, speckles or spots.

They mostly live on the ground and dig holes for nests or burrows. Some goanna species dig holes into the side of termite mounds to lay their eggs. Goannas are good climbers and while they may appear slow, they are also very fast runners.

To find out more about Geoffrey and his family visit:

www.bushheritage.org.au/species/goannas

Ellie



Ellie is an Echidna.

Echidnas are shuffling, well-camouflaged mammals. Along with Platypuses they are the only mammals in the world that lay eggs. Echidna snouts are rigid and strong, allowing them to break open logs and termite mounds. Echidnas slurp up ants and other insects with their sticky, saliva-covered tongues.

To find out more about Ellie and her family visit:

www.bushheritage.org.au/species/echidna