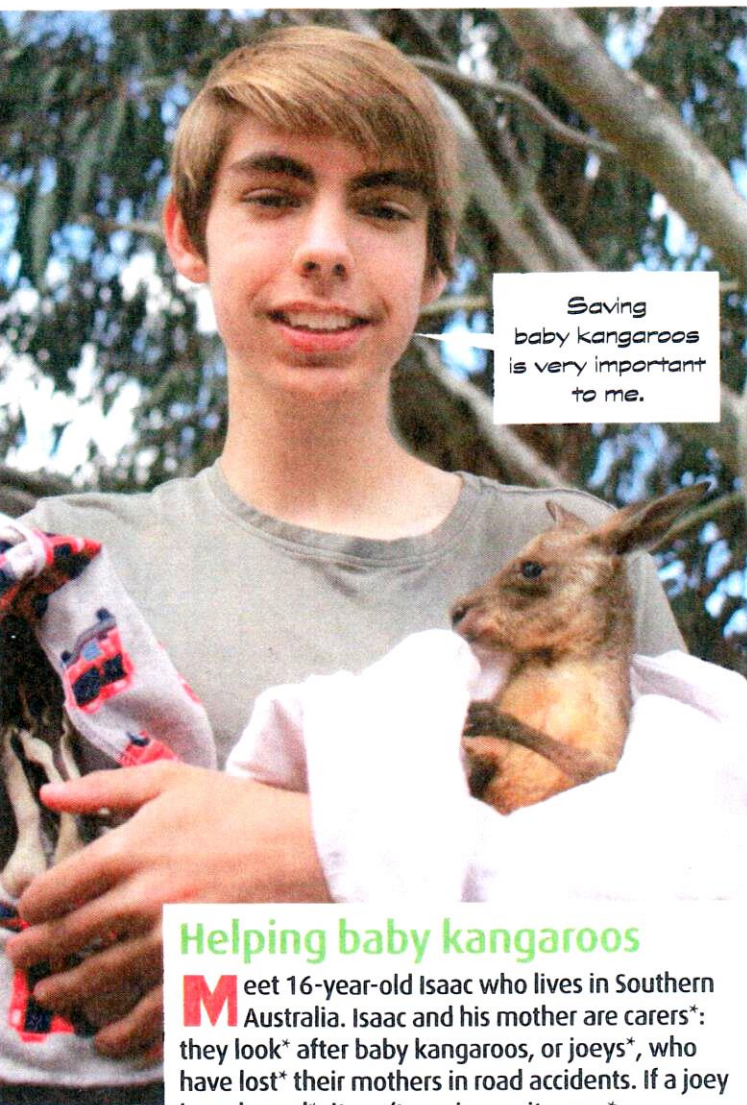


Report

Text by Lesley Ormal-Grenon - Photos: Sophie Greuil

SAVING KANGAROOS IN AUSTRALIA

Every day, kangaroos are killed* by cars in Australia. If they are lucky*, their babies, or "joeys", go to live with human carers* for a few months.



Saving baby kangaroos is very important to me.

Helping baby kangaroos

Meet 16-year-old Isaac who lives in Southern Australia. Isaac and his mother are carers*: they look* after baby kangaroos, or joeys*, who have lost* their mothers in road accidents. If a joey is orphaned*, it can't survive on its own*...



I'm so sleepy!

A big family

Isaac and his mother, Michele, care* for up to six baby kangaroos at a time in their house. It's a lot of work! Isaac says that caring for baby kangaroos has taught* him to be gentle*, careful* and patient. And, of course, joeys* are very cute*!



HELP!

Isaac lives in a small town called Bungendore, 50km from the Australian capital, Canberra. Bungendore is surrounded* by eucalyptus forests and prairies, where kangaroos live and breed*.



another one: un autre
basket: panier
breed: se reproduire
bush: la brousse
care for: prendre soin de

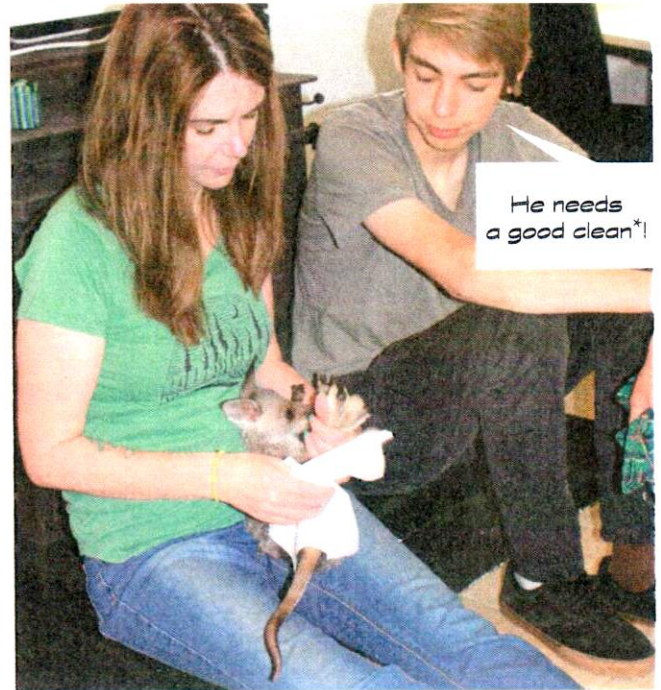
careful: prudent
carer: soigneur
clean: nettoyer, brin de toilette
cute: mignon
either: non plus
feed (v, n): se nourrir, la tétée

fleecy: duveteux
full-time job: travail à temps complet
gentle: doux
hang on: accrocher à
joey: bébé kangourou
kill: tuer
last: durer



Just like a human baby

When the joeys* are very small, they need lots of attention, just like a human baby. They feed* four times per day and each feed lasts* 20 minutes. When they finish, they also need to be cleaned*. The joeys can't stay at home on their own* either* ... so Isaac's mother takes them to work with her in a basket*!



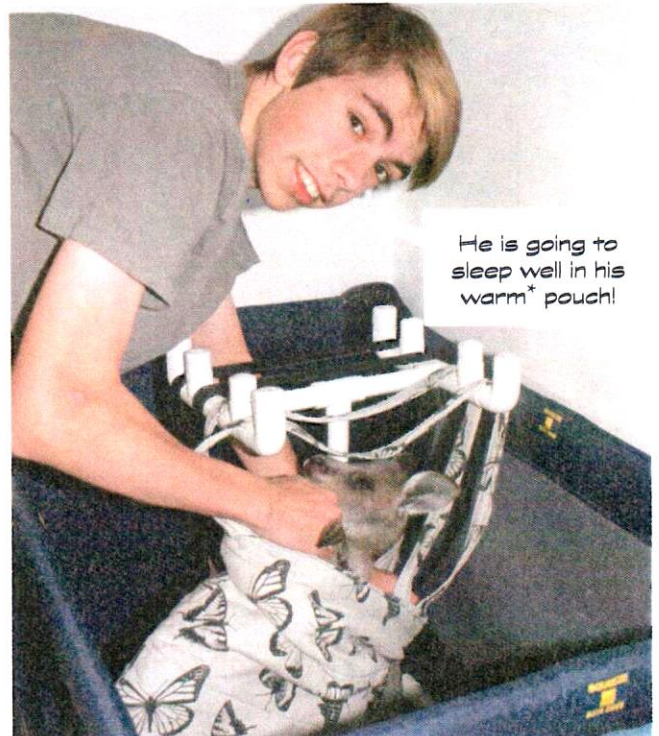
He needs a good clean*!

It's a full-time* job

Isaac and his mother are volunteer* carers* - they even pay for the joeys'* milk with their own* money (50 euros per month per joey). The carers get attached to the joeys, but they know that when a joey is nine months old it has to leave and another* one will take its place. Some carers don't take holidays because they can't leave* their joeys!



We can only take six joeys*. But 30 joeys are waiting* for a home...



He is going to sleep well in his warm* pouch!

Preparing joeys* for the future

Joeys* need a warm* pouch where they can grow and sleep - just like their mother's pouch. The carers* make fleecy* pouches and structures to hang* them on. Joeys shouldn't have too much human contact: they have to return to the bush* one day. The carer's job is to make them strong* enough to survive on their own*!

leave: laisser
look after: s'occuper de, prendre soin de
lost (p) lose (inf): perdre
lucky: chanceux
orphaned (to be): devenir orphelin

own: propre
own (on its): tout seul
strong enough: assez fort
surrounded by: entouré de

taught (p) teach (inf): apprendre
volunteer: bénévole
wait for: attendre
warm pouch: poche qui tient au chaud

Read this article taken from "I love English" >>> [Taking care of koalas](#)

Then, answer these questions :

1. *What is this article about ?*
2. *Which kangaroos need to be looked after?*
3. *Give information about Isaac (age, country, family)*
4. *Write a definition of "volunteer carer"*

5. *Give more information about this job (tasks, pay, duration, required qualities, goal)*
6. What is a "fleecy pouch" ?
7. What do you think about this volunteer job ? Would you do it if you lived there? Why ?
8. What did you learn about kangaroos ?
9. In the document, choose one photo and describe it.

Now, recap the information.

Write down some new words in your copybook.