Read this article taken from "I love English" >>> Taking care of koalas

Then, answer these questions :

1. *What is this article about ?* This article is about kangaroos in Australia.
2. *Which kangaroos need to be looked after?* Baby kangaroos ("Joeys") who have lost their mothers in a car accident.
3. *Give information about Isaac (age, country, family)*
   He's a 16-year-old boy who lives with his mother in a small town near Canberra, the capital city of Australia in the South of the country.
4. *Write a definition of "volunteer carer"*
   A volunteer carer is a person who takes care of a baby kangaroo without being paid (=getting money) for that. Baby kangaroos live with the volunteer who must look after them until they are 9 months old.
5. *Give more information about this job (tasks, pay, duration, required qualities, goal)*

Joeys need a lot of attention : carers must feed them 4 times per day (each feed takes 20minutes), they also have to clean the baby kangaroos. They have to take them everywhere they go (at work for example). Carers have to buy the joey's milk. (50€ per month). A carer needs to be gentle, careful and patient.

6. What is a "fleecy pouch" ?

It is like a warm and soft bag where a baby kangaroo can grow and sleep. It looks like a mother kangaroo's pouch.

7. What do you think about this volunteer job ? Would you do it if you lived there? Why ?

I think it would be a lot of work and I would be afraid of getting attached to the baby kangaroo.
I would be sad when they leave the house. However, if I found a baby kangaroo on the road, I would take care of him and call a veterinarian for some help.

8. What did you learn about kangaroos ?

I learned that they have to grow in their mother's pouch for 9 months.
They are often injured or killed by cars.
There are volunteers who accept to take care of them for a few months.

9. In the document, choose one photo and describe it.

In the first picture of the document, we can see Isaac, an Australian boy.
He's taking care of a baby kangaroo who lost his mother.
He says that saving baby kangaroos is very important for him.
He's holding the "joey" in his arms because he needs a lot of attention.
Isaac looks happy because he's smiling.
I think it's a good action. We have to protect animals in danger and help them.

Now, recap the information.

In Australia, there are kangaroos everywhere. That's why some of them are killed by cars when they cross a road.
Sometimes, their babies survive after an accident. They need to be looked after.
Volunteer carers are people who accept to take orphan joeys at their house for a few months.
It's a lot of work to take care of them because they have to feed them, clean them and be there.
The carer's job is to make them strong enough to survive on their own when they return to the bush.

Write down some new words in your copybook.

take care of = prendre soin de
volunteer = bénévole/volontaire
carer = soigneur
look after = s'occuper de
strong enough = assez fort
on their own = tout seul /eux memes
orphan = orphelin
the bush = la brousse/ la forêt australienne
gentle = gentil/doux
to last = durer
a joey = bébé kangourou
to feed = nourrir