

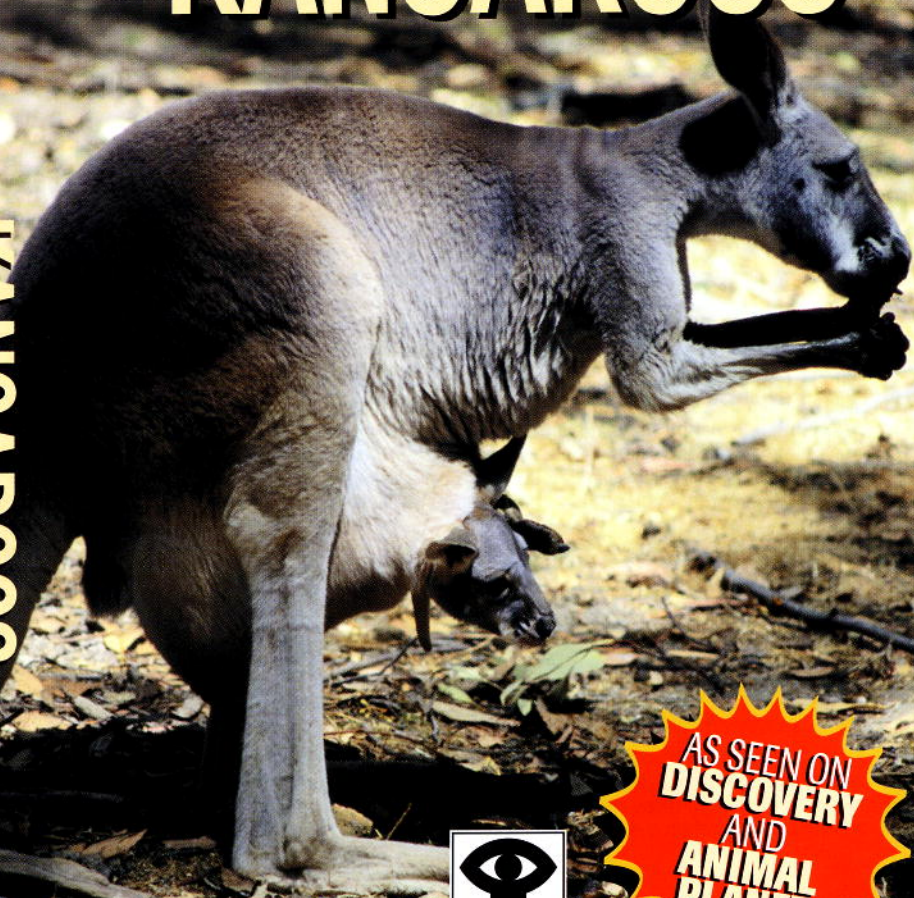


**CHAMPIONS
OF THE
WILD**

**CHAMPIONS
OF THE
WILD**

KANGAROOS

KANGAROO



**AS SEEN ON
DISCOVERY
AND
ANIMAL
PLANET**



VHS
C9198 143

A NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA RELEASE

KANGAROOS

**CHAMPIONS
OF THE
WILD**

The kangaroo calls one of the world's harshest continents home, and over a span of 15 million years, it has adapted perfectly to life in both Australia's arid outback and its lush forests.

In order to survive through bad times, kangaroos have developed amazing cycles of gestation and birth. Female kangaroos are super-moms who almost always have one embryo in the womb, a joey (young kangaroo) in her pouch and another still nursing on foot. The mother can control the embryo's gestation time. Once the joey in her pouch is weaned, she reactivates the embryo's development. In times of drought, the embryo will spend far more than the usual three-to-four weeks in the womb so that it can emerge during better times.

Despite their incredible adaptation, there's one thing kangaroos never counted on: the arrival, 200 years ago, of European settlers who seemed determined to wipe them out.

For foreigners, the kangaroo is one of the amazing creatures that make Australia unique. For many Aussies, though, it is little more than a pest. Few North Americans shed a tear for dead racoons by the side of the road, and Australians seem to feel the same way about their 'roos.

That's where Marjorie Wilson and Lynette Campbell come in. This dedicated pair raise orphaned and injured kangaroos in order to re-release them into the wild. They also want to cause a whole shift in the way their fellow Australians see kangaroos: "People don't perceive them as wildlife – as animals on their own terms," says Wilson. And she is unabashedly emotional about her love of kangaroos. "If you got killed, somebody would be emotional about you!"

Lynette Campbell works with Wilson, and she visits kangaroo caregivers all over New South Wales as part of her thesis research. Campbell is studying how different hand-rearing techniques affect joey survival in the wild. To that end, she outfits re-released kangaroos with radio collars so she can track their progress in the wild. Her scientific acumen and Wilson's passionate activism have combined into a potent force for kangaroo protection.

Pre-Viewing Questions

1. Why do you think Australian ranchers dislike kangaroos?
2. What are some of the commercial uses of kangaroos?

Post-Viewing Questions

1. What is unique about kangaroo reproduction? How has this unusual process helped kangaroos survive and proliferate?
2. Marjorie Wilson argues that any market for kangaroo products is immoral and should be stopped, because "if you establish a market, that market is going to be fulfilled regardless of fluctuation in the kangaroo numbers." Do you agree? Can regulation overcome the problem?



Champions:
**Marjorie Wilson (L)
and Lynette Campbell**

Champions of the Wild takes you around the globe with stories of remarkable endangered species and the dedicated champions determined to save them. Buy the whole collection!

Produced by
Omni Film Productions Ltd,
in association with
British Columbia Film,
Europe Images International,
Discovery Channel Canada
and Water Street
Releasing Ltd;

with the participation of
Telefilm Canada and
the CTF; with the
assistance of the
Canadian Film or Video
Production Tax Credit.



World Wide Web Sites

Please note that addresses on the Web can change unexpectedly.

Lynette Campbell (featured in this video) on raising and releasing two red kangaroos:

www.webcom.com/iwcwww/wildlife_watch_aug95/mlgabill.html

Everything you ever wanted to know about kangaroos, in a site designed with students in mind. You can even e-mail your questions! (For example, why does this site include recipes for kangaroo meat?):

vger.rutgers.edu/~tempest/index.html

CHAMPIONS OF THE WILD COLLECTION

SHARKS (C9197 096): Champions Tim Calver & Dr. Sam Gruber.

GORILLAS (C9197 104): Champion Dr. Pascale Sicotte.

GRIZZLIES (C9197 093): Champion Wayne McCrory.

WOLVES (C9197 103): Champion Dr. Paul Paquet.

HUMPBACKS (C9197 099): Champion Dr. Jim Darling.

PANDAS (C9197 102): Champion Dr. Sue Mainka.

LEMURS (C9197 105): Champion Dr. Lisa Gould.

ORCAS (C9197 100): Champion Dr. Paul Spong.

POLAR BEARS (C9197 095): Champion Dr. Dan Guravich.

DOLPHINS (C9197 097): Champions Diane Claridge & Ken Balcomb.

SWIFT FOXES (C9197 094): Champion Clio Smeeton.

RIGHT WHALES (C9197 101): Champions Deborah Tobin & Dr. Moira Brown.

ORANGUTANS (C9197 098): Champion Dr. Biruté Galdikas.

TARANTULAS (C9198 138): Champion Rick West.

KOALAS (C9198 139): Champions Deborah Tabart & Steve Phillips.

ELEPHANTS (C9198 140): Champion Joyce Poole.

BLACK AND WHITE RHINOS (C9198 141): Champion Courtland Parfet.

BENGAL TIGERS (C9198 142): Champion Anthony Marr.

KANGAROOS (C9198 143): Champions Marjorie Wilson & Lynette Campbell.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER BELUGAS (C9198 144): Champion Robert Michaud.

NAZINGA GAME RESERVE (C9198 145): Champion Clark Lungren.

SEA OTTERS (C9198 146): Champion Jane Watson.

GIANT SEA TURTLES (C9198 147): Champion Peter Pritchard.

COSTA RICAN MONKEYS (C9198 148): Champion Dr. Linda Fedigan.

CHIMPANZEES OF UGANDA (C9198 149): Champion Colin Chapman.

KENYAN WILDLIFE VET (C9198 150): Champion Dr. Tom deMaar.



KANGAROOS



To ranchers, kangaroos are pests that compete with livestock for food. To government and business, their fur, leather and meat are a multi-million-dollar industry. To Lynette Campbell and Marjorie Wilson of the Kangaroo Protection Co-operative, they are wild animals that deserve to be protected and respected on their own terms.

A long-time animal welfare advocate, Wilson runs a sanctuary near Sydney for orphaned and injured kangaroos. Campbell is a scientist who shares Wilson's love of the creatures and hopes her research will help orphans survive better in the wild.

In this video, we wonder at the unique abilities of kangaroos and experience the passion these women have for them. And we cheer as a couple of hand-reared 'roos are released into the wild – where they belong.

Endangered animals – and the champions who have dedicated their lives to saving them – feature in this spectacular series of half-hour videos! Filmed around the world, from the frozen fields of Canada's North to the jungles of Borneo, **Champions of the Wild** combines natural history with personal drama.

Director: **Chris Aikenhead**

Producer: **Christian Bruyère**

Executive Producer: **Michael Chechik**

25 minutes, 30 seconds

Order number: **C9198 143**

The Champions of the Wild Collection: Series order number: **193C 9199 098**

TO ORDER NFB VIDEOS, CALL TODAY!

1-800-267-7710 (Canada)

1-800-542-2164 (USA)

www.nfb.ca



Closed captioned.
A decoder is required.

© 1998 A license is required for any reproduction, television broadcast, sale, rental or public screening. Only educational institutions or non-profit organizations who have obtained this video directly from the NFB have the right to show this material free of charge to the public.