

LIBRARY OF  
AWESOME ANIMALS

# PLATYPUS



by Colleen Sexton



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AWESOME ANIMALS

# PLATYPUS



**By Colleen Sexton**

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Minneapolis, Minnesota

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A close-up photograph of a platypus swimming in water. The platypus's body is angled towards the left, with its flat, dark tail visible. Its webbed feet are extended to the right. The background consists of tall, green reeds. Overlaid on the image are two text boxes: a yellow one with the word 'AWESOME' in black, and a white one with the word 'Platypuses!' in blue.

# AWESOME

## Platypuses!

***SPLASH!*** A furry platypus swims through the water with its **webbed** feet and flat tail. It grabs food with its **bill**. From fur to feet, bill to tail, platypuses are awesome!





THE FIRST SCIENTIST  
TO STUDY THE  
PLATYPUS THOUGHT  
IT WAS A FAKE  
ANIMAL MADE FROM  
PARTS OF DIFFERENT  
CREATURES SEWED  
TOGETHER.




# Living Down Under

Platypuses live beside Australia's lakes, rivers, and streams. They are found in many **habitats**, from chilly mountains to steamy rain forests.

## ***SCRATCH-SCRATCH-SCRATCH!***

A platypus digs a **burrow** into the bank along the water. It lives alone and spends most of each day asleep in its tunnel home that stretches for 10 to 16 feet (3 to 4.9 m). It wakes up to move around at night.



A close-up photograph of a platypus emerging from its burrow. The platypus is positioned in the center of the frame, facing the viewer. Its large, dark, leathery bill is the most prominent feature. The animal's body is covered in brown, shaggy fur. Its eyes are closed, and its ears are not visible. The platypus is surrounded by dark, moist soil and green moss. Some green grass blades are visible at the top of the frame. A white arrow points from the text box to the platypus's head.

A platypus  
leaving its  
burrow

**A PLATYPUS SLEEPS IN  
ITS BURROW FOR UP  
TO 14 HOURS A DAY!**