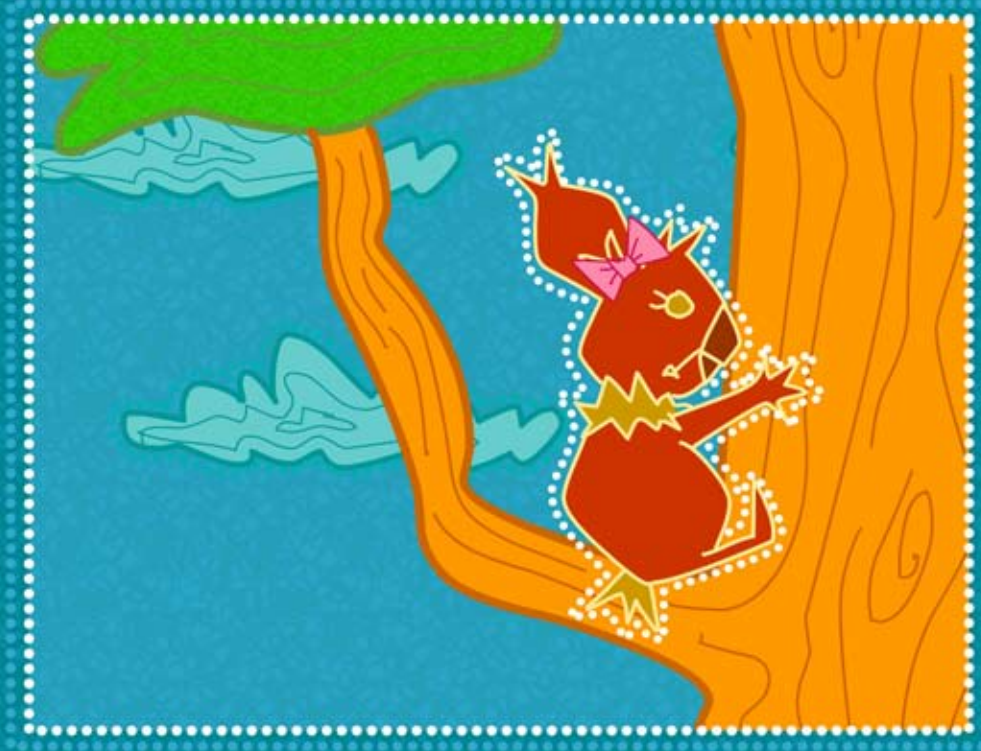


# Why Koalas Live In Trees





Long, long ago Koalas were not shy quiet animals who stay up in the trees doing nothing but sleeping and munching on leaves. They used to live on the ground running and playing with all their friends.





Karla the Koala was very happy because the Australia Day Sports Carnival was coming. She knew she could win the big trophy for being the best athlete.





While all the other animals were practising running, jumping, swimming and other sports, Karla just ran off and played.





Mama Koala asked her why she wasn't practising with her friends, but Karla just laughed and laughed because she knew she was already the best and didn't need to practise.





On Sports Day everyone was excited but none more than Karla as she saw herself carrying home the big trophy at the end of the day.





The first event was the road race. Karla Koala was way ahead but then Dilly Dingo passed her and won the race.





In the swimming Karla lost to Peter Platypus.





In the pole vault she missed the bar and lost to Kelly Kangaroo.





All her friends who had worked hard to do well kept winning. Karla didn't win the trophy. She didn't even get one medal.





At the end of the day she was so sad that she climbed up the tallest eucalyptus tree to hide.





She decided she never wanted to face any of the other animals again, so that is where she stayed.





Since her family could not convince her to come down, they all moved into the tree. And that is why koalas now live in trees instead of on the ground.

