

The Eastern Pygmy Possum



This cute little possum is only 10cm long and is very shy. Being nocturnal, the Pygmy Possum rests by day in a round nest of shredded bark in a small hollow or under the loose bark of a tree, often in holes too small for other types of possums. The Eastern Pygmy Possum scurries about in quick jerky movements using its grasping claws and tail to climb and its long, brush-tipped tongue to feed on nectar and pollen of Banksias, Bottlebrush and Eucalypt blossoms. In winter, when food is scarce, the Pygmy Possum saves energy by curling up in a tight ball with its ears covering its eyes and its nose tucked into its chest. In this state, called 'torpor', the pygmy possum's body temperature drops to almost the same temperature as the air around it and saves energy, as it does not need to eat and drink. The Eastern Pygmy Possum is threatened by foxes, cats, fire and land clearing.

Name:

Age:

School: