



Megafauna

1. What does "megafauna" mean? Give a definition and more detailed description.

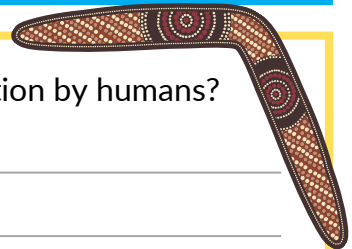
2. Number these events in the correct historical order, from 1-7.

- Birds, reptiles, and mammals evolved to get bigger and fill a gap in the ecosystem.
- The Ice Age ended, and the Earth warmed.
- Dinosaurs went extinct.
- An asteroid hit the Earth; volcanic eruptions caused changes to the Earth's climate.
- Dinosaurs ruled the Earth!
- There was a lack of large animals on land.
- There was no longer enough water to keep megafauna animals alive.



3. Why **don't** experts think that Australian megafauna were hunted to extinction by humans?

4. Why do you think Amanda said she wouldn't like to encounter a Diprotodon, if they were herbivores?



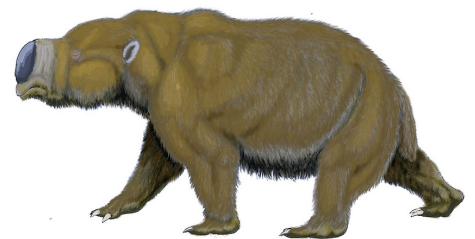
5. Which of these phrases has the adjectives in the correct order?

- Three blind mice
 Blind three mice

Question 4 was easy! That's because English has rules about adjective order:

Quantity	Opinion	Size	Physical Quality	Shape	Age	Colour	Nationality	Material
four	bad	small	rough	round	young	green	Greek	wooden
some	terrible	short	blind	straight	ancient	teal	American	plastic
many	terrific	enormous	bumpy	rectangular	5-year-old	golden	Aboriginal	glass
no	fun	tall	smooth	diamond	new	brown	Samoan	metal

6. Write a (very) short story about a megafauna encounter. Make sure you describe at least two of these animals, and that you include 2-3 adjectives for each.



Diprotodon (*above*) was the biggest marsupial to ever walk the Earth.

Megalania (*below*) went extinct from Australia more than 50,000 years ago.



Whale sharks (*below*) get up to 10 metres long.

