



Sequencing

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Practice

A parent or tutor should read along with the student, helping as needed.

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**Sequencing** is putting things in order, *from first to last*.  
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Read the story, paying attention to the **sequence** of events, from *first to last*.

Baby kangaroos are called joeys. Mother kangaroos usually have only one joey each year. Mother kangaroos have a large pouch, like a pocket, on their bellies where they keep their babies safe. When a joey is born it is just one inch long. It looks like a tiny pink hairless worm. As soon as it is born, it crawls up through the mother's fur and into her pouch. The baby's back legs are not yet formed, so the tiny joey pulls itself along with its front legs. This trip only takes about five minutes, and the little joey stays in the mother's pouch for the first four months of its life.

Inside the pouch, the joey has room to move around, and milk to drink. After about four months in the pouch, the joey sticks its head out of the pouch for the very first time, and looks around. It rides around like that, watching and learning, for a few weeks. Then it jumps out and begins to learn to hop around and find food on its own.

Young joeys soon learn to find grass and other plants to eat. They also like to play-fight with each other. The mother kangaroo communicates with her joey by making clicking noises with her tongue. She teaches it how to protect itself from enemies by hiding in the water or by kicking with its back legs. Sometimes, if a joey is frightened by something outside, it will jump head-first back into its mother's pouch. And the joey still

goes back into the mother’s pouch to sleep or to travel long distances. It still has plenty of room there, and its mother’s milk to drink.

The joey keeps going back to its mother’s pouch to sleep until it is too big to fit in it. That means that there are often two little joeys in the pouch—the one that is over a year old, and a new one that has just been born. The mother kangaroo has different kinds of milk for the older and the younger joey.

Joeys grow very fast. In only about two years, the little pink joey will grow to be as tall as six feet.

1. Write the numbers 1 through 6 in the boxes beside the events to show the sequence of what happened, from *first to last*.

1-6?

The joey jumps out of the pouch and finds food on its own.	
When a joey is born, it is only one inch long.	
The joey stays in its mother’s pouch until it is about 4 months old.	
The joey learns to play-fight with the other joeys.	
The newborn joey travels up into its mother’s pouch.	
The joey sticks its head out of the pouch for the first time.	

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2. What are two things that might come next in this story?

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Answer Key

1. 5, 1, 3, 6, 2, 4

2. Accept any reasonable response.