

What Do **Possums** Eat?



Possums have adapted well
to the expansion of **human population**



Dense urban environments bring an **abundance**



Of shelter as well as **food** sources



**They are also sometimes
referred to as Opossums**





- ✓ **Under a deck**
- ✓ **In underbrush**
- ✓ **hollow log**

**They are generally
NOMADIC CREATURES**



**They do not spend
much time in one place**



**Preferring to move
every **three or four days****



**It may not spend more than
several nights in one location**



They prefer to **move often**



Unless there is a **great deal
of food available along with water**



**They will pad their nest
with leaves or grass**



What Do **Possums** Eat?



Possums have a very varied diet



**They are constantly
scrounging for food**



They do not store food in cache locations the way that squirrels do.





**They also do not
carry much body fat**



**Basically they will eat
whatever is available**

What Do **Possums Eat?**



- ✓ **Fruit**
- ✓ **Snakes**
- ✓ **Insects**
- ✓ **Slugs**
- ✓ **Eggs**

What Do **Possums** Eat?



- ✓ **Rats & Mice**
- ✓ **Fish**
- ✓ **Frogs**
- ✓ **Meat of other dead animals**



**Possums are immune
to most snake venom**



Which is **good since
snakes are on the menu.**



In urban areas they will forage for food



**That consumers put out
for their pets**



- ✓ **Cat food**
- ✓ **Dog food**
- ✓ **Birdseed**



**They have been
known to get**



Into the **garbage on
garbage night competing**



**With raccoons who also may be
in the neighborhood**



Possoms have 50 teeth



Most of which are for **crushing
or grinding their food.**



MARSUPIAL or MAMMAL?





**Possums are considered
to be marsupials**





**They will carry their young
in a uterus**





Once the babies are born they are carried in an external pouch





**Until they are old enough
to travel on their own**





The kangaroo and the koala
of Australia are actually distant cousins





Possums are generally
NOCTURNAL ANIMALS
and will travel several
kilometers



While foraging
at night



**They can climb
fences and trees**



**To get away from
predators or
to find food**



They swim very well



**And can swim with
their babies in their
pouch**



The **pouch closes so tightly that they will not even get wet**



Many people have the **incorrect belief that they hang by their tails**



This is simply not true.



They are **solitary animals except during mating season.**



**A Possums front feet
have five fingers**



**While their rear feet
have **four fingers****



And an **opposing thumb**



**Only humans and primates
have opposing thumbs**



That many animals do not have.



Possums will play dead if they are threatened



If they cannot escape



They will fall down and play dead



They stick their **tongue's out**



They will drool



**Excrete urine and feces
and emit a **green fluid****



From behind their tails that makes them smell like **spoiled meat.**

Most of their **predators will leave them alone at this point**



If you see a possum in this **dead
looking state**



Leave it alone...



It may actually be still **alive and
will **revive itself** at some point**



This is the **main reason they are called **Possums****



**Do you want to learn
more about **Possums**?**



CLICK the **LINK** below this
video to learn more!

