

Quolls for Kids

In celebration of Threatened Species Day



The Spotted-tailed quoll has the scientific name of *Dasyurus maculatus*.

Captain Cook recorded “quoll” as the animal’s local Aboriginal name in 1770. Early European settlers called them native cats.

Drawing by Kathleen Davies.

What is a quoll?

Quolls are Australia’s largest native carnivore and small populations of the spotted-tailed quoll live here in the woodlands and forests of the northern New England Tablelands. Its fur is red-brown with bold white spots on its back and tail, and it is about the size of a large domestic cat.

Why do we need to know more about them?

The quoll’s distribution has decreased markedly since European settlement and it is now called an **endangered** species. This means that there is a high risk of the quoll becoming extinct in the wild in the near future. Awareness of what quolls need to be common here again will help us to live with them.

Where is the spotted-tailed quoll found now?



Put an X on the map at right to show where Glen Innes is.

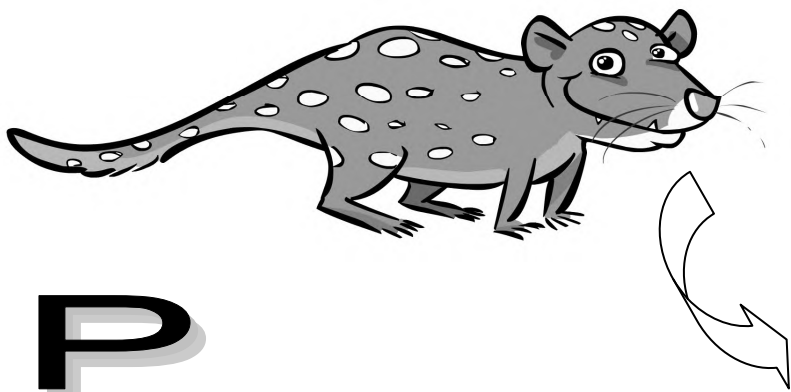
An initiative of GLENRAC and National Parks and Wildlife Glen Innes.



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee



Quentin the quoll says



“Did you know that quolls have long, sharp claws to help them climb trees? We also sleep during the day in hollow logs, rock caves, or tree hollows. We like to hunt at night for birds, possums and gliders, reptiles, mice, and large insects to eat. Sometimes, we kill chooks in farm chook houses and eat meat scraps from around farm houses.”

Find words in the puzzle below that are food or competitors for the spotted-tailed quoll.

Circle the prey in BLUE and the predators and competitors in RED.

C	P	E	V	H	U	M	A	N	S
T	A	I	W	S	D	R	I	B	M
Y	Q	T	O	D	S	K	W	X	U
P	A	I	S	Z	G	R	T	U	S
J	M	C	H	O	O	K	S	O	S
X	K	Z	X	E	R	Y	G	T	O
X	O	Q	P	B	F	V	O	M	P
M	T	F	E	B	D	I	D	M	M
S	E	L	I	T	P	E	R	J	X
W	V	I	S	R	E	D	I	L	G

CATS

BIRDS

FOX

POSSUMS

DOGS

FROGS

HUMANS

REPTILES

CHOOKS

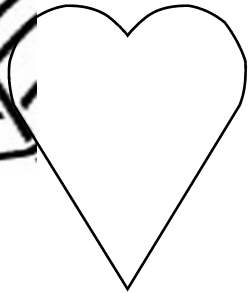
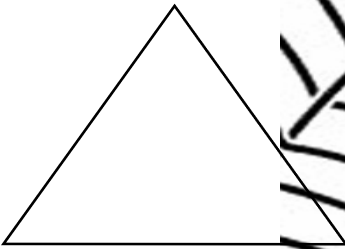
GLIDERS

WORLD OF WORDS

The Web of Life

Choose from the list below creatures and objects that are essential to the spotted-tailed quoll's survival. Write what you choose in the boxes and create Quentin's very own web of life.

- Forests
- Books to read
- Old trees with hollows
- Rocky outcrops
- Music
- Birds
- Other quolls
- Small mammals
- Wild dogs
- Foxes
- Ice cream
- Reptiles
- Water
- Karate lessons



Thank you to our sponsors



Fun websites to visit

- www.deh.gov.au
- www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au
- www.glenrac.org.au
- australian-animals.net/quoll.htm
- www.wwf.org.au