

## Echidna

*Tachyglossus aculeatus*



## Adaptation to environment

- Covered with spines for protection
- If disturbed, will dig straight down until only spines are showing
- Short powerful legs with large claws for digging into termite & ant nests
- Long snout with even longer sticky tongue for collecting termites & ants; has no teeth, but crushes insects between hard plates on its tongue & roof of its mouth.

## Feeding relationships

### What do I eat?

- Ants and termites, which it finds by digging into nests.

### What eats me?

- Lace Monitor, dingoes.

- Length: up to 45 cm • Mass: up to 7 kg • Only native mammal found Australia wide.