

# Online Information

## The Mystery on the Great Barrier Reef

# Fascinating Facts

## Australia

- Australia is the driest continent on earth! It is also the only country that occupies an entire continent!
- About 80 percent of Australians live near the coast of the continent.
- Australia is the sixth largest country in the world!
- The koala bear is not a bear at all! It is related to the kangaroo and the wombat with a pouch to rear its young. Koalas live for more than 20 years and sleep up to 19 hours a day! What a life!
- Dingoes may look like dogs, but they don't bark! They make a distinctive howling sound.
- Aborigines make didgeridoos from a hollow piece of timber, usually from a eucalyptus tree. The timber becomes hollow after termites eat the center of the branch or tree!
- The purple wallaby secretes a dye that changes the color of its face and neck. The colors range from light pink to bright purple!
- The Sydney Funnelweb spider is considered the world's most deadly spider! People have died from its bite in less than two hours.

