

Homework Assignment
Opossums

1. An opossum is not born in the mother's pouch. How does it get there? **Crawls from vulva to pouch**
2. Describe the environment rehabilitators provide for opossums whose eyes are still closed.
Humid, ventilated container, heating pad set on low under half of container
3. Describe the outdoor cage set up provided for opossum that are weaned.
Include nest box, branches and logs for climbing, large enough to exercise, secluded, food and latrine located to promote exercise
4. Prior to release opossums should be fed foods that are part of their natural diet. Name 2 of these natural foods.
Insects, mushrooms, bird eggs, mice
5. When an opossum is released it should be wary of people and afraid of dogs. Name two other release considerations. **Size and weight, weather conditions, site selection, release at dusk**

Answer True or False for each of the following:

6. Opossums are social animals that live in family groups. **F (solitary)**
7. Heating in a microwave is a good method for warming formula. **F**
8. Opossums should be given the bones when fed meat. **T**
9. Opossums have a very long life span in the wild. **F**
10. Baby opossums should be stimulated to urinate each time they are fed. **T**