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In this book, you will:

discover interesting things about animals.

learn new words.

answer fun questions.

search for animals hidden in pictures.

find more animal activities at the back of the book.
Everywhere in the world, animals are living and doing their best to stay alive.

Animals are hiding and hunting. They are flying and diving, jumping and crawling.

Animals are catching food and fighting. They are caring for their young and escaping from enemies.

Staying alive is an animal’s most important job.
Where are the animal homes in this picture?

Birds and bugs are animals. Fish are animals too. Even people are animals!

There are many, many different kinds of animals. All animals are living things. All animals need food, air, and water to stay alive. They need a safe place to live too.
Can you name all the animals in this picture?

Which of these animals would you like to have as a pet?

Many animals live with people. We see them every day. Others live in places far away from people. We might see these animals only at the zoo or in pictures. We probably won’t see them walking down the street!
Can you name an animal that lives in the treetops?

Can you name an animal that lives in a cave?

Can you name an animal that lives in the water?

Can you name an animal that lives underground?

Animals live where they can find food and be safe.

Many animals live on the ground or underwater. Others live deep underground. Some live in dark caves.

All kinds of animals live high above us. They live in treetops or on the edges of rocky cliffs.
Many animals build their own homes.

The beaver's home is called a **lodge**. First, the beaver builds a dam in a flowing stream. A pond forms.

Then the beaver builds its lodge in the pond. The door of the lodge is always underwater. This keeps enemies from getting in. Inside, the lodge is safe and dry.
Can you find any birds' nests in this picture?

Birds and bees are good builders too. A hummingbird builds a nest as small as your fist. The bald eagle’s nest is so large that a grown man could lie down in it.

Hundreds of honeybees work together to build their beehive home.
Walk through the grass. Do you see any small holes in the ground? These holes may lead to an animal’s home, called a **burrow**. You might be walking on the roof of the burrow!

Moles, squirrels, and rabbits are some of the animals that live in underground burrows.
Some animals live inside a hard shell. Some carry their shells on their backs wherever they go.

Others hide inside their shells. They barely move at all. These shells are part of the animals’ bodies.

Sometimes shells wash up on the beach. Every empty seashell was once an animal’s home.
What kind of animal home would you like to live in?

Where do you like to take naps?

Turtles and snails have shells too.
Sometimes a turtle becomes scared or sleepy. Then zzzziipp!
The turtle pulls in its head! And zzzzuupp!
The turtle pulls in its legs!

The turtle’s shell is a safe place to hide from enemies. It is a good place to take a nap too.

What kind of animal home would you like to live in?

Where do you like to take naps?
Can you find these animals?

- Bear in its **lair**
- Dog on a log
- Goose on a moose
- Frog on a hog
- Rat under a hat
- Mole in a bowl
- Owl in a towel
- Bug on a mug
- Skunk in a trunk
Where is your nose?
Where is your mouth?
Where are your ears?
Where are your eyes?
How many eyes do you have?
How many fingers have you got to feel things with?

Some animals have all these parts in the strangest places.

Just look...
Insects don’t have fingers. They use feelers called antennae. The antennae grow out of the top of the insect’s head!

A slug is a snail without a shell. Slugs have four antennae. They use their two short antennae to smell the world around them!

Bees, butterflies, and houseflies don’t taste things with their mouths. These insects taste with their feet!

Would you like to taste the grass with your toes?

How have you used your fingers today?
Many spiders have eight eyes to see with. Some animals have even more eyes than this. The scallop is another animal that lives in a shell. Around the edges of its shell there are about 100 tiny eyes! The eyes look like little black dots.

People hear sound through their two ears. But crickets hear with their front legs!
Wild animals must take care of themselves. They have all kinds of ways to stay safe.

Many animals have coloring that matches their surroundings.

This makes it easier for them to hide from danger. It helps them hunt without being seen.
In the wintertime, the coats of many animals turn white. These animals are hard to see in the snow.

A frog is hiding in this picture. The frog is the same color and the same shape as the leaves and plants around it.
Many insects fool their enemies by the way they look too.

The owl-eye butterfly has big spots on its wings. These spots look like scary eyes. Enemies think an owl is watching them and are frightened away!

The walking stick looks more like a small twig than an insect. Its enemies don’t want to eat a twig!
Animals in danger have all kinds of ways to protect themselves.

Many birds and insects fly off as fast as they can. Others attack.

Lots of animals are fast runners. Kangaroos leap away on strong legs. Some snakes and other animals shoot poison at their enemies.
The skunk sprays a terrible smell when danger approaches.

When it feels safe, the puffer fish does not look very unusual. But when frightened, puffer fish puff up like a big bubble.

Some even have sharp spines that pop out all over their bodies. Enemies are scared off fast!

Can you think of another way an animal protects itself?
Sometimes mother animals leave their babies alone during the day. Enemies will follow the mother. They will not discover the babies. This way the babies stay safe.

Protecting babies from danger is not always easy. Many animals carry their babies on their backs wherever they go.
Father birds and fish sometimes baby-sit their eggs.

The male sea catfish carries the eggs in his mouth. When the eggs hatch, the babies swim out of his mouth. The hungry father catfish will finally be able to eat!

The male emperor penguin keeps his egg warm under his feathery skin. The egg sits on his feet. He does not eat or move until his baby hatches.
Many animals must hunt for food all the time. Some animals have other ways to keep from being hungry.

In the summer, the black bear has plenty to eat. When winter comes, there is little food. The bear finds a place to sleep until spring. Its body does not need food until it wakes up.
Animals help people in lots of ways. One way is by giving us many foods. Chickens and some other birds give us eggs. Bees make honey from the nectar in flowers. Cows, goats, and camels are a few of the animals that give us milk. From milk we make cheese, butter, and yogurt.
Some people use big, rough sponges in the bathtub. They use sponges to wash their cars too. These sponges were once living animals that made their homes in the sea.

We make sweaters and other warm clothes from sheep’s wool.
Animals help us in many other ways too.

Some animals have jobs helping people. Horses, donkeys, and oxen pull wagons and carts. They work in fields all over the world.
Animals help us get from one place to another more quickly. Horses, camels, and sledge dogs are a few of the animals that help us with this job. Sometimes these animals are pets too.

Pets are an important part of people’s lives. Cats and dogs have lived with people for thousands of years.

Can you think of a way that animals help people?
Unlike long ago, today people have all kinds of different pets. Bunnies, snakes, and guinea pigs are pets. So are parrots, fish, and many other animals.

Pets need to be treated with love and kindness. They need food, water, and a place to sleep, just like people do. They should never be teased, hurt, or frightened.

Always be good to your pet!
Wild animals are not meant to be pets. They are happier in their own kind of place.

Zookeepers build special homes for zoo animals. These homes are much like their homes in the wild. Every zoo animal gets the kinds of foods it likes best.
People and other animals live and play and work together all over the world. But many animals are in danger. Some may soon be lost from our world forever.

People are taking up more of the land where these animals live. Some people hunt these animals too.
The list of animals in danger is very long. Some kinds of wolves and wild cats are in danger. So are different kinds of ducks, sea turtles, and snakes. This list of animals in danger is growing all the time.

Luckily, some people are working hard to protect the animals. These people have an important job saving our wildlife.
We live in a wonderful world full of animals!

We are lucky to have the fun, friendship, and beauty that animals bring to our world.

Our world would be so quiet and colorless without all the animals that live here with us!
Animal Guessing Game

1. Cut four pieces of thick paper in half. Then cut each half in half again. You will have a total of 16 pieces of paper. These are the cards you will use to play the animal guessing game. Now go through this book and find 16 different animals. Draw a picture of one of the animals on one side of a card, leaving the opposite side blank. Write the name of the animal on the same side as your drawing. Then draw another animal on another card, and continue until all the cards have a picture of an animal on them. Turn the cards over and write one or two facts about the animal on the blank side. For instance, if you draw a giraffe on one side, the other side might say, “I have a very long neck” and “I am brown and white.”

2. Now see how much your friends and family know! Show them the cards one by one. Can they guess the correct animals just from the clues you put on the cards? You can also make a set of cards with a friend, each of you thinking up eight different animals.

Animal Home Hunt

3. Find a friend to take a walk with. Explore your backyard, a park, or any outdoor place. Look closely all around you as you walk. Look at the ground, in bushes, under rocks, and high up in the trees. See how many animal homes you can find. Look for anthills, bird nests, even doghouses!

When you get back to your own house, draw a map of the places you went. Show on the map the places where you found animal homes.

What is this new kind of animal called?
You can write its name on the paper or tell others what you have named it.

Does it have a tail? Wings? Claws?
Where does it live? Draw the animal’s home or describe what the home looks like.

What does it eat? Draw a picture of the kinds of food your animal would eat.

Make a Strange New Animal

4. Get lots of colored paper, crayons, and colored pencils. You can also use sticks, yarn, pieces of cloth, or empty toilet paper rolls. Imagine an animal no one has ever seen before. Draw on paper or glue pieces of colored paper and other materials together to make your strange new animal.

If you have old magazines with pictures of animals in them, use these too. Cut out body parts from different animals and glue them together to make your new animal!