

Animal Fun Facts

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Did you know there are over 400 species of animals living at Dublin Zoo? Many are rare, and their survival in the wild is under threat. We have put together some fun facts about 10 Amazing Animals for you:



Panther Chameleons are rainbow coloured lizards who live in the tropical forests of Madagascar. They can change their colours when they feel threatened or stressed or to blend in depending on the light or temperature. Find out more facts [about Panther Chameleons here](#).

West African Crocodiles are really fast swimmers and can reach speeds of 32 kph. In their lifetime they can have as many as 8000 teeth! If they lose one, it is replaced immediately with a new one! Find out more facts [about West African Crocodiles here](#).



Burmese Pythons are one of the world's largest snakes and can grow up to 6 metres in length. They have stretchy jaws, enabling them to swallow animals that are up to 5 times as wide as their own heads! Find out more facts [about Burmese Pythons here](#).

Meerkats live in Southern Africa and mostly eat insects but eat plants, birds, scorpions, lizards and snakes including some venomous species! Baby Meerkats are called pups and a group of Meerkats are known as a mob, gang or pack! Find out more facts [about Meerkats here](#).



There are both Asian and African **Lions**. You can hear their roar from as far away as 8kms. Lions are very sociable animals and live in a group called a pride. Find more facts [about Lions here](#).

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Giraffes are the tallest living land animals in the world and can reach heights of over 5 metres when fully grown. Giraffes have blue tongues which don't sunburn! And they sleep standing up! Find out more facts [about Giraffes here](#).



Elephants are the world's largest land mammals. They eat for between 14 and 19 hours a day, mainly on grasses, leaves, tree bark and roots. An elephant can produce up to one tonne of poo a week! Find out more [about Elephants here](#).

Hippopotamus, or Hippos as they are more commonly referred to, are one of the heaviest animals on earth and can weigh as much as three and a half tonnes! Surprisingly they are pretty speedy and can reach land speeds of up to 30kms per hour. Hippos can't swim or float but they walk along the river bed. Find out more facts [about Hippos here](#).



Chimpanzees are human's closest living relative! We share over 98% of the same DNA. Presenting your bottom to another chimp is a sign of respect, letting them know you know they are the boss! Find out more facts [about Chimpanzees here](#).

Flamingos are best known for their pink feathers, long legs and hooked bills. Flamingos sleep standing on one leg. Their knee joints are hidden in their feathers, so the joint you see on their leg is actually their ankle! They are standing on their tippy toes! Find more facts [about Flamingos here](#).

