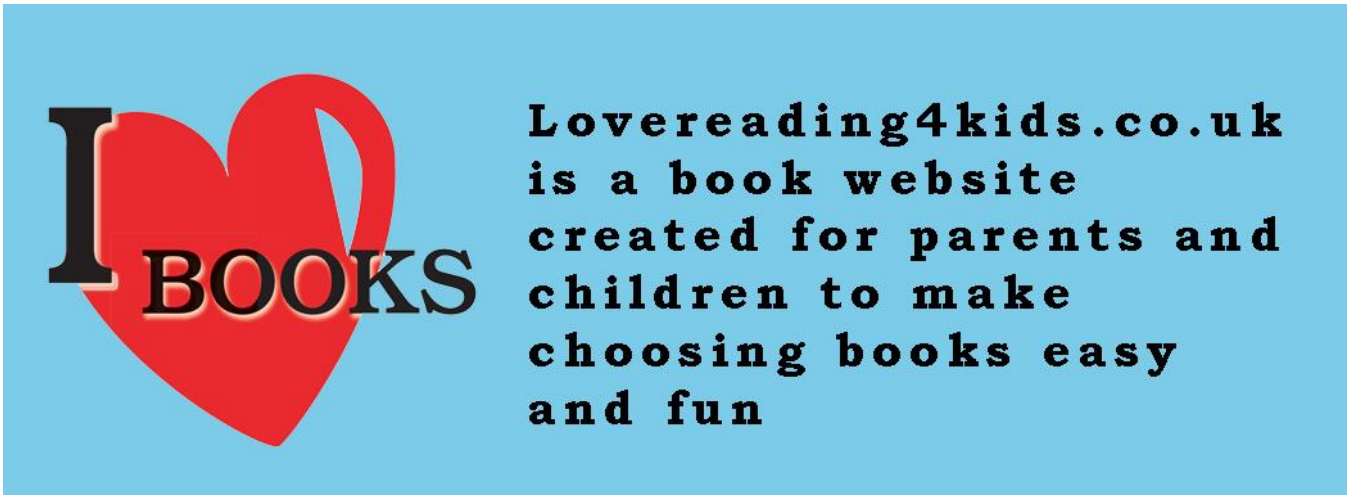

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9 I spy with my creepy eyes...

1. Mantis shrimp
This 30 cm shrimp has better eyesight than any other animal.

2. Giant squid
Most animals' eyes are smaller than oranges. But a giant squid's eye is as big as your head.

3. Dragonfly
Dragonflies section off what they see in a grid. They move around the prey in the same section, then grab it.

4. Goat
Goats have rectangular pupils. This means that they can see a panoramic 320 to 340 degrees. So they can almost see behind themselves.

5. Stargazer
This fish buries itself in sand, eyes staring up. When prey passes by, it throws 50 killer volts of electricity from its eyes to stun the prey.

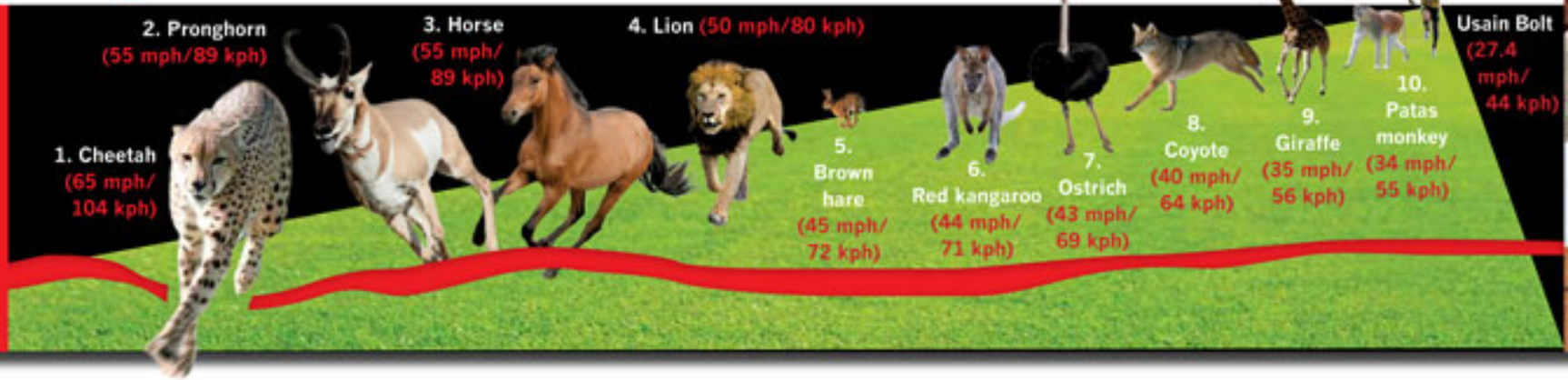
6. Reindeer
As the days grow darker in winter, reindeer eyes change colours from gold to blue. Creepy, Rudolph!

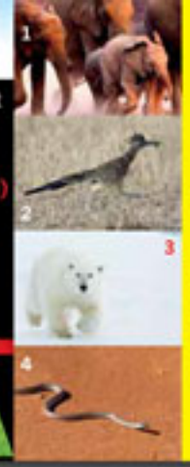
7. Scallop
Yuck – scallops have 100 eyes around their shells. Remember that the next time you eat some!

8. Tarsier
A tarsier's eyes are each as big as its brain. These enormous eyes make the tarsier an epic hunter – useful, since tarsiers refure to eat vegetables.

9. Ogre-faced spider
This spider will see you before you see it. It has the best eyesight in the spider world – using all 8 of its eyes.

10 animals that can sprint faster than Usain Bolt





4 animals that Usain Bolt can outrun (but you probably can't)

1. Elephant
2. Roadrunner
3. Polar bear
4. Black mamba

10 ocean swimmers that can outswim Michael Phelps

8 SUPER-FAST SPEED FACTS

1. Fastest bite
The trap-jaw ant can bite at 145 mph/233 kph.

CHOMP!

2. Fastest poison
The cone snail's poison kills instantly.

3. Fastest tongue
The palm salamander shoots out its tongue at 150 mph/241 kph!

4. Fastest squeaks
The free-tailed bat can squeak 150 times per second.

5. Fastest flaps
The midge flaps its wings 62,760 times per minute.

6. Fastest snap
The pistol shrimp can snap its claw at 60 mph/97 kph.

ZOOOM!

7. Fastest plant
Bamboo can grow 89 cm in a day!

8. Fastest mover
The peregrine falcon dives through the air at 240 mph/386 kph.

8 BLOOD-SUCKING BUGS...

...THAT BITE YOU AND LEAVE YOU WITH A DISEASE, A RASH OR AN ITCHY BUMP

1. Bedbug
2. Mosquito
3. Flea
4. Tick
5. Leech
6. Human botfly
7. Scab mite
8. Tsetse fly

7 parasites that TAKE CONTROL of their hosts

1. Brine shrimp tapeworm
The larva of this tapeworm takes over a brine shrimp's brain, turning the shrimp red and making it swim in groups. This makes it more likely to be eaten by a flamingo.

2. Horsehair worm
The larva of this worm takes over a cricket's brain and makes it leap into water. The now-grown worm wriggles free as the cricket drowns!

3. Tongue-eating isopod
This parasite eats a fish's tongue – and then becomes the tongue! It feeds on the food that the fish catches.

4. Zombie fungus
This fungus invades carpenter ants. It bursts out of the ants' heads, then infects other ants in the colony.

5. Emerald cockroach wasp
This wasp injects chemicals into a cockroach's brain. It steers the roach by the antennae, like they're reins! Then the wasp lays its eggs on the roach. The eggs hatch, and the larvae eat the roach alive. Gross!

6. Ladybird parasite
This wasp lays its egg in a ladybird's belly. The larva takes over the ladybird's brain. The ladybird – the perfect zombie bodyguard – protects the larva until it becomes an adult!

7. Human tapeworm
Tapeworms 9 metres long have been found living in human intestines.

6 parasites you should learn to love!

1. **Good bacteria** zap tooth decay in your mouth.

2. **Bloodsucking leeches** can clear infections.

3. **Parasitic wasps** can help get rid of farm pests.

4. **Some worms** that live in human intestines can cure allergies.

5. **Other friendly bacteria,** in your stomach, wage war on diseases and keep you healthy.

6. ***Demodex* mites** sometimes live in your eyelashes – and you don't even know it!

Which ENDANGERED ANIMAL are you?

The world is full of cool animals. But too many are in danger of dying out. If you were an endangered animal, which one would you be?

1. How do you like to get around?

A. Bus. You can see the whole town and get to school.

B. Plane. It means holiday! Or a visit to Aunt Elsie...

C. Bike. You can go anywhere. You feel so *freeee!*

D. Sedan chair. Your carriers will take you wherever you want to go.

2. What famous landmark would you love to see?

A. The Taj Mahal in India

B. The Great Wall of China

C. Machu Picchu in Peru

D. The pyramids in Egypt

3. What do you like to do in your spare time?

A. Hang out with friends

B. Relax with a good book

C. Make something crafty

D. Watch TV

4. When you have a problem, you...

A. Use logic and reason to solve it.

B. Use charm to talk your way out of it.

C. Are not surprised. You're always in trouble!

D. Don't stress about it. Everything will work out for the best.

5. Which characteristic do you value most in a friend?

A. Strength

B. Smarts

C. Silliness

D. Sincerity

6. In science, you have to throw an egg off the roof without breaking it. What do you do?

A. Wrap the egg in lots of padding and put it in a sturdy box, then in another box. Can't be too careful!

B. Draw an elaborate face on the egg and give it a name. Get very attached to your egg.

C. Leave most of the work to your teammates. They seem to know what they're doing!

D. Construct a harness and parachute for the egg, then hope for the best. On to other projects!

7. You have birthday money. What will you buy?

A. A fuzzy coat.

B. A bouquet of flowers.

C. Something to play with – maybe a game or a toy.

D. A dozen of the best chocolate chip cookies ever.

Panda? Macaw? Turn to page 138 to add up your score and find out what endangered animal you are!