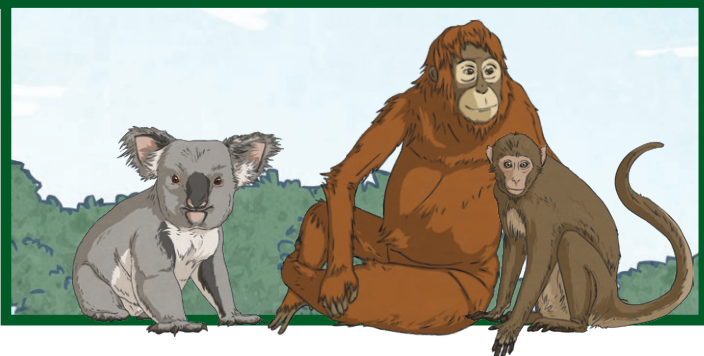


# Strange but True: Animals



There are many odd and interesting animals on planet Earth. Read on to find out some strange facts about them.

## Animal Criminals?



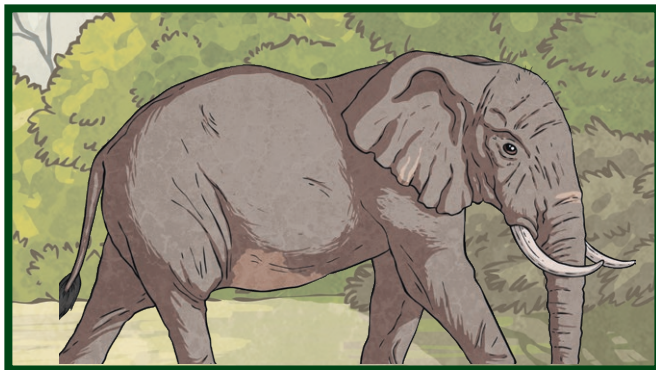
Police officers in London took the fingerprints of chimpanzees and orangutans in 1975 and they looked at them closely. They spotted that the

fingerprints of chimpanzees and orangutans were very similar to human fingerprints!

Chimpanzees, orangutans and even koalas all have the same patterns in their fingerprints as humans. Police in Australia looked at the fingerprints of koalas using a microscope. They could not tell the difference between fingerprints left by humans and those made by koalas!

## True or False? Elephants are the only animal that can't jump.

This is false. There are lots of animals that cannot jump, such as sloths, hippos and rhinos.



## True or False? Bulls charge when they see the colour red.

This is false. Bulls do not hate the colour red. They cannot see the colour red because cattle are colour-blind. Bulls only charge at something when it is moving around. It does not matter what colour that thing is.



### Slippery Suspects



Did you know that snails have thousands of teeth? Snails eat leaves and shrubs using rows of tiny teeth that are on their tongue. A garden snail can have up to 14,000 teeth! A snail's toothy tongue is called a radula.

Another way that snails explore the world is by using their tentacles! Most snails have four tentacles. They use their two upper tentacles to see with and they use their two lower tentacles for smelling with.

An odd fact is that a snail can move all four of its tentacles in different ways at the same time. This means that it can be looking at you while it is smelling your friend!

**True or False?** Goldfish can only remember things for three seconds.

This is false. Tests have shown that goldfish can remember things for far longer than you might think. This could even be for at least six months!



**True or False?** Frogs can't vomit.

This is true. If a frog needs to get something out of its stomach, it must push its stomach out of its mouth! Then, the food will either fall out or can be wiped out by the frog using its feet.



# Questions

1. Which of these is **not** true? Tick one.

- Elephants can't jump.
  Frogs can't vomit.
- Goldfish can only remember things for three seconds.
  Bulls do not hate the colour red.

2. Which animals have similar fingerprints to humans? Tick **three**.

- orangutans
  sloths
- chimpanzees
  koalas

3. How many tentacles do most snails have? Tick **one**.

- zero
  four
- two
  six

4. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

Snails have...	are on its tongue.
A snail's teeth...	is called a radula.
A snail's tongue...	thousands of teeth.
Snails smell using...	their lower tentacles.

5. Find and copy one word from the first paragraph that means the same as 'weird'.

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6. Fill in the missing words.

Tests have shown that \_\_\_\_\_ can remember things for  
far \_\_\_\_\_ than you might think.

7. Explain what police officers might have been thinking after they had made their discovery in 1975.

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