

*Awesome Facts About*

**ANIMALS**



Siberian tiger

Tiger cubs grow  
“baby teeth” like humans.  
Their adult teeth  
arrive a few months later.

*Awesome Facts About*

# ANIMALS

**Kids**  
Answers

a publication of Answers in Genesis

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Meet the author

# LEANNE SARKISIAN

MA in biology from  
Miami University

Zoo Director at  
the Ark Encounter and  
Creation Museum



Ever since I grew up raising cattle on my family's farm, I've loved animals! Now I have my dream job, working with zoo animals, planning new animal habitats, and teaching guests about creation! My favorite animals are kangaroos and wallabies. I cowrote this book so you could see why it's so easy to love God's awesome creatures—and the Creator who made them all!

*-Leanne*

Naamah loves to greet guests at the Ark Encounter's kangaroo walkabout. Kangaroos are amazing jumpers. They can jump up to 6 feet (2 m) high, and the longest recorded jump by a kangaroo was 42 feet (12.8 m).



Animal Presenter at  
the Ark Encounter and  
Creation Museum

Meet the author

# KARINA ALTMAN

BS in marine biology from  
Texas A&M at Galveston

Guests may meet Luna during the Ark Encounter's daily animal programs. Owls like Luna can see a mouse over a football field away! They have huge eyes, but they don't move. Instead, God designed their necks to turn really far to look around.

**W**hen I was growing up, my parents took me to zoos and aquariums around the world. I've always loved animals! Now I'm a zookeeper, and I get to enjoy God's amazing creatures every day and share facts about them with others. My favorite animal is the Eurasian eagle owl, Luna. She's so friendly and cute! I helped write this book so you could get excited about God's awesome creatures too.

- Karina

Sunda slow loris

WHAT IS AN  
AWESOME  
FACT?

THE  
BIGGEST!

Despite their cute looks, slow lorises are one of the world's few mammals with a venomous bite.



**D**iscovering cool facts about God’s world is an adventure! It’s like an explorer hunting for treasure or a king setting out on a quest. King Solomon said, “It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out” (Proverbs 25:2).

What does this mean? We don’t learn incredible facts for our own glory. God wants us to learn more about his world so we can discover truths about him and his glory.

The word *glory* isn’t used much anymore. But *awesome* has a similar meaning. It means “to inspire awe or wonder.” Facts about creation should inspire us to want to know more about our awesome Creator.

To begin with, we know from the Bible that the world didn’t come about by accident. Animals didn’t evolve. God created everything in the universe about 6,000 years ago for a purpose—and he still rules over it.

According to Genesis, the first book of the Bible, God created everything to be very good.

But after the first man, Adam, sinned by disobeying God, things changed. Because of sin, we now live in a fallen world—no longer perfect the way God made it.

We see reminders of this everywhere, even in the way animals behave. Some have become predators while others have become prey. But even animals that may seem scary, like snakes and spiders, have amazing features that point to the all-wise Creator.

This book explores animals that walk, run, crawl, slither, swim, and fly. Along with awesome facts about God’s creatures, you’ll discover more about creation week, animal kinds, the global flood of Noah’s day, and animals on the ark.

It’s our privilege to be on this quest, searching for hidden treasures in God’s realm. But the greatest treasure we could find is Jesus Christ, our Creator, who wants us to receive him as our Savior and King!



## MAMMALS ARE INCREDIBLY DIVERSE,

ranging from the 1-inch bumblebee bat to the 110-foot blue whale. They include some of the most magnificent of all God's creatures.

Mammals get their name from the Latin word *mamma*, referring to the mother's ability to produce milk. Mammals also grow hair or fur at some point in their lives. That includes whales, which have a few whiskers when they're born.

Though they are mammals, bats and whales were created on day five of creation week with the other flying and swimming animals (Genesis 1:20–23). The other mammals that move on land, from aardvarks to zebras, were not created until day six with the other land animals (Genesis 1:24–25).

God gave mankind the duty to love and care for all these special animals (Genesis 1:28). In return, they provide us with joy, help, and companionship.

— Chapter 1 —

# FUR & FLUFF

Eurasian river otter



River otters have up to 450,000  
hairs per square inch of skin,  
while African elephants  
have around 1 hair  
per square inch.

# AFRICAN ELEPHANT TRUNKS HAVE 40,000 MUSCLES!

They are strong enough to uproot trees but skilled enough to grab a blade of grass.



# ELEPHANTS ARE GREAT LONG-DISTANCE SWIMMERS.

They can paddle up to 25 miles (40 km) without rest.

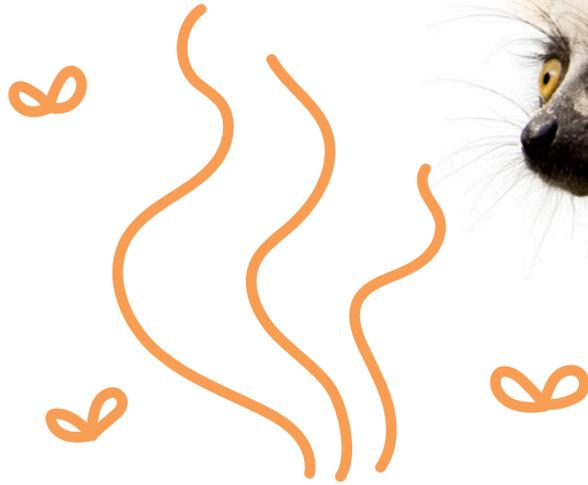




**AFRICAN CRESTED  
PORCUPINES  
LIVE IN FAMILY UNITS  
CALLED PRICKLES.**



"I smell a fight!"



Male ring-tailed lemurs compete in stink fights. They cover their tails with scents and wave them at each other.





# A ZEBRA'S NIGHT VISION IS AS GOOD AS AN OWL'S.

## WHAT IS A CREATED KIND?

Zebras, donkeys, and horses are different species, but they look so similar. Why? Because they belong to the same created kind!

God created the animals "according to their kinds" (Genesis 1:20-25). He did not create different species of horses, donkeys, and zebras. Instead, he created the original members of the horse kind. The animals we see today came from those first animals. Because they're in the same kind, zebras and horses can have baby "zorses," and zebras and donkeys can have baby "zonkeys"!





Zebra stripes appear  
to remove heat and keep  
insects away.

plains zebra

A group of red kangaroos is captured in motion, running across a dry, golden-brown field. The kangaroos are in various stages of their hop, with their long tails trailing behind them. The background is a vast, open landscape under a clear sky.

red kangaroo

A kangaroo family  
is called a mob.

**Male  
kangaroos  
flex their arms  
to impress  
females.**

### **HOW DID KANGAROOS GET TO AUSTRALIA?**

Australia is a big island surrounded by ocean. So how did kangaroos get to Australia? After God judged sin with a global flood, there were multiple ways to cross the water from one landmass to another. For example, the ocean was probably covered with mats of vegetation (plants and trees) from the destroyed forests. Animals could have floated on these mats to islands like Australia. Another possibility is animals crossing the water on land bridges that we don't have today.

Kangaroos and other animals with pouches (marsupials) had an advantage in reaching Australia before other types of animals. They could carry their young in their pouches instead of stopping to raise them!



“Venom?”  
“No problem!”

**VIRGINIA OPOSSUMS AREN'T HURT BY DANGERS IN OUR FALLEN WORLD LIKE RATTLESNAKE VENOM AND BEE STINGS.**