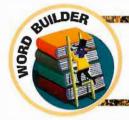


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### **Features**

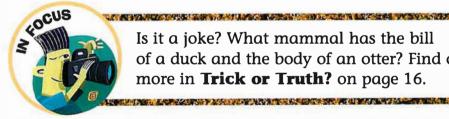


Have you ever heard of an animal that leads a double life? Turn to page 5 for more about amphibians.

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Long-legged lizards are racing on water! Turn to page 9 to discover more about the lizards that can stand on their own two feet.





Is it a joke? What mammal has the bill of a duck and the body of an otter? Find out more in Trick or Truth? on page 16.

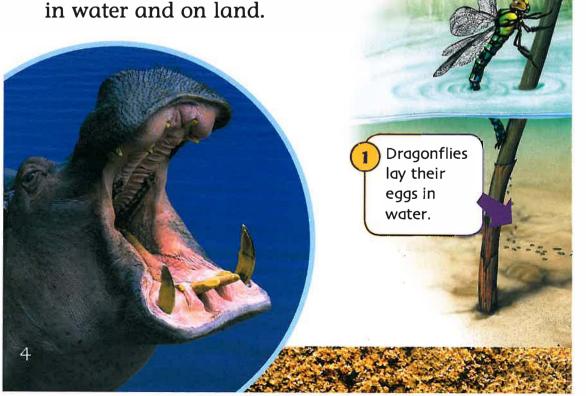
Just how far can a person dive underwater? Discover how technology helps deep-sea divers in How Low Can You Go? on page 21

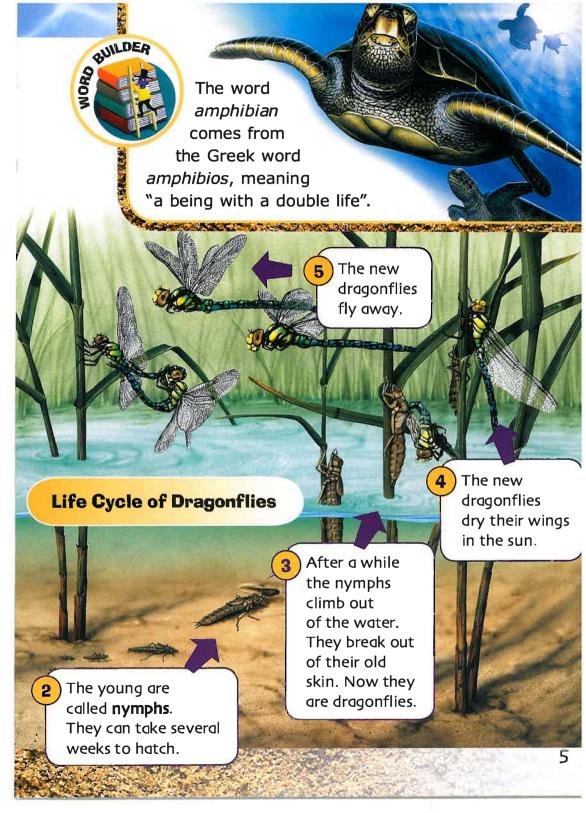


**Living in Two Worlds** 

Many of the world's most interesting creatures live in two worlds—in water and on land.

Many of these creatures are **amphibians**. Some are **reptiles**. Others are **mammals** that spend time in the water looking for food. Some birds and insects also spend their lives both





# **Frogs and Toads**

Frogs and toads are amphibians.

Amphibians cannot live far from a watery environment. Like most amphibians, frogs and toads lay their eggs in water. Tadpoles hatch from the eggs. Each larva looks like a little fish with a long tail. It takes in oxygen through its gills. Later it develops lungs and breathes air. The tadpoles grow and change until they can live on land as well as in the water.

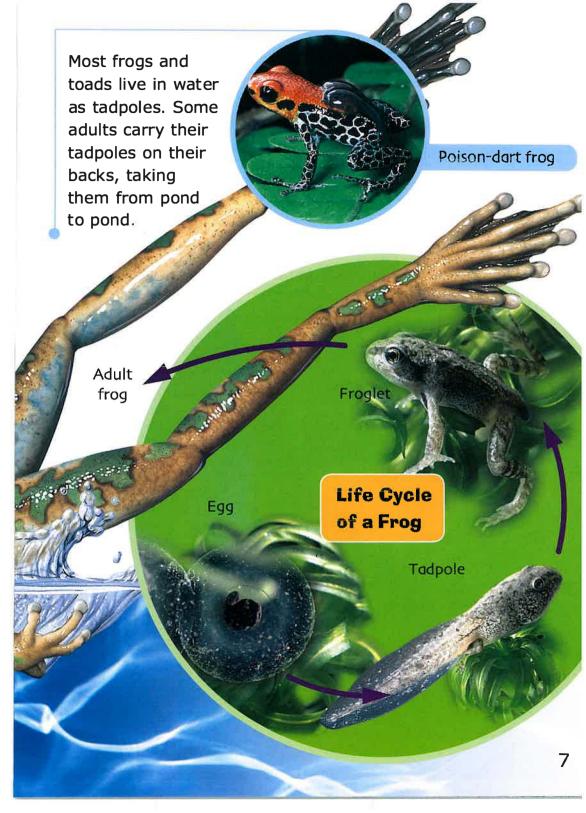


#### Don't Be Fooled

Most toads are lumpy and bumpy. They have short legs. Most frogs are shiny and smooth. They have long legs.







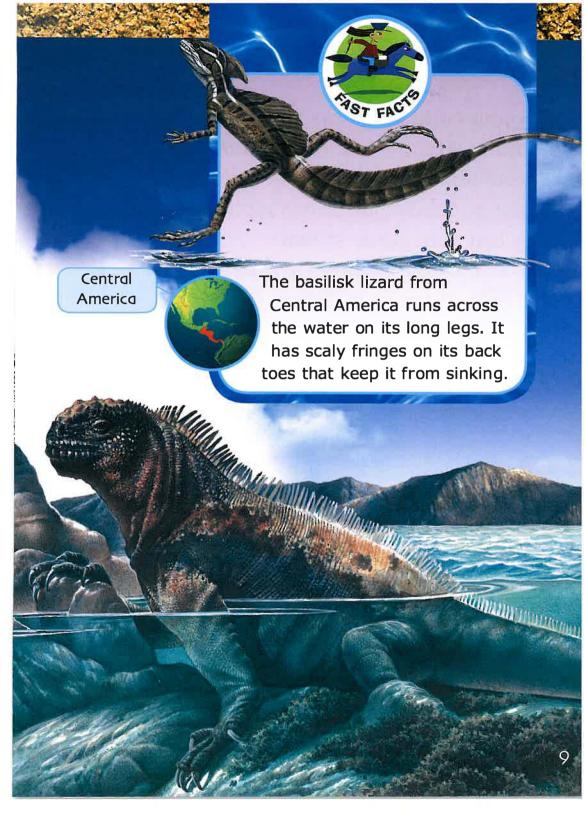


Lizards are reptiles. Many reptiles live on land and in water. Many lizards live near fresh water. Some search for insects in the plants that grow beside rivers and lakes. Some jump into the water to escape their enemies.

The marine iguana is the only lizard that spends time in the ocean. It dives under waves to eat plants that grow on rocks by the seashore.

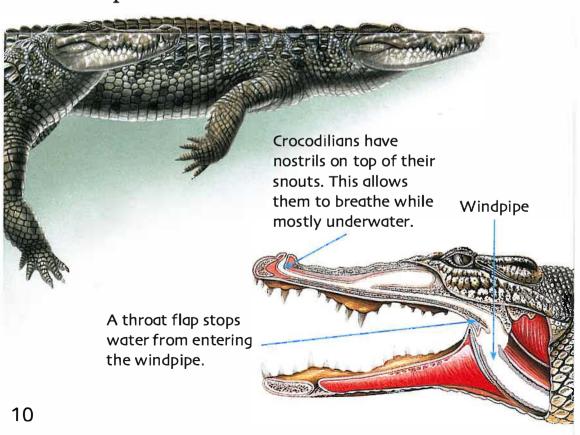
South America

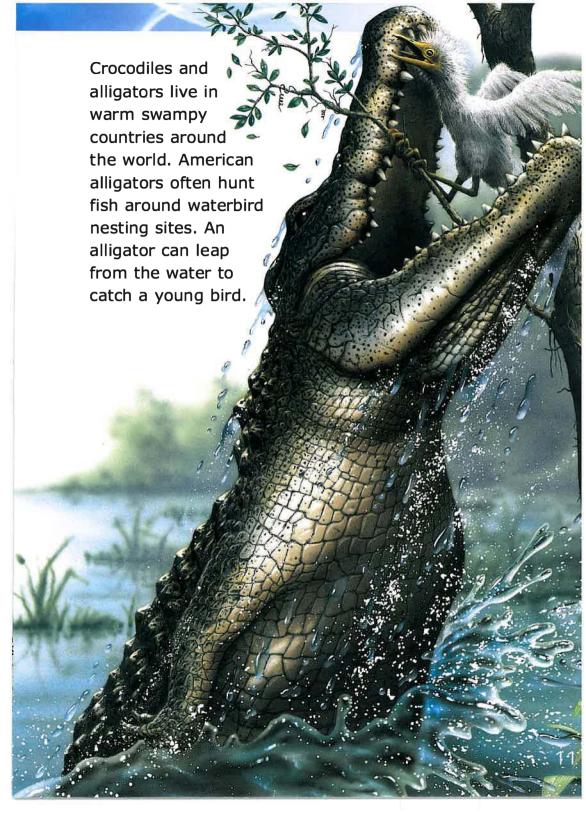
Marine iguanas live on the Galapagos Islands. These islands are home to many unusual and wonderful animals.



### **Crocodilians**

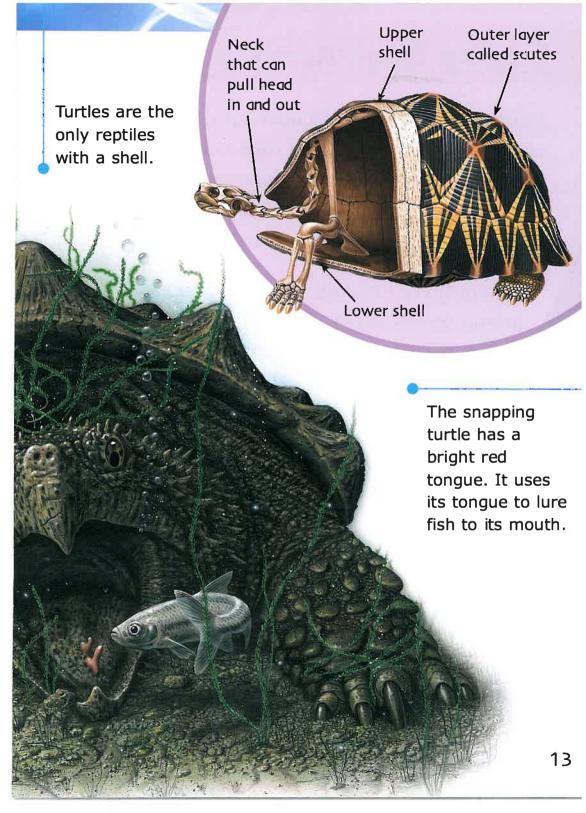
Crocodiles and alligators belong to a family of reptiles called **crocodilians**. Crocodilians are some of the world's largest and most dangerous reptiles. They can float easily in water and drift slowly towards their **prey**. This helps them save their energy for a surprise attack!





### Turtles

Turtles are reptiles too. Many turtles live both on land and in water. Most turtles come to the surface of the water to breathe air. but some turtles can also take in oxygen from the water. Most freshwater turtles lay their eggs in soil or in sand. They hunt on land as well as in the water. Turtles' shells help to protect them. Most turtles can pull their heads into their shells if they are in danger.



# Furry Swimmers

Many mammals live in and out of water. Beavers, otters and raccoons live in or near water. Some of these furry swimmers have webbed feet and a special coat to keep them warm.

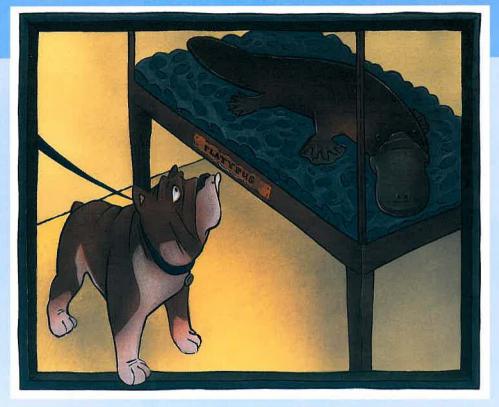
Some of these animals even build their homes in the water. Beavers fell trees with their huge front teeth. They use the trunks and branches to make homes called lodges in the water.







# Trick or Truth?



A gift from a faraway land has all sorts of Londoners mystified!

In 1798 a stuffed platypus was sent from Australia to England. The people there had never seen a platypus before. They thought it was a trick. They thought someone had stitched the bill of a duck to the body of an otter! Was it trick or truth?

Strange but True!



The platypus may seem a bit mixed up, but it is for real. It has a bill like a duck's and webbed feet for swimming. It is furry and about as big as a cat. It is a mammal, but it lays eggs. Baby platypuses drink their mother's milk.

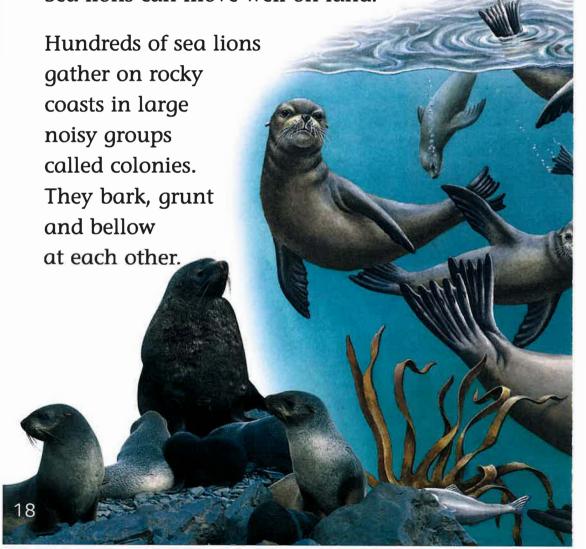
Platypuses live in Australia.
They dig burrows in the banks of streams. The burrows are usually underwater. The platypus is perfectly suited to living in and out of water.

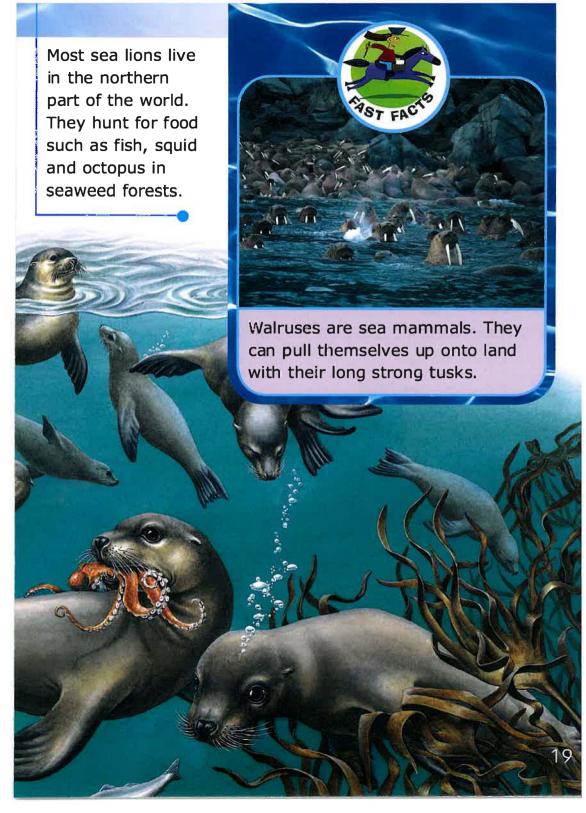
The eyes and ears of the platypus are in a special groove that closes when the animal is underwater.

When on land the platypus can fold back the webs on its front feet so it can use its claws to walk and dig.

### Sea Mammals

Sea lions are sea mammals. They are expert swimmers. Although they spend much time at sea, they come back to shore to have their babies, called pups. Sea lions can move well on land.





# **Taking the Plunge**

People also spend a lot of time in water. They swim, fish and dive. They like to explore coral reefs and kelp forests in search of fish and other sea life. People may not have special ear or throat flaps, but they have invented many things to help them survive for long periods of time in a watery world.



The word scuba is made up from the first letter of five different words: self-contained underwater breathing apparatus.



# Glossary

amphibian – a cold-blooded animal that lives part of its life in water and part on land. Frogs, toads and salamanders are amphibians.

**crocodilian** – the name for the family of large reptiles that includes alligators and crocodiles

**larva** – the young worm-like form of an animal that must grow and change a lot before it looks like its parents

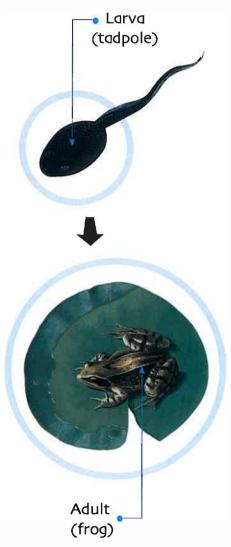
**mammal** – an animal that feeds its young on mother's milk. Mammals are warm-blooded and are the only animals that have hair.

**nymph** – the newly-hatched form of some insects. A nymph must go through major body changes before it looks like an adult.

prey - an animal that is hunted and eaten
by another animal

**reptile** – a cold-blooded animal that crawls on its belly or creeps on short legs. All reptiles have dry, scaly skin.

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### Discussion Starters

1 Some fierce animals such as crocodilians and sharks have a bad reputation with people. Do you think these animals are cruel or are they just fighting for survival?

2 Many turtles have shells with beautiful colours and patterns. In some places turtles have been hunted and killed for their shells. If you saw a turtle shell for sale, what would you do?

3 Of all the animals in this book, which do you want to learn more about? Why? How will you learn more?