Animals of the World
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Quality Standard
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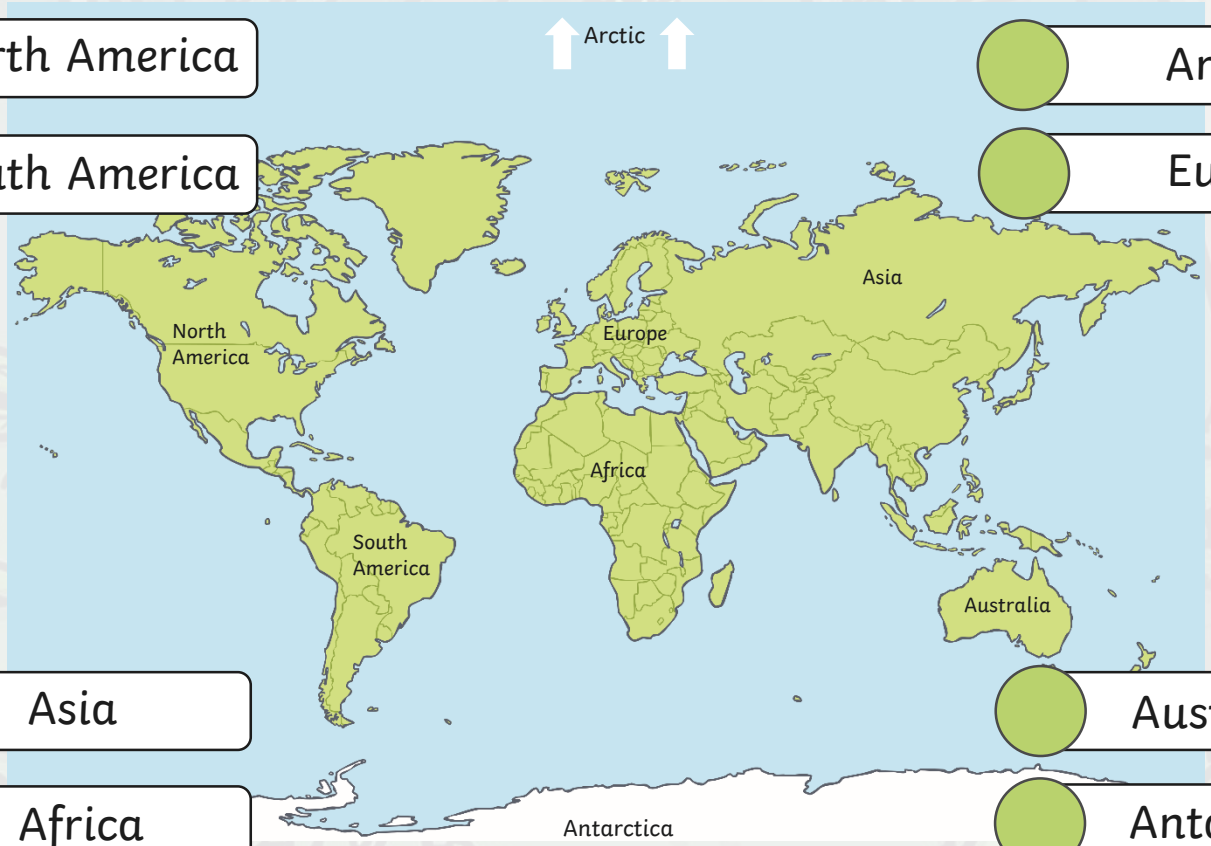
Click the labels to see which animals are from the area selected.



North America

South America

Arctic

Europe

Asia

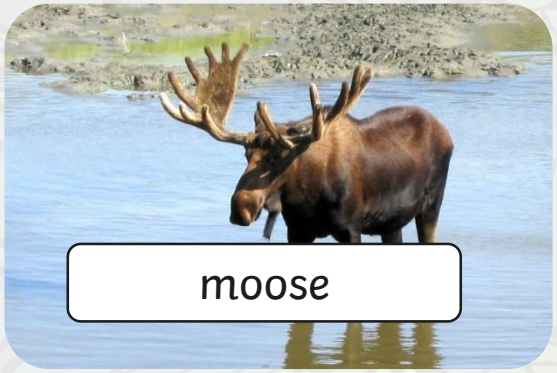
Australia

Africa

Antarctica

Finished?

North America



Map

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Alligator

- Alligators are reptiles.
- They lay eggs.
- Alligators eat any meat but mostly fish, birds and turtles.
- They have lived on earth for millions of years.
- They live in the Southern parts of North America such as Louisiana and Florida.
- They have a powerful bite but their jaw muscles are very weak, an adult human can hold open an alligator's jaw.

- Adult males can be over 3 metres long.
- They were once an endangered species

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Beaver

- Beavers are found by streams, ponds, rivers and lakes.
- They feed on trees and tree bark.
- They live in colonies with their families.
- Beavers build dams and lodges.
- Dams and lodges are built for protection against predators.
- They can stay underwater for up to 15 minutes.

- Their feet and tails help them to swim really well.
- They are nocturnal and work at night
- Young beavers are called kits.

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Brown Bear

- Brown bears are also known as grizzly bears.
- They eat grass, fruit, insects, roots and bulbs of plants and when hungry enough they will eat small animals.
- They live in forested mountain areas and near rivers.
- In Autumn they eat huge amounts of food so they can hibernate through the winter.
- Adult males can be over 2 metres tall.

- They hibernate in dens, a 'bedroom' at the end of a tunnel.

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Moose

- Moose are the largest member of the deer family.
- Male moose are called bull moose.
- Bull moose shed their antlers during the winter and grow new ones every year.
- Female moose are called cows.
- Moose have hairy skin that hangs under the throat called a bell.
- Moose have a hump.

- They are around 7 feet tall.
- Moose are great swimmers.

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South America

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Red Eyed Tree Frog

- Their green colour helps them blend in with tree leaves so they keep hidden from predators and insects they want to catch.
- Female frogs lay their eggs on leaves that hang over ponds so when the eggs hatch into tadpoles the tadpoles drop into the water.
- The bright colours are a defence mechanism. If a predator spots a frog, the frog's eyes pop open, revealing their bright red colour this startles the predator.

- They live in jungles.
- They are nocturnal.

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Toucan

- They live in jungles.
- They eat bird eggs, insects, fruit, reptiles, rodents and other birds.
- Toucans have huge beaks called bills.
- The average bill size is 8 inches long.
- They use their bills for keeping cool and to reach for food.
- Big cats such as jaguars are natural predators of the toucan.

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Squirrel Monkey

- Squirrel monkeys live in tropical rainforest.
- They live in the middle part of the forest canopy.
- They eat fruit and insects.
- They live in large groups.
- Baby squirrel monkeys cling to their mother's fur and travel around with them.

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Sloth

- Sloths sleep for up to 20 hours a day.
- They only wake up to feed.
- They spend most of the time hanging from trees.
- They eat leaves, twigs and fruit.
- Sloths are very slow.

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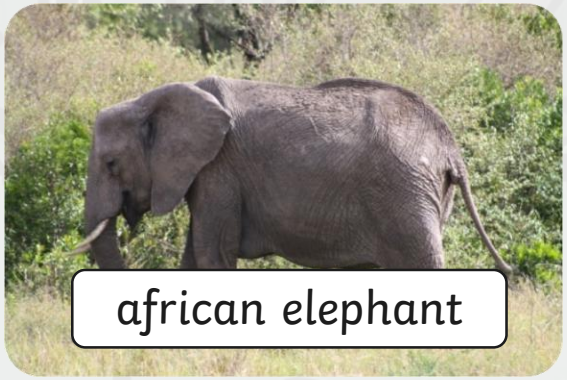
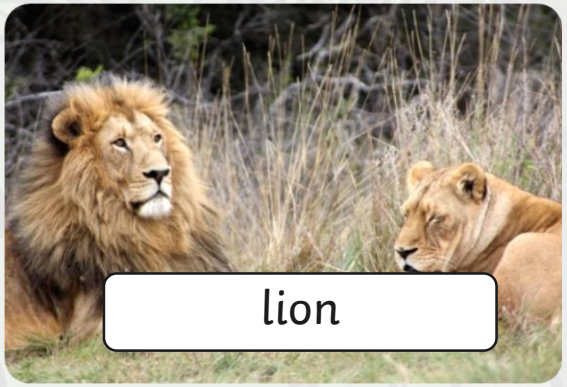
Africa





Map

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African Elephant

- African elephants are the largest land mammals on Earth.
- A male elephant is called a bull, a female is called a cow and a baby elephant is called a calf.
- Elephants travel in herds of 10 or more.
- They eat grasses, leaves, shrubs, branches and fruit.
- Elephants love to swim.

- Elephants have long noses called trunks.

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Hippo

- The full name for hippo is hippopotamus which means river horse.
- It is the third largest land mammal.
- A male hippo is called a bull, a female is called a cow and a baby hippo is called a calf.
- Hippos can be very aggressive, especially when they feel threatened.
- They are one of the most dangerous animals in Africa.

- They mostly eat grass.
- They rest in water to keep their bodies cool.

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Zebra

- They are part of the horse family.
- Each zebra has a unique pattern of black and white stripes.
- They mostly eat grass and leaves.
- They are very nervous animals.
- They live in herds.
- When zebras are grouped together, their stripes make it hard for a lion or leopard to pick out one zebra to chase.

- They have excellent eyesight and hearing.

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Lion

- They are the second largest big cat species in the world (after tigers).
- Lions can reach speeds of 50 miles an hour, but not for very long.
- The roar of a lion can be heard 5 miles away.
- Lionesses (female lions) are better hunters than males so do most of the hunting for the pride.
- The hair around a male lions head is called a mane.

- They eat meat and hunt animals such as antelope and zebra.
- They live in groups called prides.
- Lions rest for 20 hours a day.

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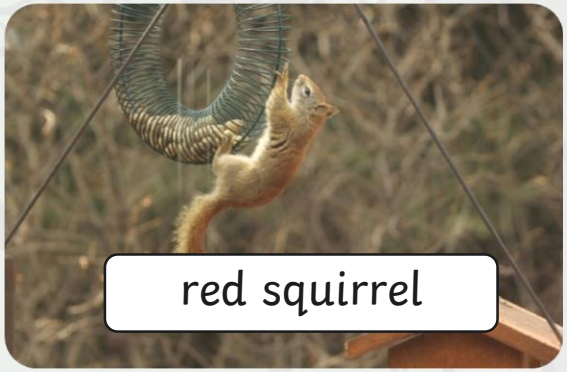
Europe: United Kingdom

badger

hedgehog

puffin


red squirrel

Map

Photo courtesy of Chris_Parfitt, Daniel Wehner, rengber, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

Badger

- A male badger is called a boar, a female is a sow and the young are called cubs.
- They have excellent hearing and sense of smell.
- They live in groups of up to 14 adults.
- They dig systems of underground tunnels and nesting chambers called setts where they sleep and rear their young.
- They are strong and heavy and have sharp clawed feet making them the fastest digging animal on Earth.

- They are nocturnal.
- The biggest threat to badgers are cars.

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Hedgehog

- Hedgehogs eat insects, worms, snails, mice and frogs.
- They are nocturnal and sleep in bushes or woodland.
- They hibernate in winter.
- They have a coat of about 5000 spines.
- They have excellent sense of smell and use their snouts to sniff out prey.
- They are solitary animals.

- Spines act as a defence against foxes and badgers.

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Puffin

- Puffins nest in the UK in summer months.
- They nest on the cliff face.
- Their beaks are only bright coloured and stripy during breeding season.
- Outside of breeding season they spend their time far out at sea.
- They are excellent swimmers.
- They eat small fish and sand eels.

- Puffins nest in burrows like rabbits.

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Red Squirrel

- Red squirrels are native to the UK (unlike grey squirrels) but it is very rare to see one. Most live in Scotland.
- The spread of grey squirrels is the main threat to red squirrel survival.
- Grey squirrels steal food and give red squirrels squirrelpox.
- Their long fluffy tails keep them balanced when jumping from tree to tree.
- Red squirrels eat nuts, fungi, berries and ripe fruits.

- A squirrels nest is called a drey.
- Squirrels hibernate in winter.

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Click to explore Asia

Asia: India

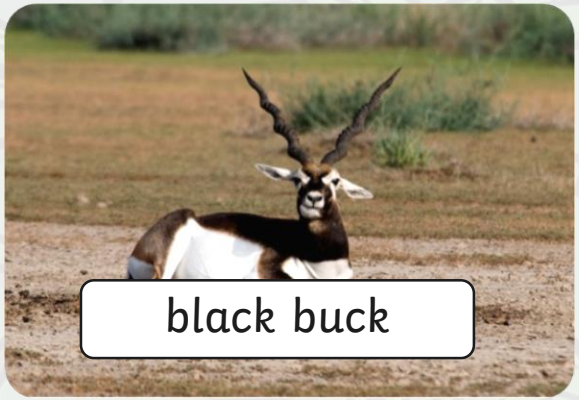
Asia: China

Map

Asia: India

tiger

peacock


black buck

Snow leopard

Map

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Tiger

- The tiger is the biggest species of the cat family.
- A group of tigers is known as an ambush or streak.
- Tigers are good swimmers.
- Tigers usually hunt alone at night time.
- The stripes on each tiger are unique.
- Their stripes camouflage them in long grasses.

- They spend hot days lying in pools and streams.

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Peacock

- Real name is peafowl. Only the males are called peacocks.
- Females are called peahens and babies are called peachicks.
- Peacocks live in forests.
- They eat grain, insects, small reptiles and mammals, berries, figs, leaves, seeds and flower parts.
- The male has bright, beautiful feathers while the female has drab mottled brown feathers.

- The male's feathers are bright and beautiful to attract mates.
- A group of peafowl is called a party or a pride.

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Black Buck

- Black buck are a species of antelope.
- They are one of the fastest animals on
- Earth and can outrun almost any other animal over long distances.
- They mainly eat grasses, leaves, shrubs, fruit and flowers.
- They live on grasslands, dry thorn and scrublands.
- They have sharp eyesight and speed to protect themselves from predators such as dogs and wolves.

- They live in groups of 15-20.

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Snow Leopard

- A male is called a leopard, a female is called a leopardess, a baby is called a cub.
- They like to live in steep, rocky places.
- In summer they stay high in the mountains, in winter they come down into the forests.
- They hunt and eat sheep, goats, birds and other small animals.
- They are solitary animals.

- Snow leopards are often hunted by humans so they are an endangered species.
- The cubs stay with the mother for 2 years before they go off alone.

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Asia: China

Map

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Panda

- The giant panda (shown in the picture) is native to China.
- It has a black and white fur coat and large black patches around its eyes.
- They live for around 20 years in the wild.
- Giant pandas mostly eat bamboo.
- They are an endangered species.
- It is estimated only 2000 are left in the wild.

- They are very good climbers.

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Golden Monkey

- Also known as a snub nosed monkey.
- They live in the forests in the mountains of China.
- In summer they eat tree leaves, in winter they eat bark and lichen.
- Golden monkeys are said to have the largest herd amongst monkeys that live in trees.
- It is endangered due to being hunted for its fur and also from deforestation.

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Golden Pheasant

- Golden pheasants are very bright in colour.
- People have been known to keep them as pets.
- They feed on grain, leaves and insects.
- Chinese people believe these birds to be very important in their culture and you can find examples of them in art mythology and literature.
- They are also seen as a token of good luck.

- Golden pheasants have been introduced to the UK in some areas.
- They usually live on hills and mountains in areas with trees and bushes.

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Yak

- There are two types of Yak. Wild and domestic.
- Domestic yak is smaller and less furry and used for fur, meat and transportation. It has a high population.
- Wild yak is larger and shaggier. Not many remain.
- They live high up on hills and mountains.
- They like cold baths in lakes and rivers.

- They can grow up to 6.5 feet high.
- They have thick horns to break through ice and dig in snow.

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Australia

Map

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Kookaburra

- They are also known as the laughing kookaburra because their call sounds like a person laughing.
- They also tip their head back like a person laughing when they call.
- They live in big trees.
- Kookaburra eat insects, mice, lizards, other birds and snakes.

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Wombat

- The wombat is a marsupial.
- The wombat is the largest burrowing animal in the world.
- They are solitary animals.
- They are nocturnal.
- They are rarely seen in the wild.
- They live in wet forested, sloping areas.
- They feed on grass, roots, bark and moss.

- Females have a pouch for their young.
- Baby wombats are called joeys.
- Their teeth grow constantly because they are worn down from eating.

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Koala

- Koalas are not bears. They are marsupials.
- They eat eucalyptus leaves and almost nothing else.
- The closest relative to a koala is a wombat.
- They have sharp claws to help them climb trees.
- A baby koala is called a joey.

- Joeys live in their mothers pouch for 6 months and stay with the mother for 6 months after.

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Kangaroo

- There are 4 types of kangaroo.
- Kangaroos are marsupials.
- The red kangaroo is the largest marsupial in the world.
- They hop around quickly on 2 legs or walk around slowly on 4.
- They have very powerful legs.
- They can jump very high.
- Most kangaroos eat grass.

- Female kangaroos have pouches to carry the baby kangaroo.
- Baby kangaroos are called joeys.
- The joey stays in its mothers pouch for 10 months before leaving the pouch for good.

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Antarctica

Map

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Arctic Tern

- Arctic terns have the longest migration journey of any bird.
- They spend most of their time flying.
- They land once every 1 to 3 years to nest.
- They fly from the Arctic to the
- Antarctic every year and then fly back.
- They have perfect wings for flying long distances.

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Weddel Seal

- Weddell seals live further south than any other mammal.
- They live in holes in the ice breathing through the gaps.
- Every year the females come out from under the ice to give birth to baby seals called pups.
- They feed on fish, squid and krill.
- Young Weddell seals love to play fight.
- Weddell seal pups are really cute.

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Emperor Penguin

- Penguins cannot fly.
- Instead of wings penguins have flippers to help them swim in the water.
- They can stay underwater for up to 20 minutes.
- Emperor penguins are the biggest penguin out of 17 species.
- Their colours help keep them camouflaged in the sea.
- They huddle together to keep warm in large groups.

- They breed in the winter.
- Males look after the eggs whilst females go to feed.
- They eat fish and other sea life.
- After two months the females return and regurgitate food for the now hatched chicks.

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Orca

- Also known as killer whales.
- They aren't whales, they are the largest of dolphins.
- They can weigh up to 6 tonnes.
- They can grow to be as long as a bus.
- They can live up to 80 years old.
- Their black and white colouring acts as camouflage underwater.
- They are one of the world's most powerful predators.

- They eat seals, sea lions, whales, fish, squid, penguins and other sea birds.
- They are very intelligent.
- They live in groups called pods with up to 40 in a group.
- They work together to hunt.

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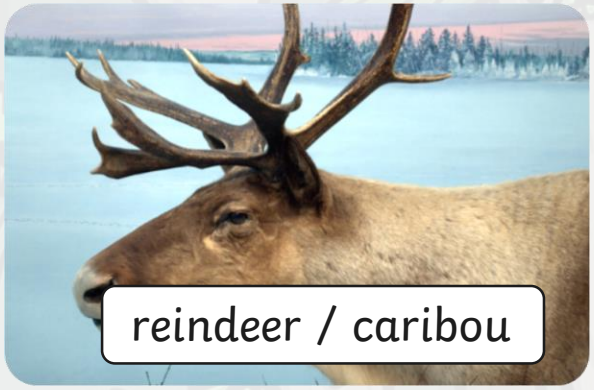
Arctic



Map

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Polar Bear

- Polar bears have black fur underneath their outer layer of white fur.
- It is the largest land carnivore.
- Polar bears hunt seals on the sea ice.
- They spend most of their time at sea.
- Polar bears keep warm due to 10cm of blubber under the skin.
- They have a really good sense of smell.

- Polar bears are now endangered due to the melting of sea ice meaning they have less hunting area.

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Reindeer / Caribou

- Reindeer are also called caribou.
- Males and females both grow antlers.
- Male antlers can grow 5 feet tall.
- They spend summer feeding on grasses, mushrooms and plants in the arctic tundra.
- They travel south during winter months to warmer climates.
- They dig for food with their large hooves.

- Females are called cows, males are called bulls, young are called calves.

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Arctic Hare

- They are the largest type of hare.
- In summer months arctic hares are brown and grey but in winter their fur is white. This is so they are camouflaged against the landscape.
- They have shorter ears than most hares so they stay warmer.
- They have very good eyesight and sense of smell.
- They sometimes huddle in large groups to stay warm.

- They eat leaves, bark, twigs, roots, grasses and flowers.
- Their most common enemy is the wolf.

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Lemming

- Lemmings are small rodents.
- They are the smallest mammals in the arctic.
- They are close relatives to voles.
- They are solitary and meet only to mate.
- They have very sharp teeth to gnaw through roots, moss and soil.
- They are the prey of wolves, foxes and owls.

- Baby lemmings are born under the snow.
- They burrow paths under the snow.
- They make nests out of hair, lichen and grass.

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What Have You Learnt?

Where are zebras from?

Where are tigers from?

Where are polar bears from?

Where are emperor penguins from?

What is your favourite animal?

What is the most interesting thing you have learnt today?

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