

### Did you know ..?

- Under all that white fur, a polar bear's skin is black.
- Giraffes have blue tongues.
- Mandrills have red bums to help them follow one another through the forest.
- A sea otter uses rocks to crack open shellfish, and keeps its favourite one under its armpit.
- A gibbon's arms are so long it can touch its toes without bending over.
- Elephants never stop growing.
- Happy elephants make a low rumbling noise, like purring.
- Thirty pygmy shrews weigh the same as one golfball.
- An adult hedgehog has 7,000 spines and as many as 500 fleas.
- Hedgehogs have been around for 15 million years, so were trundling around before sabre tooth tigers.
- A beaver can swim half a mile underwater on a single gulp of air.
- Male platypuses have poisonous spurs. Their venom causes such excruciating pain that it can't even be relieved using morphine.
- Numbats sleep in hollow logs and stuff their bums in the end to act like a cork so that predators can't pull them out.
- Which mammal has the longest claws? A lion? No – a giant anteater. Its claws are 10cm long.
- The slow loris has teeth that are slightly spaced apart so that they act as a grooming comb.
- The blue whale is 33.5m long – the same as 18 scuba divers with flippers.
- The biggest mammal, the blue whale, weighs 90,000,000 times more than the smallest, the pygmy shrew.
- An armadillo can dig a 4-foot burrow faster than 6 men with shovels.
- Kangaroos lick their forearms to keep cool.
- Gorillas are eight times stronger than humans. If gorillas took part in a weightlifting contest, they'd lift 2,128kg to a human's 266kg.
- Male grey kangaroos are called 'boomers' and females 'flyers'.
- The kangaroo's family name is 'macropodidae' which means 'big feet'.
- Sperm whales dive to depths of 2,400metres or more – six times the height of the Empire State Building.
- Burrowing marsupials such as the wombat have pouches that face backwards so that soil doesn't get thrown into them while digging.
- The sinews and tendons in a caribou's legs make a loud clicking noise when they walk. This helps the herd know where everyone is.
- Beavers have orange teeth.
- A sperm whale has a brain six times bigger than a human's.