18 Animals, insects and birds

A Animals, insects and birds

bull

tiger

camel

bear

leopard

wolf

crocodile

eagle

spider

butterfly

bee

mosquito

Many of these **creatures** live **in the wild**, which means they live in nature and not with people, e.g. tigers. You can see many of them in a **zoo**. A **bee**, a **butterfly** and a **mosquito** are all **insects**: small creatures with six legs and usually wings.

1 Write the names of these creatures in order from big to small.

bear | butterfly | eagle | camel ✓ | bee | leopard | mosquito

big ▶ camel .... small

2 *Yes* or *No*?

▶ Can lions and tigers swim? Yes
1 Do leopards have spots? .....
2 Do bulls have feathers? .....
3 Do eagles have feathers? .....
4 Can mosquitos make you ill? .....
5 Do bears have fur? .....
6 Do camels have wings? .....
7 Do tigers have a tail? .....
8 Do wolves have fur? .....
9 Do butterflies have wings? .....
10 Do spiders fly? .....
11 Do some butterflies have spots? .....

3 Complete the sentences.

▶ Bees ..... make honey, don't they?
1 They say ..... can go for months without drinking.
2 There are a lot of ..... in the zoo: animals, insects and fish.
3 You can see lots of animals in the ..... in parts of Africa.
4 Did you see any tigers when you went to the ..... ?
5 A spider has eight legs (not six), so it's not an ..... .
6 The bird had a problem with one of its ..... and it couldn't fly.
7 I love the ..... on tigers – they're beautiful.
8 Thick ..... keeps bears warm in cold winters.

4 ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY **Write your answers, or ask another student.**

In your country, which of the creatures at the top of the page do people kill, and why?

▶ People kill spiders because they don't want them in their homes, or because they're afraid of them.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Unusual facts about animals

Snakes

There are about 2,600 different kinds of snake. About 400 are **poisonous**, but many are **harmless**. In size, they **vary** enormously: the smallest are 12 centimetres long, the biggest are **up to** ten metres and **weigh** 250 kilos. Snakes don't need energy from food (the sun heats their bodies), so they can **survive** for months without eating.

Sharks

The **average lifespan** of a shark is about 25 years but some can live to be 100. They are unusual in that they have no **bones** in their body, and large sharks may have up to 4,000 teeth. They are very dangerous when they **hunt**, but only a few **attack** humans: more people die from bee **stings** than from shark attacks.

GLOSSARY

poisonous	If an animal or insect is **poisonous,** it produces a dangerous substance (**poison**) that can kill or harm you.
harmless	not causing damage, injury or illness OPP **harmful; harm** *n, v*
vary	(of a group of similar things) be different from each other
up to	used when saying the most an amount can be
weigh	have a certain **weight** *n*, which is how heavy sth is
survive	continue to live in a difficult situation **survival** *n*
average	normal or typical
lifespan	the time that sth is likely to live (For people, we say **life expectancy**.)
bone	
hunt	go after sth, usually an animal, to catch and kill it
attack	try to hurt sb/sth by using physical force **attack** *n*
sting	a sudden pain caused by poison sent into the skin **sting** *v* Bees **sting,** but mosquitos and snakes **bite**.

5 True, false or both according to the text? Write *T* or *F*. If the sentences are false, correct them.

▶ The average lifespan of a snake is 25 years. F – The average lifespan of a shark is 25 years.

1 Most snakes are poisonous. .....
2 Most sharks are harmless to humans. .....
3 Snakes can survive without the sun's heat. .....
4 Snakes can weigh up to 250 kilos. .....
5 Sharks have 400 bones in their body. .....
6 Sharks sting when they attack. .....

6 Answer the questions. Do you know ...?

▶ if *attack* is a noun, a verb, or both? both
1 the noun from the verb *survive*? .....
2 the time that people are likely to live? Life .....
3 the noun from the verb *weigh*? .....
4 the adjective from *poison*? .....
5 the two adjectives from the noun *harm*? ....
6 the verb from the noun *sting*? .....

7 Complete the words in these animal facts.

▶ The average lifespan of most bees is 30-35 days.
1 Some snakes can s..... for almost a year without food.
2 Nobody knows the a..... lifespan of a snake, but in zoos they can reach 30.
3 People h..... sharks for their meat and skin, but also for sport.
4 Over 100 people a year die from a bee s..... .
5 Snakes can grow u..... to nine metres long.
6 The size of sharks can v..... from the size of your hand to the size of a bus.
7 P..... from some snakes can kill you.
8 Some snakes can w..... as much as 250 kilos.

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS