A strange animal

The tarsier is a small animal. It grows to about 12 centimetres in length, and has a tail that can be 20 centimetres long. The animal weighs only about 120 grams. It looks for food at night, eating mainly small lizards and insects. During the day, it sleeps high in a tall tree, safe from its enemies. The tarsier looks very strange. It has big brown eyes which stand out on its small face These eyes help it to see in the dark, The little animal is grey colour. Its feet are almost as long as its body. It can jump almost 3 metres from one tree to another. It uses its long fingers, which look like a human being's, to grasp branches when it lands.

The tarsier lives only in Indonesia and the Philippines. The local people call it hantu, which means 'ghost'. Perhaps they are afraid when they see only its huge eyes in the dark. What a strange animal!

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