

# 18 ) Animals, insects and birds

## A Animals, insects and birds



bull



tiger



camel



bear



spots

leopard



wolf



crocodile



wing

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.



TEST YOURSELF

## 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

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

#### 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.



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