

## Maths, Mammals & More! WebQuest

### Introduction

Wild animals, fish and insects keep biodiversity in check. They are the balance for our overpopulated world. Unfortunately, us humans, sometimes, take over the planet in a destructive fashion and only with the help of wild animals' planet earth can be maintained. The koala is being considered for official listing as endangered after the summer's bushfire disaster. Dinosaurs, for instance, are extinct animals. Extinct means that they no longer exist. Each animal that becomes extinct, triggers another animal to become extinct too and this hinders a healthy ecosystem. In turn, humans depend on healthy ecosystem to purify the environment.

### The task

Explore interesting facts about some of the animals by browsing the links listed in the next section (the process). Following that, you are invited to engage in mathematical concepts related to animals. The mathematical concepts included in this quest are related to the number system, numerical calculations, space, shape and measures.

## The process

Learn interesting facts about animals

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/aardvark/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/vampire-bat/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/cheetah/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/beaver/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/red-panda/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/koala/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/yellow-footed-rock-wallaby/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/brown-bear/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>

<https://www.inches-to-cm.com/>

<https://www.rapidtables.com/convert/length/feet-to-cm.html>

## Questions

Answer each question. You may work alone or in groups.

### Bats

1. a) How **many** different species of bats exist?  
  
b) How **many** tiny bugs can a bat eat in **one night**?

### Aardvark

1. a) An *aardvark* has long sticky tongues which can be up to \_\_\_\_\_ cm long.  
  
b) **Convert** the length to **metres**.  
  
c) Identify an object in real life which is about **double the size** of a tongue of an *aardvark*.
2. For how many **days** do baby *Aardvarks* stay in the burrow before they begin to forage (search for food)?

### Cheetah

1. a) How long, in **minutes**, does a cheetah need, to take its breath back and eat after chasing its prey?  
  
b) A baby cheetah that was born in 2000 is it still alive. Can this be **True**? **Explain why.**

### Beavers

1. a) How long, in **minutes**, can beavers swim underwater?  
  
b) What **fraction of an hour** is it?

### Baby Koala

1. a) A baby koala stays in its mother's pouch from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**True or False? Why?**

- b) For how long, in **days**, does a koala nurse?

### Red Pandas

1. Red pandas can rotate their ankles for \_\_\_\_\_ degrees and this is equal to \_\_\_\_\_ **right angles**.

### Yellow-footed Rock

1. How far can a yellow-footed rock wallaby jump?  
Give the answer in **cm**.
  
2. Write a possible **number** for the population of yellow-footed rock wallaby. Write the number in **words**.

### Brown Bears

1. a) Brown bears meal is super gross.  
What do they eat? Write the answer in capital letters.  
  
b) How many letters from the answer in 1 a) have **2 lines of symmetry**?
  
2. Does a brown bear hibernate **for the whole winter season, for less than the winter season or for longer than the winter season?**

All the animals mentioned in this WebQuest are **mammals**.

What do you understand by the word **mammals**?

## Activities

1. Choose any 5 animals of your choice. Write the size of each animal. List the animals in order from the **smallest to the largest**.

<b>Animal</b>					
<b>Size</b>					

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2. Choose any 5 prehistoric animals. Find out when they were discovered. Write them in order starting with the animal that was discovered **most recent**.

Animal					
Discovery date					

## Resources

- Computer, laptop or tablet.
- Internet
- Writing material

## Evaluation

1. Share your answers and activities with a family member or a classmate.
2. Think of a different mathematical question related to the topic (animals) which you may ask to your classmates.
3. Work out <https://nrich.maths.org/64>.
4. Work out <https://nrich.maths.org/5934>.

**The End**