

Rhino our Giant African Snail

Rhino is out of hibernation and enjoying the spring time now!



Once he had been awake for long enough to have enough to eat, he took a trip out into the garden to admire the tulips.

After a short bask in the sun, Rhino came in for a refreshing shower. He loves to stretch his neck up and put his face in the water and then stretch right out to get nice and clean!



Your topic task today is to investigate Giant African Snails and to present the information you find however you like!

There are lots of options. You could make a poster or a booklet, make a presentation and film it, or simply write a non-fiction text.

Think of three questions that you would like to know about Giant African Snails and add the answers to your final piece. Here are interesting questions to help you with your research.

What is the natural habitat of a Giant African Snail?

What do they eat?

Do African Snails make good pets?

What is the bottom part of the snail called?

Can snails see?

How do snails breathe?

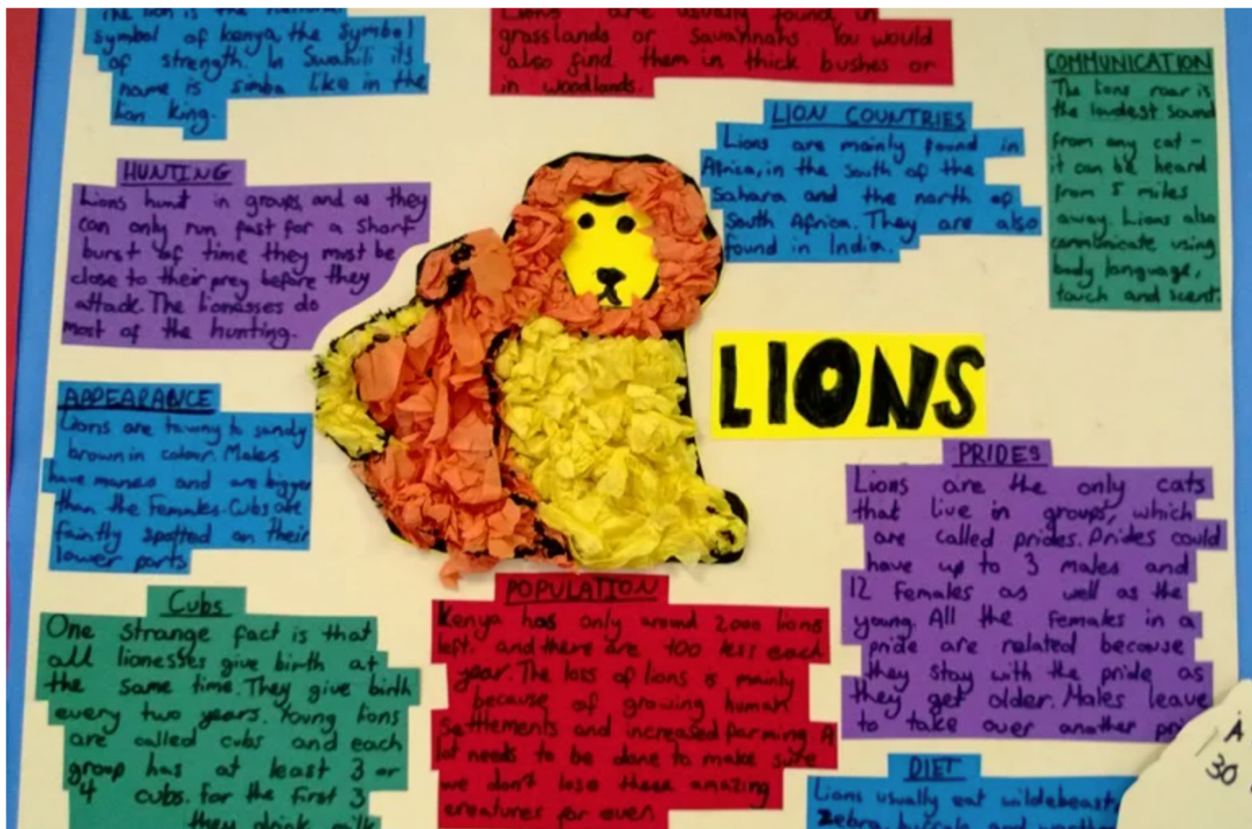
Is a snail a mammal? How do you know?

How big do African snails grow?

Here are some ideas of what to research. You could use them as your subtitles if you like.

- Natural Habitat
- Diet
- Appearance and how their body works.
- Snails as pets
- Did you know?

Here are some ideas of how you could present your information.



Characteristics

Climate: cold and dry

Average Temperature: 10-30 degrees

Average Precipitation Amounts: 18-10 in. at least per year

Seasons:

Summer: lasts 4-10 weeks and doesn't get any warmer than 45-50°F

Autumn: comes during the fall

Water: cools and warms and the sun bakes it, leaving it in the warmest during the day

Location: The tundra region is located on top of the world near the north pole

Countries: Canada, Greenland, Russia, Alaska

Latitude: 55°-75°N

Fun Fact: It's 5 miles long and covers about 30% of earth's surface.

Animal Life

Snowy Owl: has feathers from blue to white. It is the only owl that stays active during the day.

Arctic Fox: long thick fur that is white for winter and turns to brown in the summer and when they don't change it's a mix of brown and white.

Arctic Weasel: has a thick, smooth coat of fur and an instinct to dig for food. They have a long tail that is used to keep their body warm.

Caribou: Caribou have antlers that grow in the summer and shed in the winter. They are used for defense and to dig for food.

Harp Seal: has babies that have white coats to help them blend in with the ice. They are born with a hole in their back that allows them to breathe when they are in the water.

Threats

1) The melting of permafrost is causing the ground to sink, which is causing the landscape and species to change.

2) The rising sea levels are causing the land to sink, which is causing the landscape and species to change.

3) Wind and roads that are built on the permafrost can cause it to melt.

4) Invasive species push aside native vegetation and reduce the maximum amount of plant cover.

Amazing Adaptations

Adaptations are special features that make an animal survive in its environment. Some of the adaptations of penguins are:

- Big eyes for seeing underwater.
- Streamlined bodies for paddling.
- Webbed feet for swimming.
- Barbs on tongue to catch fish.

Penguins Tall and Small

Can you believe that penguins are 17 different kinds of penguins? The smallest penguin is called a Fairy Tern and the largest is called an Emperor Penguin. The Emperor Penguin can stand on its feet for 14 hours a day. It can also swim for 14 hours a day.

Once a penguin grows to an adult, it will become part of a colony. A colony is a group of penguins, sometimes even millions. A penguin colony works together by huddling in a large pack to stay warm.

When you think about what makes a bird so extraordinary, you usually think about the fact that it can soar in the sky like a plane. However, penguins "fly" in the water, not the air. This means that the feathers of a penguin are unlike the feathers of a Robin, duck, hawk or any other bird you might see outside of your window. A penguin's feathers must keep it dry and warm. This, the outside feathers are so oily to keep out the water. The inside feathers are soft for warmth.

important for the penguin.

A Penguin's Life Cycle

Do you know that penguins lay only 2 eggs at a time? Well, it's true. Usually, only 1 of the eggs actually hatches.

Then, it's time for the mom and dad to keep the baby penguin, called a chick, warm and fed. When the parents go out to find food, it's a dangerous time for the chick. Seals, eagles, foxes, and other predators hunt on penguins. Be on the lookout penguin chick!

All about Penguins

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Glossary

Adaptations: special physical features that help an animal survive in its specific habitat.

Barbs: sharp points.

Who's Hungry?

Since penguins live near the ocean, it makes sense that their diet is seafood. Penguins eat fish, fish, and more fish. Did I mention fish? That's pretty much all the food variety you're going to get as a penguin.

Do you know what bird can filter salt out of ocean water to make it fresh, drinkable water? It's a penguin! This is what penguins do to themselves to drink. Penguins are amazing animals!

Where Penguins Live

Do you know where penguins live? You may have seen penguins at the zoo, but they live in the wild. They live on islands, coastlines, and icebergs between the equator and the South Pole.

Penguins must live in water. Also, they live on land.

Penguins can live in different parts of the world, but their habitats are all of the same. Water!

Pandas

Pandas are the national animal of China. They are related to bears and have black eye patches.

What do pandas look like?

There are two different types of panda. The giant panda is the most well known but the red panda also lives in the mountains in China. The red panda has a long tail and is the same size as a cat. The giant panda is much bigger and has black and white fur. Both the red and giant pandas are have long, sharp claws that they use to climb trees and strip bamboo.



What do pandas eat?

Pandas are very fussy eaters. Most pandas only eat bamboo, a type of grass. A giant panda will eat half their own weight in bamboo every day.



A giant panda eating bamboo.

What do pandas do?

Pandas spend most of their time eating or sleeping. Young pandas like to play with each other and can be very naughty

Did you know?

Pandas are endangered and if they are not looked after could become extinct.