

My first picture encyclopedia

NATURE



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Created and produced by Nicholas Harris, Sarah Hartley,
Katie Sexton, Ruth Symons and Erica Williams,
Orpheus Books Ltd.

Illustrated by John Davis, Robin Carter
(Wildlife Art) and Betti Ferrero

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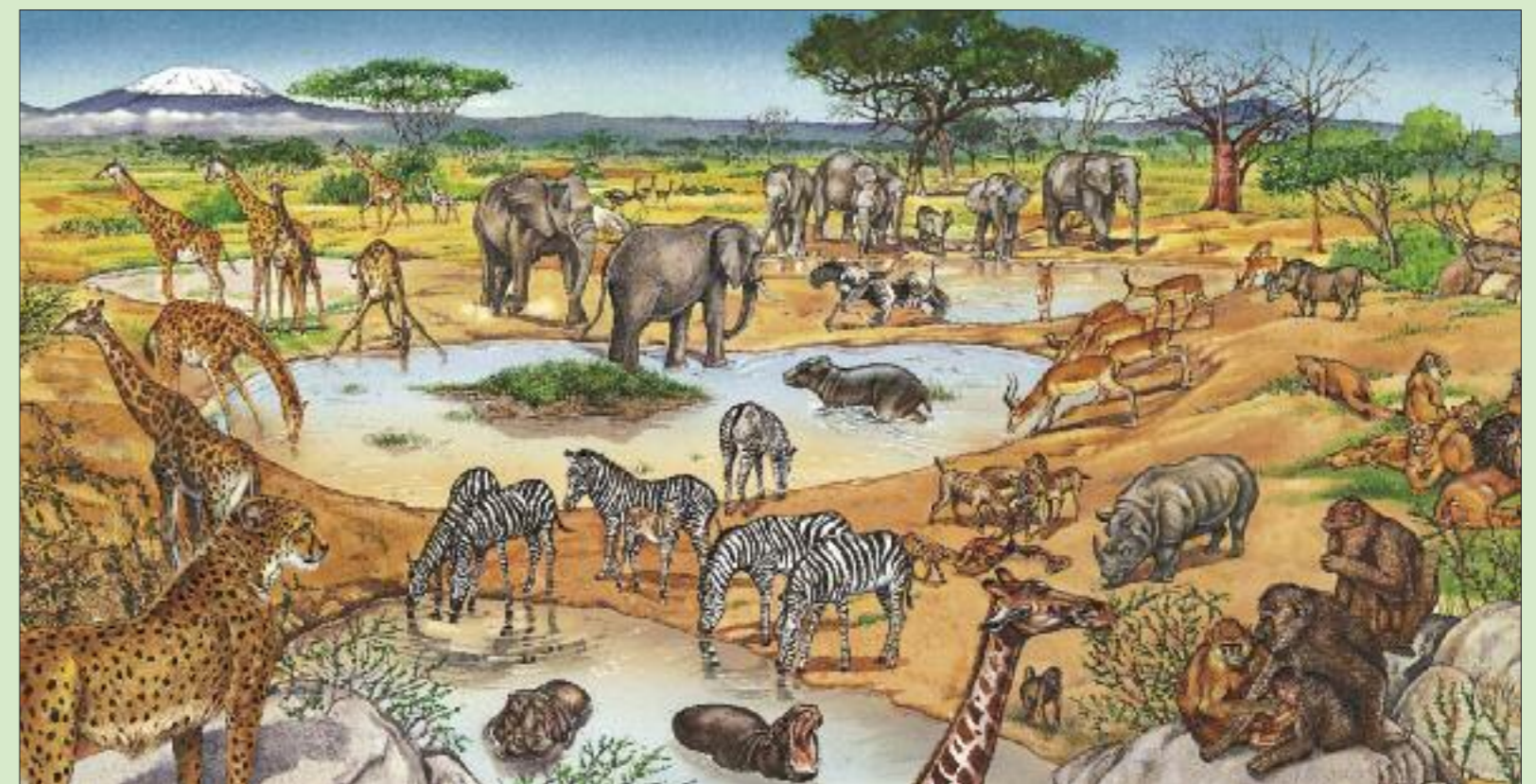
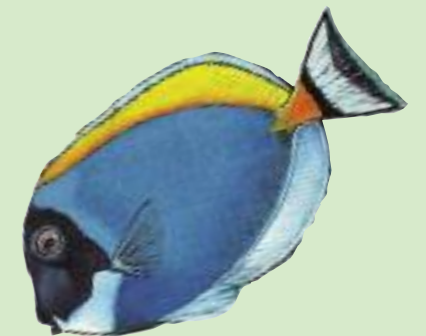
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Introduction



THIS BOOK will tell you all about the world of wildlife. Find out which animals live in the desert, see how creatures survive in icy polar seas or watch the seasons change in the countryside.

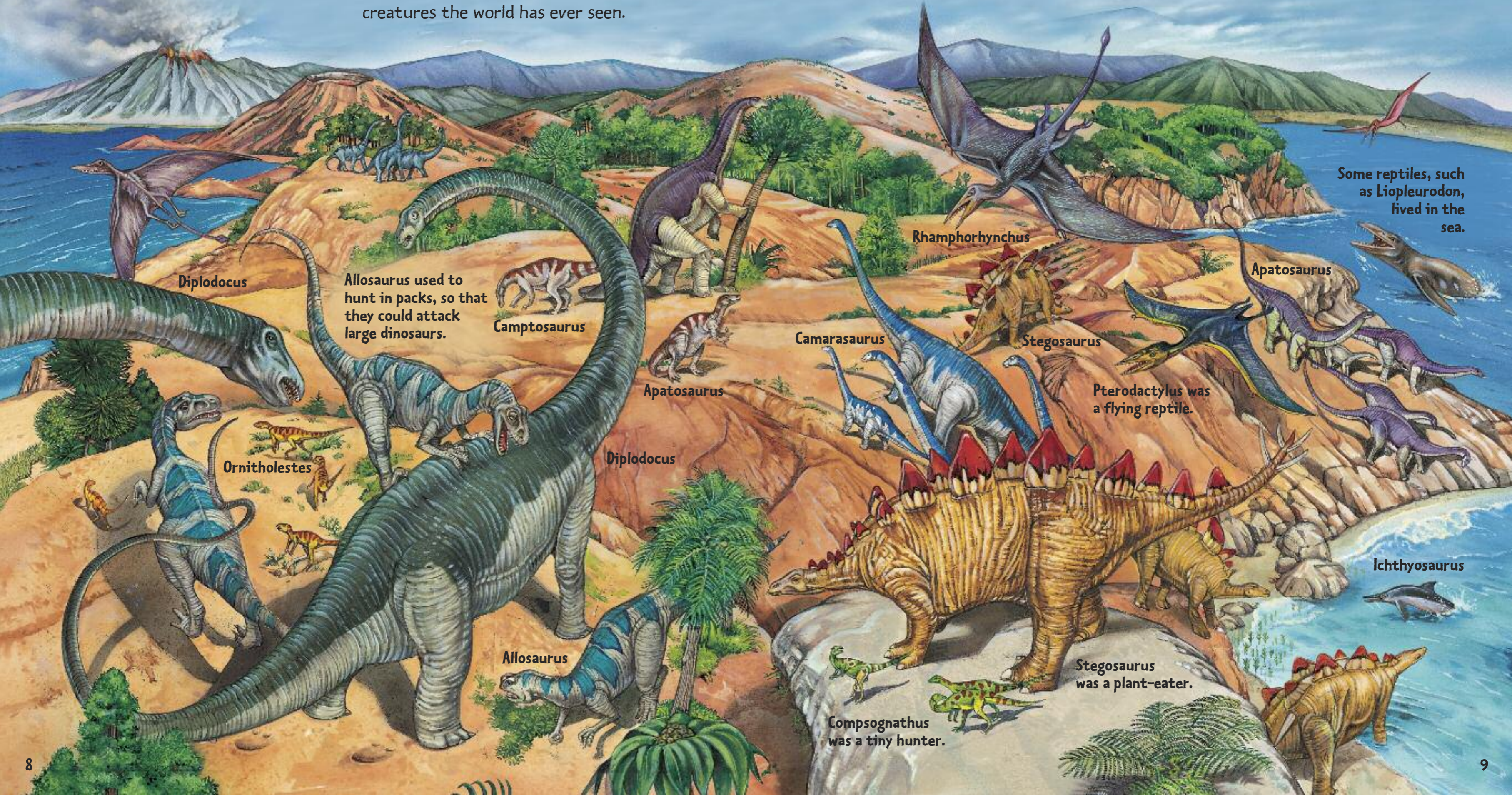
Each double page has a big, colourful illustration with lots of things to look at. If you want to find out more, turn to the back of the book where you will discover many interesting facts in the glossary!



Dinosaurs

MANY MILLIONS of years ago, dinosaurs roamed the Earth. Some of these reptiles were the largest and fiercest creatures the world has ever seen.

Diplodocus was a huge dinosaur with a very long neck. It was able to eat leaves from the tops of the tallest trees. Other dinosaurs, such as Compsognathus, were tiny.



Some reptiles, such as Liopleurodon, lived in the sea.

Diplodocus

Allosaurus used to hunt in packs, so that they could attack large dinosaurs.

Camptosaurus

Rhamphorhynchus

Apatosaurus

Camarasaurus

Stegosaurus

Pterodactylus was a flying reptile.

Apatosaurus

Ornitholestes

Diplodocus

Ichthyosaurus

Allosaurus

Stegosaurus was a plant-eater.

Compsognathus was a tiny hunter.

Spring

Baby birds are born in the spring. They stay in a nest until they can fly.



Lambs

Fox cubs

Squirrels

Ducklings

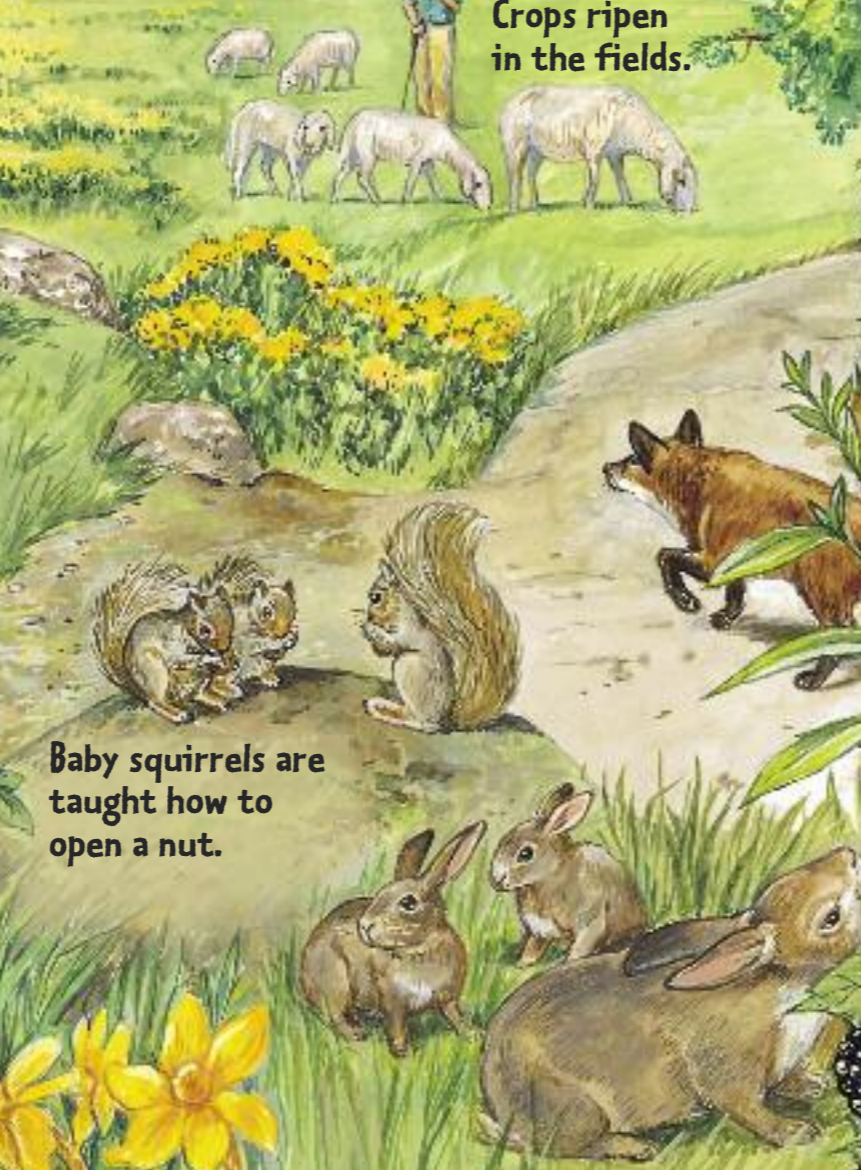
Blossom

Rabbits

Summer

Summer is the warmest season of the year.

Crops ripen in the fields.



Baby squirrels are taught how to open a nut.

Autumn

In autumn, leaves change colour and fall from the trees.

Gathering hay

Toadstools

Food store



Winter

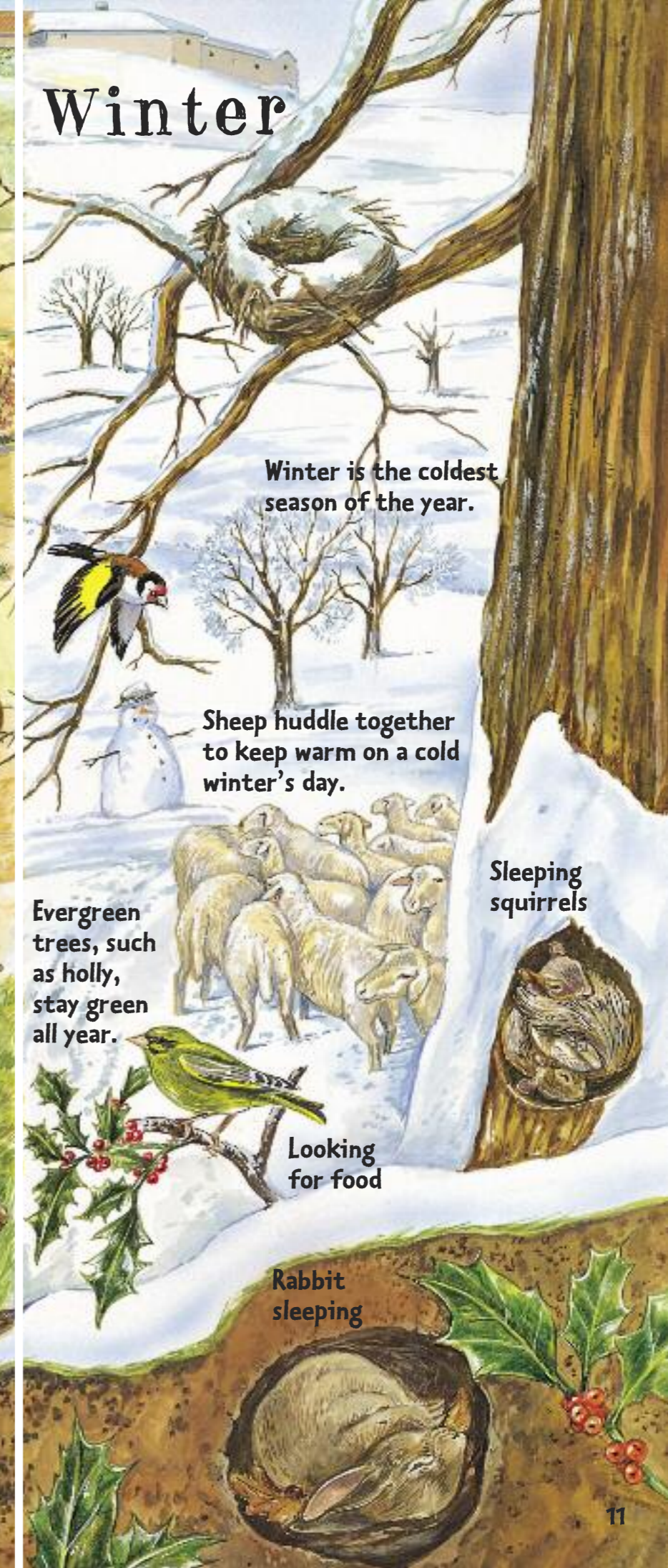
Winter is the coldest season of the year.

Sheep huddle together to keep warm on a cold winter's day.

Evergreen trees, such as holly, stay green all year.

Looking for food

Rabbit sleeping



The Arctic

THE REGION around the North Pole is called the Arctic. Along with Antarctica, it is the coldest place on Earth. Polar bears have very thick fur. This keeps them warm when they swim in the icy Arctic waters, hunting for seals.



Arctic foxes

Polar bears

Arctic hares

Walrus

Seals

Killer whales swim in Arctic seas.

Gull

Killer whale

Narwhal

Beluga whale

Antarctica

THE SOUTH POLE lies in Antarctica. Many animals living in the polar regions have a thick layer of fat, called blubber. This protects them from the cold. Penguins huddle together in groups to keep warm.



A humpback whale leaps out of the water.

Tern

Elephant seals

Albatross

Emperor penguins

Skuas

Adélie penguin nest

Woodland

WOODLANDS are home to a wide variety of animals. Some of them, such as deer or wild boar, come out only at night, when it is safer. But small mammals must still be wary of owls. Many animals have a brown or grey colouring that blends in with the colours of the trees. This is called camouflage.

Wood pigeon

Blue tits

Jay

Bats are nocturnal, meaning they only hunt at night.

Magpie

Owls have very good hearing.

Red deer

Bat

Woodcock

Wild boar piglets

Woodpecker

Fallow deer

Weasel

Thrush

Foxes usually live in small family groups and hunt rodents.

Badgers live in burrows called setts.

Squirrel

Hedgehog

Male pheasant

A baby deer is called a fawn.

Wild boar

Female pheasant with her eggs

Squirrels

Rabbits

Hare

Robin

Vole



Rainforest

Iguana

Howler monkey

Cock-of-the-rock bird

Squirrel monkey

Jaguar

Humming-bird

Monk saki

Monkeys swing through the trees using creepers as ropes.

Scarlet macaw

Tapir

Scarlett ibis

There are thousands of types of butterfly in the rainforest.

Poison dart frog

THE RAINFOREST is a very noisy place! High in the treetops howler monkeys roar while macaws squawk loudly. Close to the ground, a jaguar, a big cat, stalks its prey. Rainforests grow where the climate is always hot and wet.

Humming-bird

Jaguar

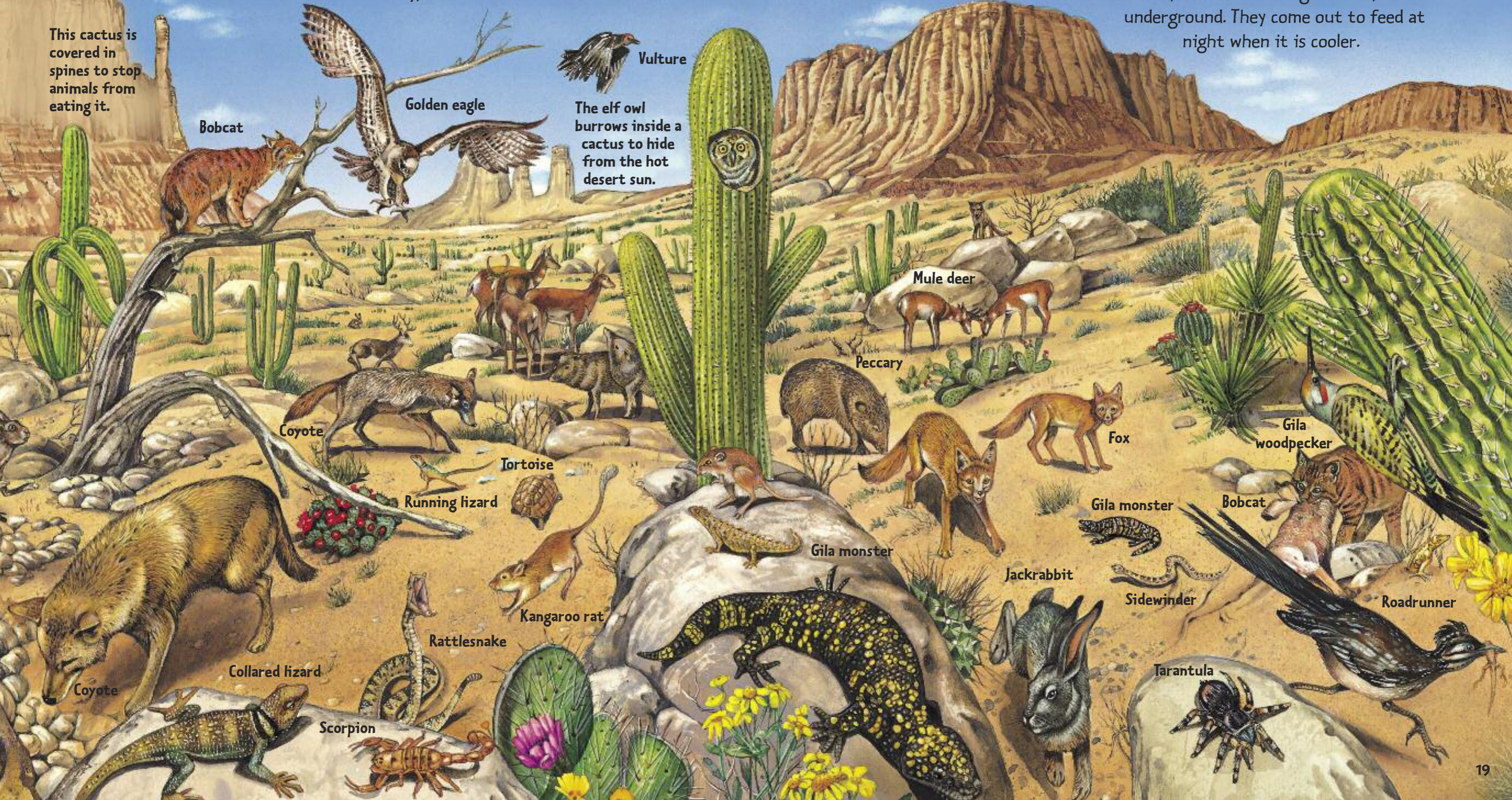
Anaconda

Desert

A **DESERT** is an area of land where it hardly ever rains. Most deserts are hot and barren. Many are rocky, but a few are covered with sand.

Desert animals are all well suited to living in this dry climate. During the heat of the day, many creatures, such as the kangaroo rat, shelter underground. They come out to feed at night when it is cooler.

This cactus is covered in spines to stop animals from eating it.



Bobcat

Golden eagle

Vulture

The elf owl burrows inside a cactus to hide from the hot desert sun.

Mule deer

Peccary

Coyote

Fox

Gila woodpecker

Tortoise

Running lizard

Gila monster

Bobcat

Gila monster

Jackrabbit

Sidewinder

Roadrunner

Kangaroo rat

Rattlesnake

Tarantula

Coyote

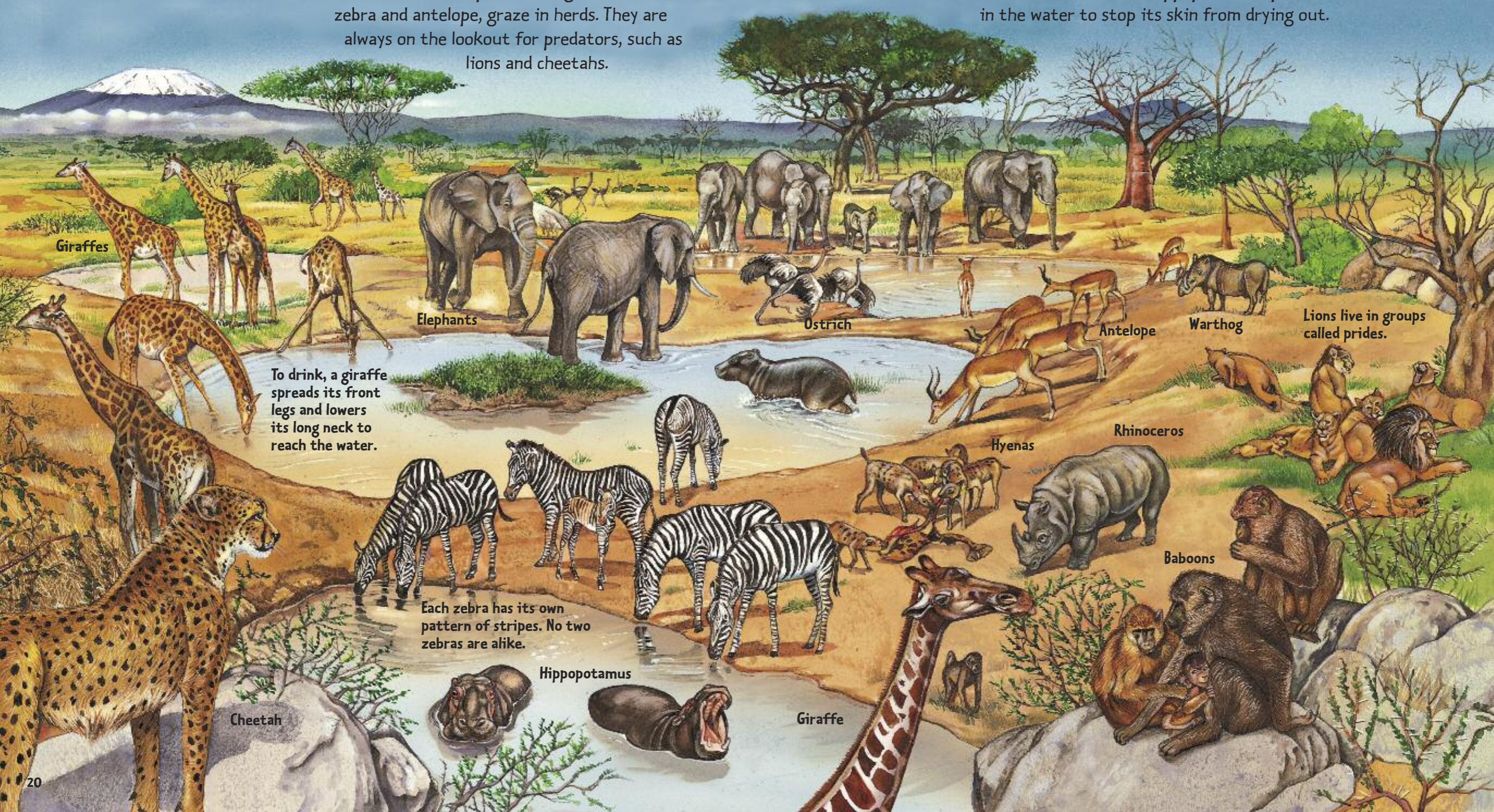
Collared lizard

Scorpion

Savannah

THE DRY GRASSLANDS of Africa are known as the savannah. Here, plant-eating animals, such as zebra and antelope, graze in herds. They are always on the lookout for predators, such as lions and cheetahs.

The savannah is very hot during the day. Most of the animals rest at this time. The hippopotamus spends most of its time in the water to stop its skin from drying out.



Giraffes

Elephants

Ostrich

Antelope

Warthog

Lions live in groups called prides.

To drink, a giraffe spreads its front legs and lowers its long neck to reach the water.

Hyenas

Rhinoceros

Baboons

Each zebra has its own pattern of stripes. No two zebras are alike.

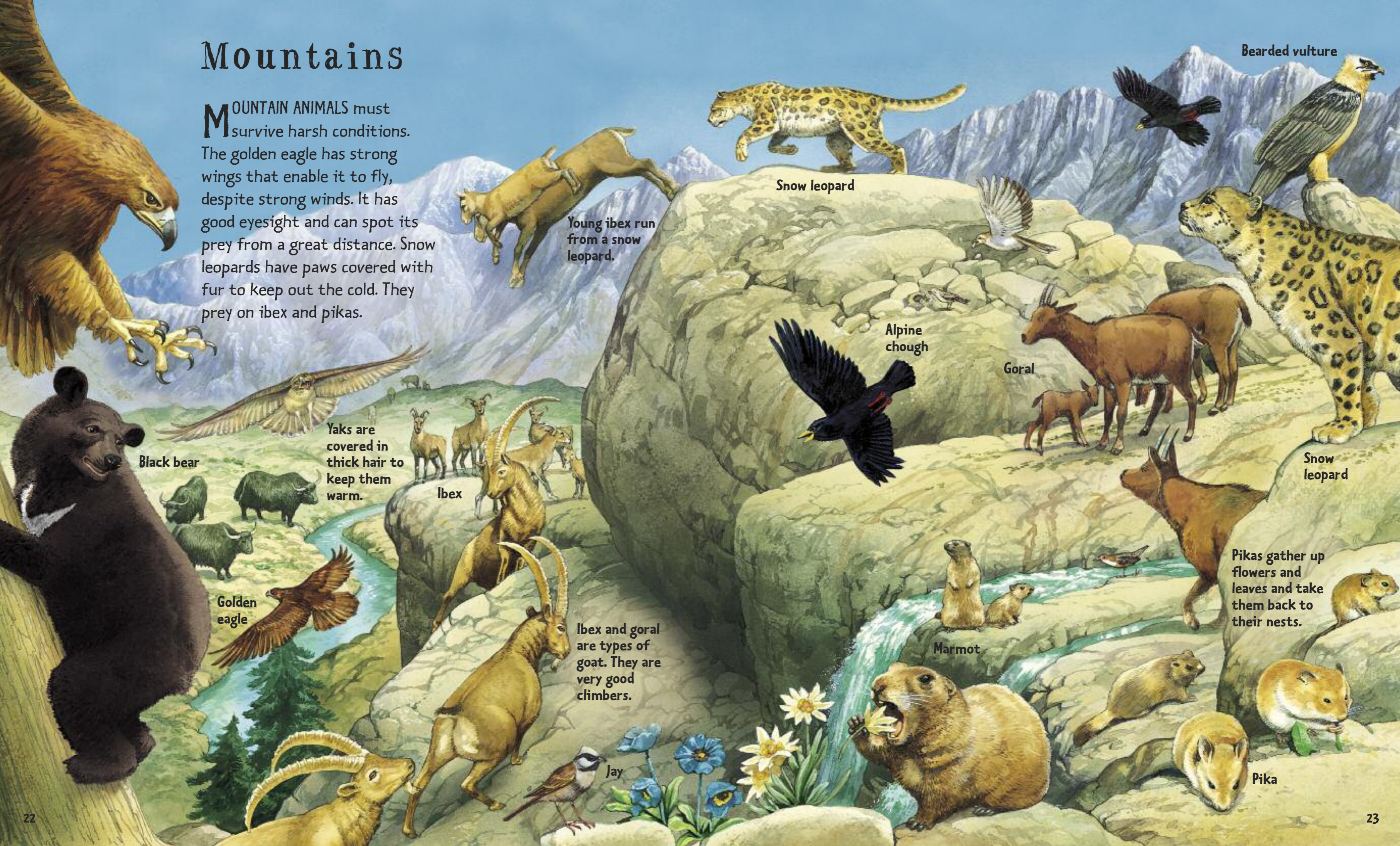
Hippopotamus

Giraffe

Cheetah

Mountains

MOUNTAIN ANIMALS must survive harsh conditions. The golden eagle has strong wings that enable it to fly, despite strong winds. It has good eyesight and can spot its prey from a great distance. Snow leopards have paws covered with fur to keep out the cold. They prey on ibex and pikas.



Bearded vulture

Snow leopard

Young ibex run from a snow leopard.

Alpine chough

Goral

Snow leopard

Pikas gather up flowers and leaves and take them back to their nests.

Marmot

Ibex and goral are types of goat. They are very good climbers.

Ibex

Yaks are covered in thick hair to keep them warm.

Black bear

Golden eagle

Jay

Pika

Coral reef

CORAL IS MADE from the skeletons of tiny animals, called polyps. A large bank of coral is called a reef. Many ocean animals, including fish and octopuses, live here.

The scuba diver carries an air tank on her back. This allows her to breathe underwater while she explores the reef.

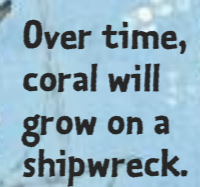
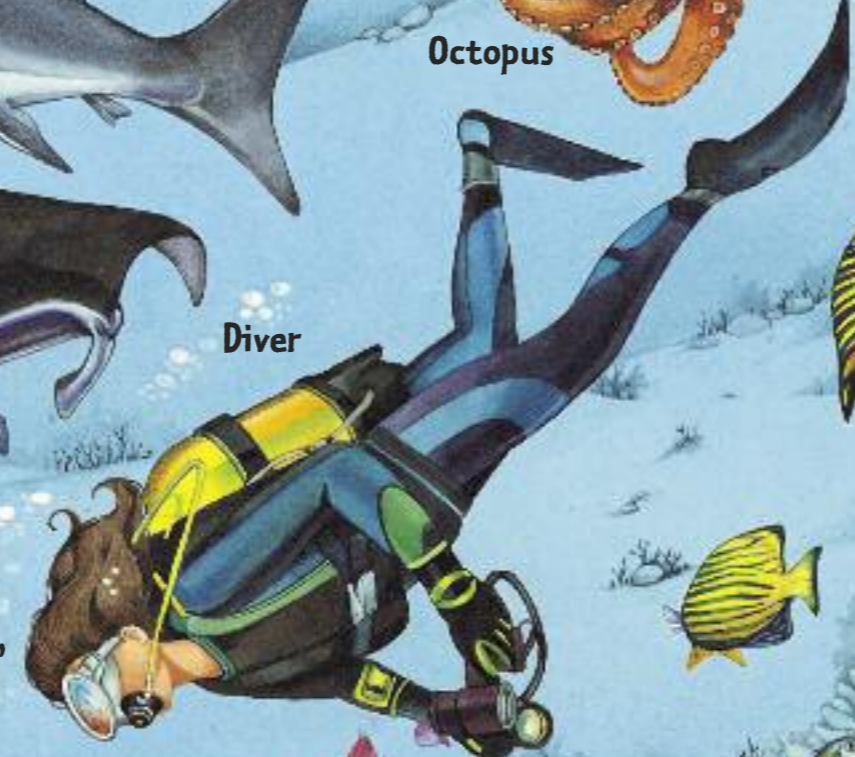
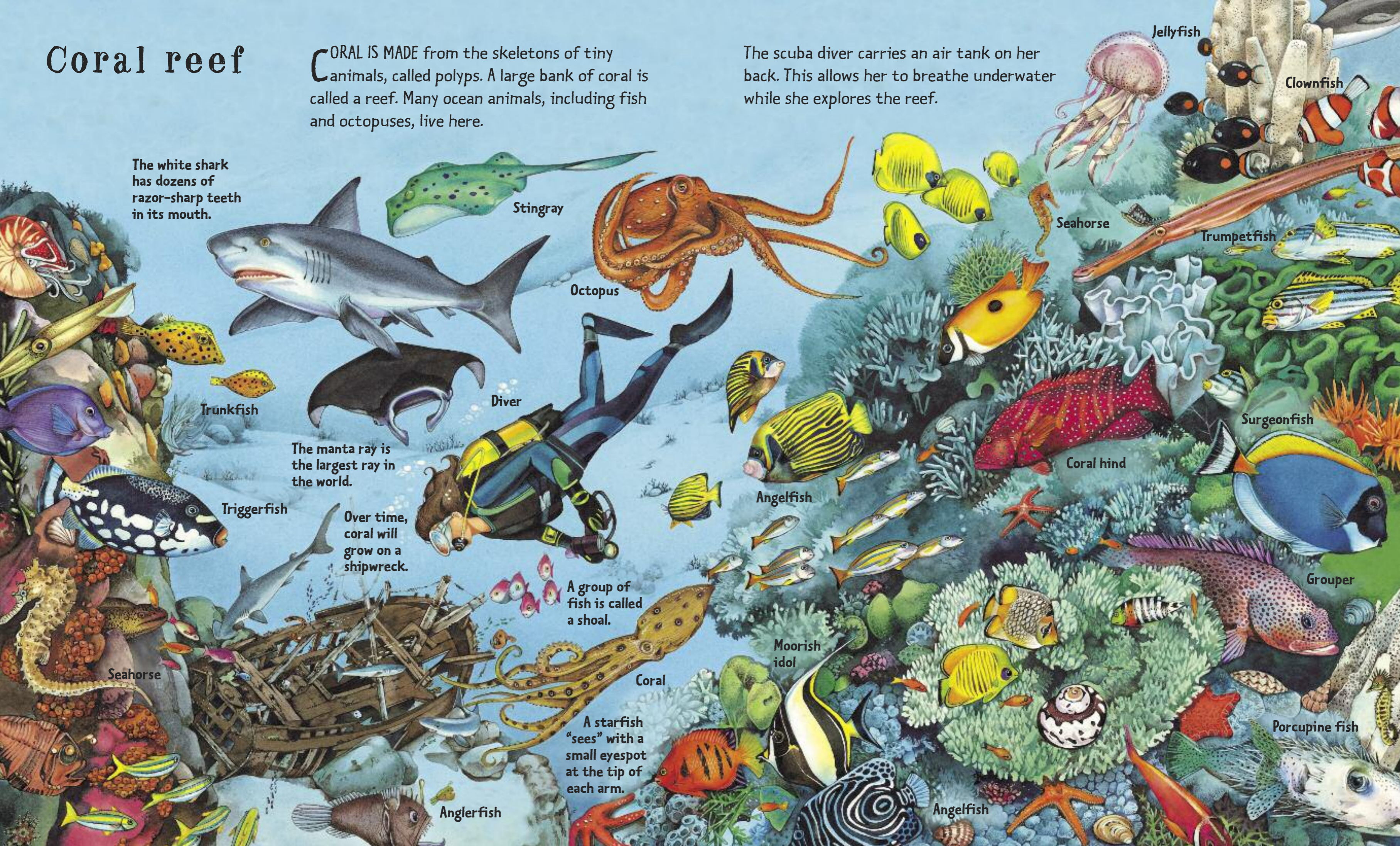
The white shark has dozens of razor-sharp teeth in its mouth.

The manta ray is the largest ray in the world.

Over time, coral will grow on a shipwreck.

A group of fish is called a shoal.

A starfish "sees" with a small eyespot at the tip of each arm.



Underground



Earthworm

Moles have poor eyesight.

Centipede

Spider

Some animals have homes for their young under the ground.

Weasel

Field mouse

Beetle

Beetle larva (young beetle)

Cricket

Ants live in a group called a colony. Worker ants carry food back to the colony.

Mushroom

Bee

Snail

Tree roots

Dormouse hibernating

WE MAY NOT be able to see some of them, but many animals live under the ground. Some nest in burrows. Others, such as moles, dig tunnels in the soil. They search for insects or worms to eat. Spiders prey on ants, beetles and other tiny creatures that live in the soil.

Rabbits live in burrows.

Mice store food for the winter months.

Glossary



Burrow: a hole made in the ground by an animal. Many animals dig burrows to live in and to protect their young. Some animals hibernate in their burrows all winter long.

Cactus a plant that grows in dry places, especially in deserts. It collects water from dew or rain and stores it in its thick stem. It is covered in sharp prickles to stop animals from eating it.

Camouflage: colours and markings that help an animal to hide by blending in with its surroundings. Some animals use camouflage to hide from dangerous predators. Others use camouflage so that they can sneak up on their prey without being seen.



Carnivore: an animal that only eats meat. Animals that eat both plants and meat are called omnivores.

Climate: the typical weather in a particular part of the world. The main climates are polar (freezing), tropical (hot and wet), desert (dry) and temperate (warm in summer and cool in winter).

Colony: a group of one kind of animals living together. Some animals, such as ants, form permanent colonies. Different individuals have different jobs and they all work for the good of the group. Other animals only group together to breed.

Coral: the skeletons of tiny animals called polyps. Coral grows only in clear, warm and shallow water. Coral reefs are made from the skeletons of millions of polyps. Tiny plants called algae grow on the coral. These give the coral their bright colours.



Crops: plants that are grown by a farmer. The most common crops are cereals, such as wheat, barley, rice and corn.

Graze: to eat grass. Animals such as cows, deer, sheep and rabbits all graze.



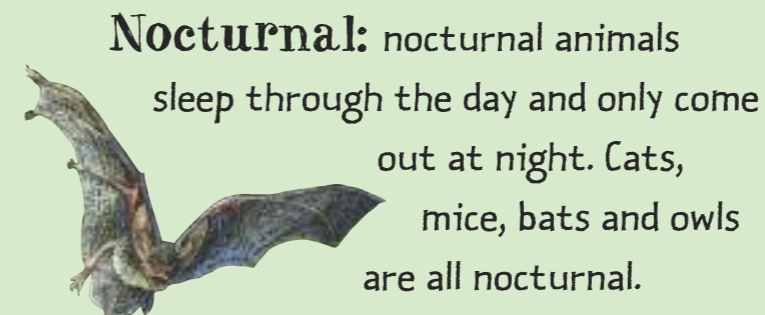
Habitat: the type of surroundings in which a plant or animal lives.

Herbivore: an animal that only eats plants.

Hibernation: the deep sleep that some animals go into over the winter. Many animals hibernate as a way of surviving when food is scarce and conditions are freezing. When an animal hibernates, its breathing and its heartbeat slow down as a way of saving energy. Hibernation may last for days or even months.

Insect: a tiny animal with six legs. The body of an insect is divided into three parts.

Mammal: a type of animal. Mammals give birth to their young and feed them with milk. Most mammals have four limbs and a covering of hair or fur. Some mammals, such as whales, live in the sea.



Nocturnal: nocturnal animals sleep through the day and only come out at night. Cats, mice, bats and owls are all nocturnal.

Predator: an animal that hunts and kills other animals for food.

Prey: animals that are hunted and eaten by other animals.

Rainforest: a hot and steamy forest. Rainforests are home to almost two-thirds of all plants and animals found on the Earth. Some rainforests receive more than five metres of rain each year.



Reptile: a type of animal that includes snakes, turtles, crocodiles and lizards. Reptiles have dry, scaly skin.

Rodent: a type of animal that includes mice, rats and squirrels. Rodents are usually small animals with short legs and a tail. They mainly eat nuts, fruits and seeds.

Season: a time of the year. In most parts of the world there are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. In tropical areas there are only two seasons: the wet season and the dry season.

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