

Unusual Animals

Earth hosts approximately 8.7 million animal species. How many of these unusual animals can you identify? Everyday names, not scientific ones.

			
Shoebill Stork	Aardvark	Colugos	Dugong
			
Hagfish	Hammer-headed bat	Blobfish	Frigatebird
			
Pangolin, also called a scaly anteater	Pink river dolphin	Okapi, also known as forest giraffe and zebra giraffe	Naked Mole-Rat, also known as the sand puppy
			
Fossa	Gerenuk, also known as the giraffe gazelle	Duck-billed platypus	Dumbo Octopus
			
Pink fairy armadillo	Star-nosed mole	Chinese giant salamander	Stick Insect

Shoebill storks still exist, though they are rare and classified as vulnerable.

The aardvark is a medium-sized, burrowing, nocturnal mammal native to Africa.

Colugos, flying lemurs, or cobegos, are arboreal gliding primatomorphs that are native to Southeast Asia.

The dugong (/ˈd(j)uːɡɒŋ/; Dugong dugon) is a marine mammal.

Hagfish are eel-shaped jawless fish (occasionally called slime eels).

The hammer-headed bat is the largest bat in continental Africa, with wingspans approaching 1 m (3.3 ft).

Blobfish look almost unrecognisable underwater: These tadpole-shaped fish have bulbous heads, large jaws, tapered tails, and feathery pectoral fins.

Frigatebirds are a family of seabirds called Fregatidae, found across all tropical and subtropical oceans.

Pangolins are unique, solitary mammals covered in tough, overlapping scales made of keratin—the same material as human fingernails.

The Amazon river dolphin (*Inia geoffrensis*), also known as the boto, bufeo or pink river dolphin.

The okapi is the giraffe's only living relative.

The naked mole-rat (*Heterocephalus glaber*), also known as the sand puppy, is a burrowing rodent native to the arid grasslands of East Africa, including parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia.

The fossa is the largest mammalian carnivore on Madagascar and has been compared to a small cougar.

The Gerenuk (*Litocranius walleri*), often called the giraffe gazelle, is a slender, long-necked antelope native to the arid bushlands of East Africa.

The platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*), sometimes called the duck-billed platypus, is a semiaquatic, egg-laying mammal endemic to eastern Australia.

With fins resembling the ears of Disney's Dumbo, the dumbo octopus is a genus of deep-sea umbrella octopus.

The pink fairy armadillo (*Chlamyphorus truncatus*) is the smallest species of armadillo.

The star-nosed mole (*Condylura cristata*) is a small, semiaquatic mole found in moist, low-elevation areas in northeastern North America.

The Chinese giant salamander (*Andrias davidianus*) is the largest salamander and the largest amphibian in the world.

The Phasmatodea are an order of insects whose members are variously known as stick insects, stick bugs, walkingsticks, stick animals, or bug sticks.