

# EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS

Sarah Sweeney



**REDHOUSE**

To Mavi,  
Some new animals for you to discover.  
S. S.

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Discovering the World, Extraordinary Animals

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## BEFORE YOU READ

1. What kinds of wild animals live near you?  
Do you ever look at them closely or try to  
find out more information about them?

2. There are lots of strange animals in the  
world. Have you ever seen  
any strange animals that  
are rare and hard to find?



**DON'T FORGET:** There is a glossary on the last  
pages of this book where you can look up the  
meanings of the words you don't know.

# INTRODUCTION

Do you ever watch movies that take place on other planets? In those movies, the people and animals living on those planets are aliens and usually very strange to us. Sometimes those creatures in movies are covered in shells, or have extra arms and legs. Sometimes they look similar to animals that we have on Earth but one part of them is not normal, so they look extraordinary. Sometimes the cutest creatures in these movies turn out to be the most dangerous.

Did you know you don't have to go to other planets to see bizarre and unusual creatures?

Here, on Earth, there are many animals, reptiles, and fish that you've probably never heard of, and probably could never imagine in your wildest dreams.

We've gathered some of the most extraordinary creatures that share this planet with you. Most of them are endangered, which means that there are not many of them left living in the wild. Humans have had too much of an impact on their lives, through hunting and cutting down trees. Hopefully, we will find a way to save these creatures for the future.

## PANGOLIN



One of the most hunted and sold animals in the world is the pangolin. The pangolin is a strange animal that lives in parts of Asia and Africa. Its name means “something that rolls up” in the Malay language, which is fitting because it can roll itself up into a ball. By doing this, the pangolin is able to protect itself from other animals, like lions, tigers, and leopards, who might want to hurt it, but at the same time, it makes it much easier for hunters to just pick it up and take it. The pangolin is hunted by humans because many