

# ALPHABET ZOO FACTSHEET

storytime™

Letter  
**C**  
Animals

## COCKATOO



1. A **cockatoo** is a type of parrot. There are 44 different kinds of cockatoo.
2. You can recognise a **cockatoo** by its feathered crest and curved beak.
3. **Cockatoos** raise their crests when they feel excited, surprised or agitated.
4. They live mainly in Australia and island countries in that part of the world.
5. Clever **cockatoos** trim down twigs to make drumsticks. They bang them against hollow trees to let everyone know they're there!

WOW!

Some cockatoos kept in captivity have lived for over 100 years!

1. **Coatis** live in South, Central and North America. They are part of the raccoon family.
2. They have long tails to help them balance. They hold it upright to let other coatis know where they are.
3. They sleep in nests in the branches of trees.
4. They eat fruit, nuts, eggs, small rodents and reptiles. They'll even eat tarantulas.
5. They can rotate their ankles 180°, which is how they walk down tree trunks headfirst!

## COATI



FACT!

There are coatis living wild in Cumbria in the north of England. They escaped from captivity many years ago.

## CAPYBARA



1. The **capybara** is the world's largest rodent and can grow to up 130cm (51 inches) long.
2. They live in South America in forests and grasslands, near to water.
3. They have webbed feet and love swimming. They'll even nap in the water!
4. They eat mainly grass, but enjoy fruit and grains too.
5. They're friendly animals and they live in big groups of up to a hundred.

COOL!

**They can hold their breath and stay under water for up to five minutes.**

1. The **chameleon** is part of the iguana family.
2. They don't change colour to match their surroundings, they change it to show their mood or because the light, temperature or weather has changed.
3. They live in trees and bushes in Africa, Western Europe and Asia, and they eat insects and birds.
4. The Labord's chameleon, from Madagascar, has the shortest life span of any vertebrate. It lives for only four or five months!
5. The smallest **chameleon** – the leaf chameleon – can fit on the tip of your finger. It's only 16 millimetres (0.5 inches) long!

## CHAMELEON



AMAZING!

**Chameleons carry on growing all their lives, and shed skin as they grow out of it.**

CAMEL

1. There are two types of **camel**. The dromedary, which lives in North Africa and the Middle East, has one hump and the Bactrian, which lives in Asia, has two humps.
2. **Camels** don't store water in their humps, they store fat. It helps them to survive for up to six months when food is in short supply.
3. When a **camel's** hump is empty, it flops to one side!
4. They are known as the 'ships of the desert', as they can carry so much weight on their backs.
5. **Camels** can close their nostrils to stop sand getting in!



AWESOME!

A thirsty camel can drink up to 135 litres (237 pints) of water in one go!

Can you think of another **letter C** animal? Draw it here.

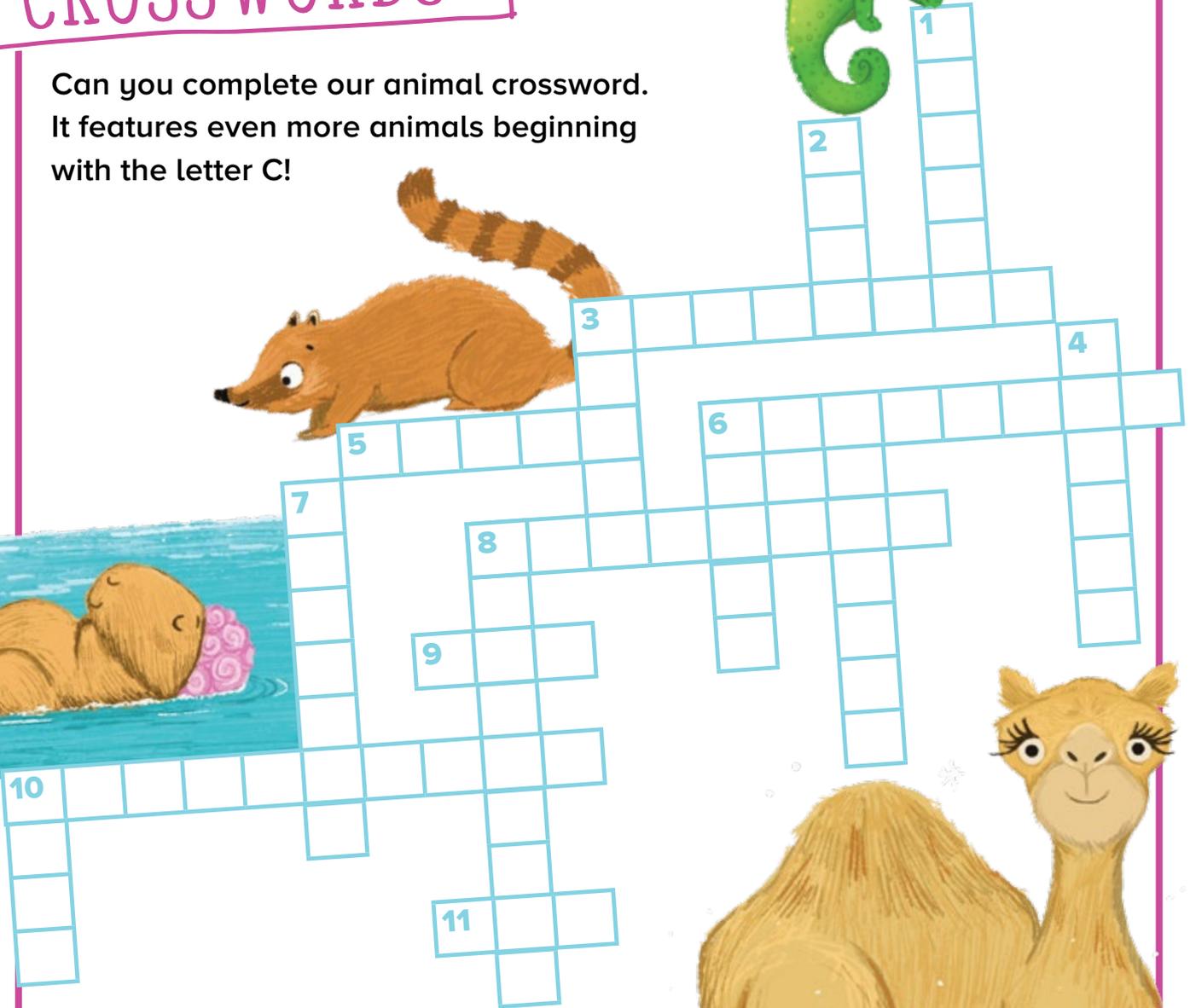
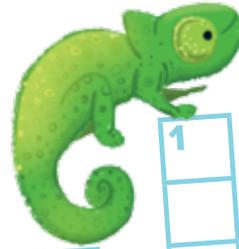
JOKE!

What do you call a camel without a hump?  
Humphrey  
(Hump-free)!



# LETTER C CROSSWORDS

Can you complete our animal crossword.  
It features even more animals beginning  
with the letter C!

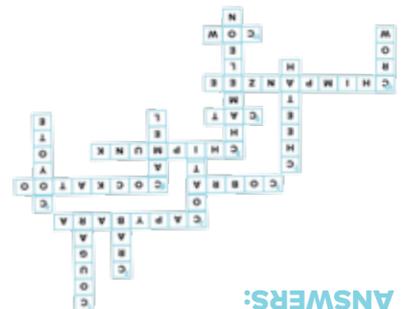


ACROSS

- 3. LARGE RODENT WITH WEBBED FEET (8)
- 5. VENOMOUS SNAKE WITH A HOOD (5)
- 6. CLEVER CRESTED PARROT (8)
- 8. LIKE A SQUIRREL. ALVIN IS ONE (8)
- 9. IT SAYS "MIAOW" (3)
- 10. AFRICAN APE. CHEEKY IN THE ZOO (10)
- 11. IT SAYS "MOO" (3)

DOWN

- 1. MOUNTAIN LION (6)
- 2. LIVES IN ROCK POOLS. HAS CLAWS (4)
- 3. CAN WALK DOWN TREES HEADFIRST (5)
- 4. A WILD DOG FROM AMERICA (6)
- 6. IT'S GOT THE HUMPI (5)
- 7. THE FASTEST BIG CAT. SPOTTED (7)
- 8. IGUANA THAT CHANGES COLOUR (9)
- 10. BLACK BIRD. CLEVER (4)



ANSWERS:

Cc



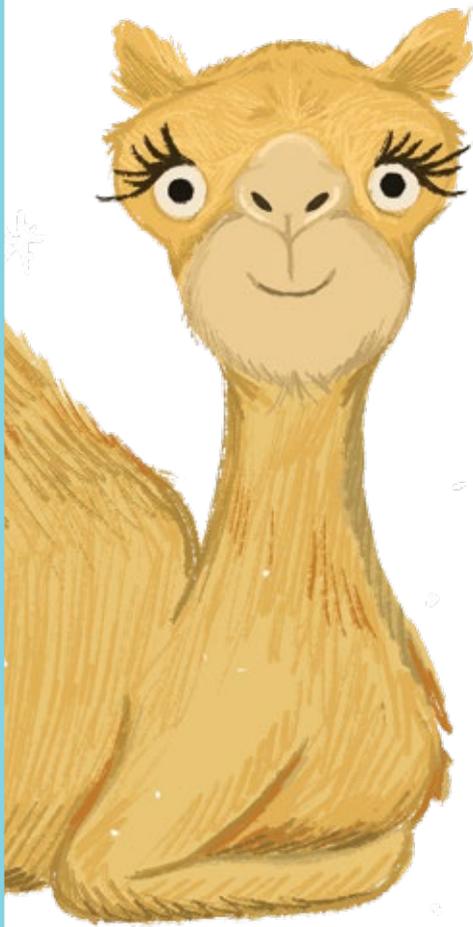
Coati

Cockatoo

Capybara

Chameleon

Camel



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