

ALPHABET ZOO FACTSHEET

storytime™

Letter
G
Animals

GNU



1. **Gnus** are the largest of all the antelopes.
2. Another name for the blue **gnu** is a common wildebeest. You can tell blue gnu from black gnu because they have stripes on their backs.
3. Blue **gnus** aren't actually blue! Their fur can be blue-grey, dark grey or grey-brown.
4. They are herbivores and live on the savannahs and plains of Africa, especially in the Serengeti.
5. When the rainy season ends in May or June, massive herds of up to 1.5 million **gnus** migrate to the savannahs.

WOW!

Gnus travel up to 1,000 miles per year looking for food!

1. Baby **giraffes** are able to stand within half an hour of being born.
2. **Giraffes** have very long tongues – they can be over 50cm in length!
3. Male **giraffes** can grow to up to 5.5 metres tall.
4. Depending on where they live, **giraffes** have different markings. Some giraffes have square markings and some look like leaves.
5. They eat over 40kg of leaves and twigs every day – that's the same as two big suitcases full.

GIRAFFE



FACT!

Giraffes can sleep standing up!

GORILLA



1. **Gorillas** are mainly herbivores, but will eat insects too.
2. A **gorilla** band or troop can have between two and fifty members.
3. The head of the band is called a silverback because of the streak of grey hair on its back.
4. **Gorilla** babies are tiny – they weigh just 1.8kg (4lb) when they're born.
5. **Gorillas** are smart – they can use tools and even learn how to use sign language.

Gorillas make themselves nests to sleep in!

DID YOU
KNOW?

1. The gecko is a type of lizard. There are over 1,500 **gecko** species on the planet.
2. The smallest **gecko** species is under 2cm in length and the largest ones grow up to 60cm long.
3. When attacked, they can lose their tails. The tail wiggles around, distracting the predator, while the **gecko** scurries away.
4. Sometimes, a **gecko** will come back and eat its own tail, because it's full of nutrients!
5. **Geckos** eat insects, including mosquitoes, which is why people in warm countries like having them in their homes.

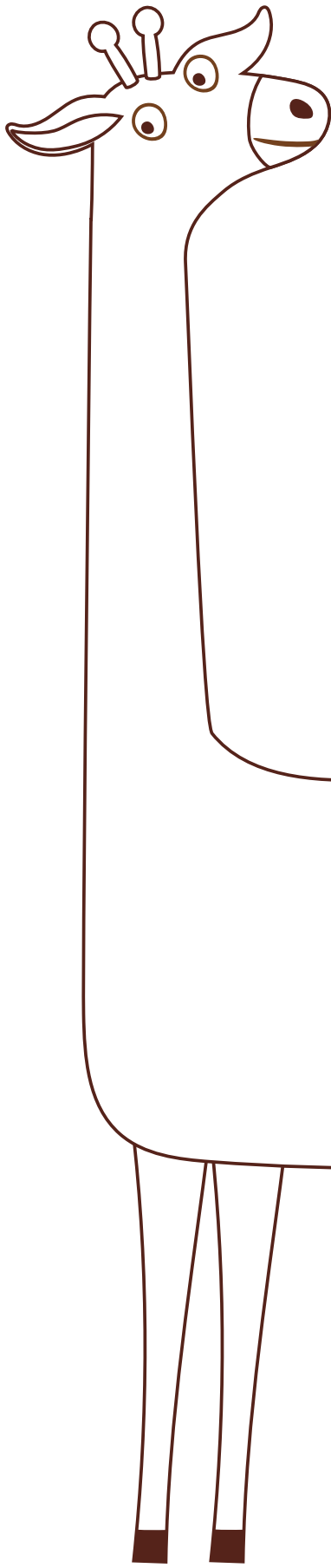
GECKO



AMAZING!

The flying gecko has webbing on the side of its body, so it can glide through the air down to the ground!

This giraffe has lost its markings. Draw them on and colour them in!



JOKE!
What can only giraffes have?
Baby giraffes!

Why not draw triangles or squares?



LETTER G ANIMAL QUIZ



True or false? Circle the correct answer for each sentence.

1 Gnus are the smallest antelope.
TRUE FALSE

2 Blue gnus have stripy backs.
TRUE FALSE

3 Giraffes sleep standing up.
TRUE FALSE

4 Giraffe tongues are 5.5 metres long.
TRUE FALSE

5 Gorillas sleep in nests.
TRUE FALSE

6 The head gorilla is the silverback.
TRUE FALSE

7 All geckos can fly.
TRUE FALSE

8 The gecko is a type of lizard.
TRUE FALSE

FACT!
Three of the animals in this issue's Alphabet Zoo live only in Africa: the giraffe, the gorilla and the gnu. Geckos live on every continent except for Antarctica!



Answers:
1. False, 2. True, 3. True, 4. False, 5. True, 6. True, 7. False, 8. True.

Gg

Gnu
Giraffe
Gorilla
Gecko



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