

ALPHABET ZOO FACTSHEET

storytime™

Letter
S
Animals

SLOTH



1. **Sloths** live in the trees of tropical rainforests in Central and South America.
2. Because their claws are so long, they find it hard to walk, so they only come down to the ground once a week to poop!
3. Those strong arms mean they are great swimmers – they drop off their branches into the water.
4. Baby **sloths** stay with their mums for up to four years.
5. Almost all **sloths** have green algae growing on their fur – it gives them good camouflage in the trees.

WOW!

Experts think there was once a species of sloth as big as an elephant!

1. **Skunks** live in North and South America – they can be spotted or striped.
2. They produce their smelly spray, known as musk, from a gland near their bottom. It smells like rotten eggs.
3. They can spray predators up to three metres away, but if they run out of spray, it takes a couple of weeks to make some more.
4. Though they mainly eat insects, they will eat anything. They are omnivores.
5. If **skunk** spray gets in your eyes, it can cause temporary blindness.

SKUNK



LOL!

Smaller spotted skunks do a funny handstand dance to scare away predators.

SUGAR GLIDER



1. **Sugar gliders** live in forests in Australia and Papua New Guinea.
2. They have a special membrane along both sides of their body, which allows them to glide from tree to tree.
3. During the day, they rest in leafy tree hollows and, by night, they hunt for food.
4. They live in big family groups. They often share nests and spend time grooming each other.
5. They have long, sharp teeth, which they use to saw holes in trees to reach the sweet sap.

COOL!

A sugar glider can use its tail and tip its 'wings' to change direction in mid-flight.

1. **Sea lions** only live in the Pacific Ocean.
2. Male sea lions are called bulls and females are called cows.
3. They can dive up to 180 metres in the water and swim at speeds of up to 28 kilometres per hour.
4. **Sea lion** colonies are noisy. They honk, bark and roar. Each mother has her own unique call so her pup can find her too.
5. You can tell the difference between a **sea lion** and a seal because sea lions have earflaps and walk on all four flippers. Seals don't.

SEA LION

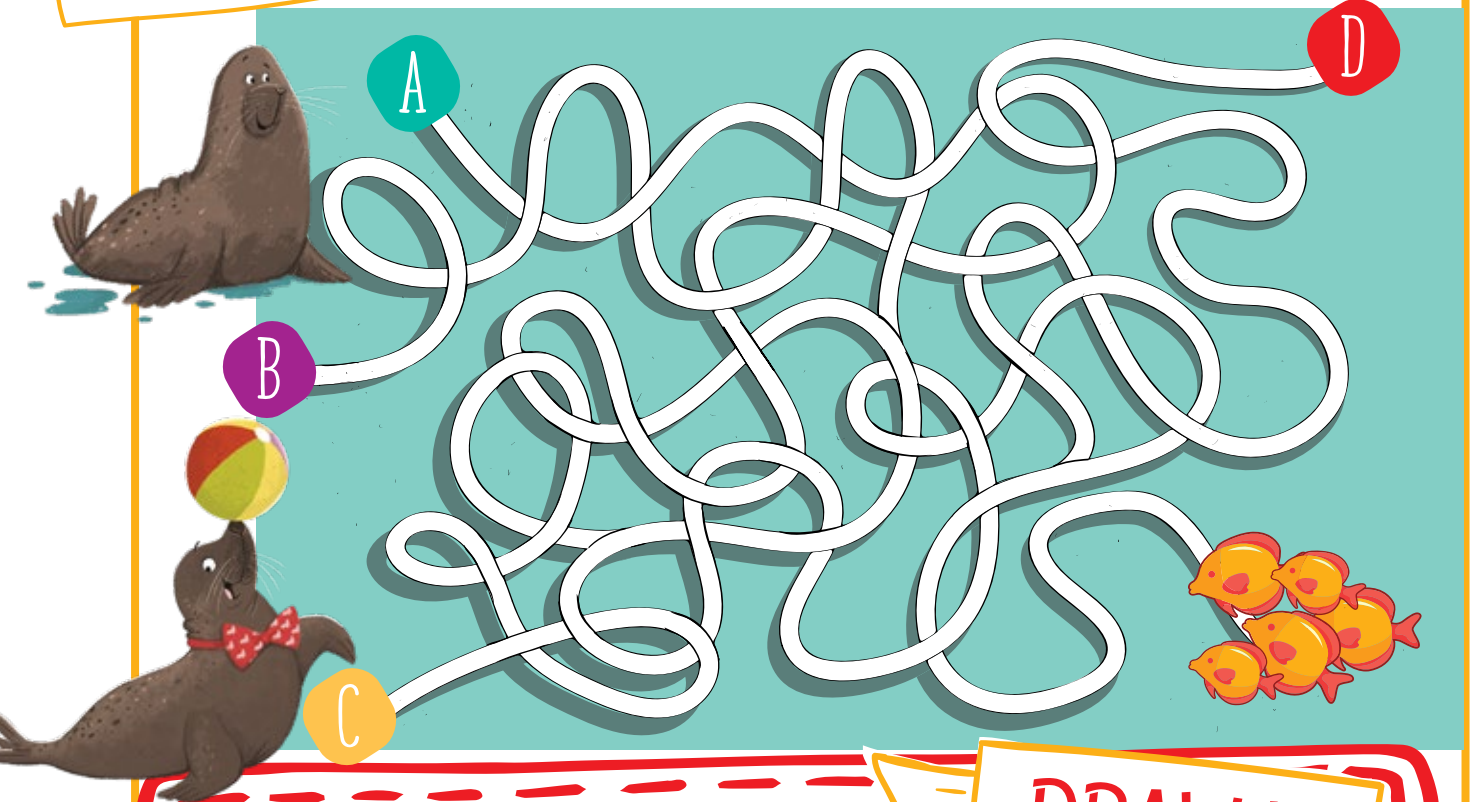


CLEVER!

Sea lion pups can walk when they're only 30 minutes old.

FISHY BUSINESS!

Only one of these routes leads the sea lion to juicy fish. Which one?



DRAW IT!

Draw your favourite letter S animal here!

Answers: Fishy Business: A

SLOTH THE DIFFERENCE

There are four differences between these two sloth pictures. Can you circle them all?

JOKE!
What do sloths read?
Snooze-papers!

A



B



S IS FOR...

Can you think of any more animals beginning with S? Write them here.

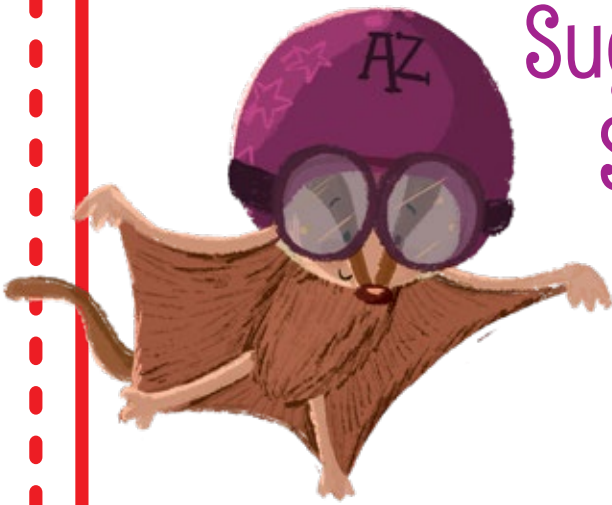
Handwriting lines for writing animal names starting with S.

Answers: Solth the Difference – In picture B, musical notes are missing, leaves from the sandwich are missing, the sloth's smile is upside down and there is a dragonfly.



Ss

Sugar Glider
Sea Lion
Skunk
Sloth



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