

#### Asia

Planet Earth is made up of seven continents.

One of these continents is called Asia.

Asia is made up of 48 countries, including China, India, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia.



Asia is the home to many different animals. We are going to learn about some now...

## Snow Leopard

The **snow leopard** is a type of leopard.

Appearance: Snow leopards have white-grey fur with large black rosettes.

Habitat: Snow leopards live in the steep and rocky mountains of Central Asia. They are also found in 12 countries, including China, Bhutan, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Russia and Mongolia.

**Diet:** Snow leopards eat sheep, marmots and hares.

## Snow Leopard

Snow leopards have very long tails which help them to balance when climbing. Their tails also keep them warm when they sit down and wrap them around their bodies.

Snow leopards are listed as **vulnerable** on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s **Red List**.

Did You Know...?

Snow leopards are strong and can leap forwards six times the length of their bodies.













### Giant Panda

The giant panda belongs to the bear family.

**Appearance:** Giant pandas have black and white fur and black

eyepatches.

Habitat: Giant pandas are only found in China. They live in the mountains, which are cool and wet. Pandas like to be on their own and like to have their own space. They make their dens out of tree stumps or hollowed-out logs.

Diet: Giant pandas eat a plant called bamboo.

Bamboo doesn't have many nutrients in it. This means it doesn't give pandas much energy so they have to eat lots of bamboo shoots to stay healthy.

### Giant Panda

Even though giant pandas are big, they are great climbers. They spend up to 12 hours of their day looking for food and climbing plants and trees.

Did You Know...?

Pandas have paws. Their two front paws each have 5 fingers and a 'thumb' so they can grip in the same way that people can.

## Asian Elephant

Asian elephants are the biggest land mammals on the continent of Asia.

Appearance: Asian elephants have large bodies and a long trunk. Only male Asian elephants grow tusks.

Habitat: Asian elephants live in different climates. They can live in dry or wet forest and grasslands. Asian elephants live in 13 countries across South and Southeast Asia.

**Diet:** Asian elephants eat plants and can spend up to 18 hours a day eating. They eat tree bark, roots, leaves and fruit.

Did You Know...?

Asian elephants use their trunks to do lots of different things, such as picking up objects, greeting other elephants, trumpeting a warning sound and sucking up water for drinking or bathing.

## Orangutan

**Orangutans** are the world's largest arboreal mammals. Arboreal means that they eat, sleep and play in trees.

Appearance: Orangutans have reddish fur and

long powerful arms.

Habitat: Orangutans live in lowland forests in Asia. Orangutans like to be on their own and have their own space. Orangutans spend most of their time in trees and they make nests in trees to sleep in at night.

**Diet:** Orangutans eat wild fruits, such as lychees, mangosteens, and figs and drink water from holes in trees.

## Orangutan



Orangutans are listed as **critically endangered** on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s **Red List**.

Did You Know...?

The name orangutan means "man of the forest" in the Malay language.

Orangutans have feet and hands that can grasp, like human hands, which helps them to move through branches.

# Tiger

**Appearance:** Tigers have orange fur coats with black vertical stripes. They have a lighter underside.

**Habitat:** Tigers are found all over Asia and live in India, Nepal, Bhutan, Russia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Sumatra and China. They live in tropical rainforests, evergreen forests, temperate forests, mangrove swamps, grasslands, and savannahs.

Diet: Tigers hunt for food and eat

deer and wild boar.

## Tiger



Tigers are listed as **endangered** on The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s **Red List**.

Did You Know...?

Tigers have been known to reach up to 20 years of age in the wild.

Tiger usually hunt alone and mainly use their senses of sight and sound to help them find their prey.

# Komodo Dragon

Komodo dragons are the heaviest lizards on Earth.

**Appearance:** Komodo dragons have flat, long heads with rounded snouts, scaly skin, bowed legs, and large, muscular tails.

**Habitat:** Komodo dragons have lived in Indonesia for millions of years. They are found on the Komodo island and some of the other

Lesser Sunda Islands.

These islands have hot temperatures and are mainly dry forests with patches of rainforests.

## Komodo Dragon

**Diet:** Komodo dragons eat almost anything, including deer, pigs, dead animals, smaller dragons and even large water buffalo.

Did You Know...?

Komodo dragons are very patient when waiting for prey. They hide themselves and wait for their prey to come near to them. Komodo dragons bite on their prey with their sharp teeth and poison their prey with their deadly saliva. This means that they can catch much larger animals.

#### Camel

**Camels** are hoofed mammals that are known for being able to go for a long time without drinking.

**Appearance:** Camels have 4 legs, a long neck and are covered in light brown or greyish coloured camel hair. Camels have one or two humps on their backs.

Habitat: Camels live in deserts and are used to very hot and dry weather in the day and very cold temperatures at night.

Diet: Camels will eat anything they can find and often eat dried leaves, seeds and thorny twigs. When there is a lot of food, camels will over eat and store fat in their humps. In very hot conditions, a camel can live for four to seven days without drinking. Camels can last for six months without drinking at all if they are resting and their food contains enough water.

#### Camel



Did You Know...? Camels have heavy eyelashes to protect their eyes from blowing sand and they can squeeze their nostrils shut. A camel's top lip is split into two sections that move independently. Camels don't walk on their hoofs. Instead, they put their weight on to two large toes which spread apart to stop camels sinking into the sand.

#### Peacock

Peacocks are large birds that are known for their colourful tails.

Appearance: Peacocks are male birds (females are called peahens and look different). Peacocks are usually blue and green and have long tail feathers that make up more than half of a peacock's length.

**Habitat:** Peacocks live in warm and wet climates, but can survive cold winters.

Diet: Peacocks eat insects, plants, and small creatures.

Did You Know...?

Peacocks spread out their tail feathers into a fan shape in order to show off their feathers to peahens. Each tail feather is very colourful and has blue, gold and red and a marking that looks like an eye.

