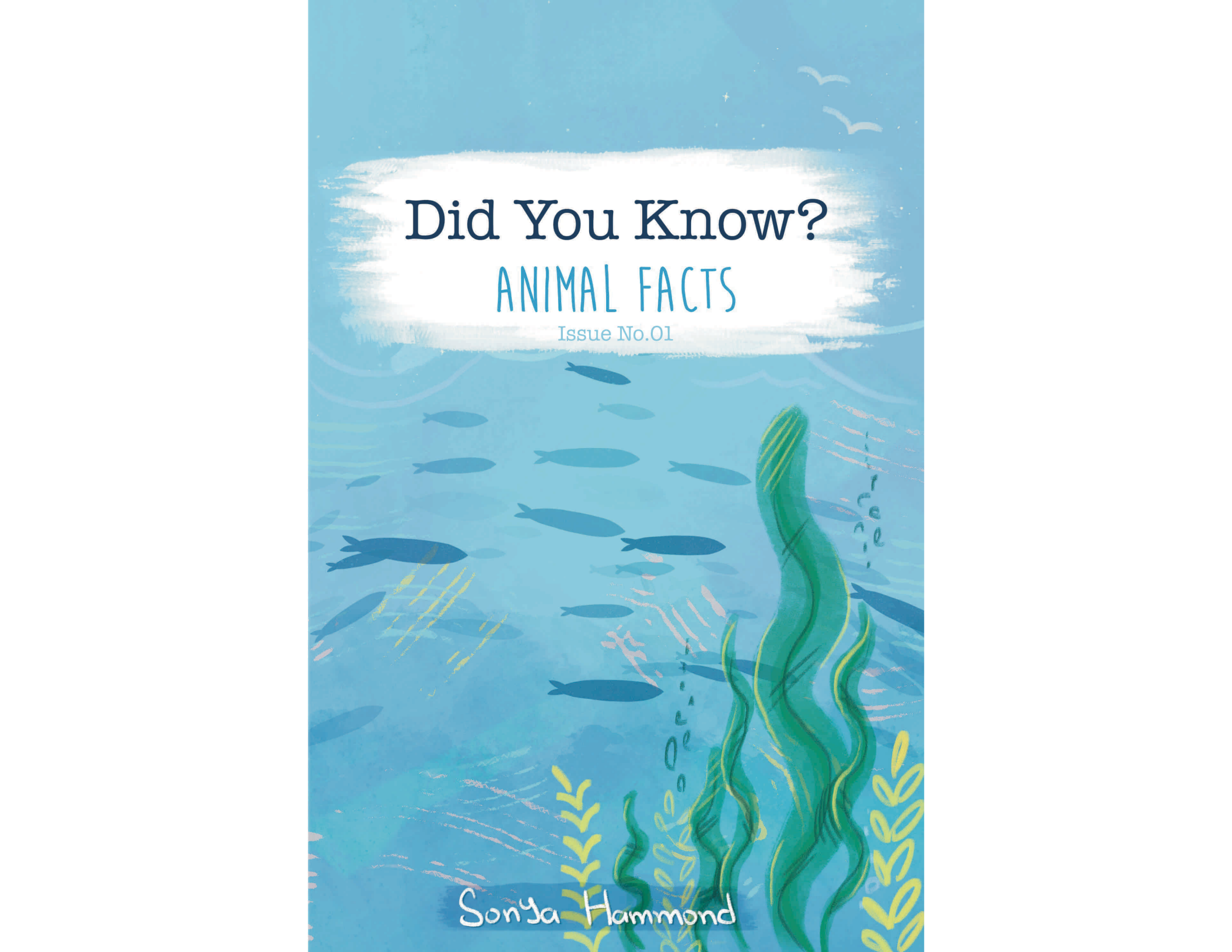




Did You Know?

ANIMAL FACTS

Issue No.01

Sonya Hammond



Illustrations were created
using Pencil, watercolor, gouache,
color Pencil, and Procreate
for digital edits.

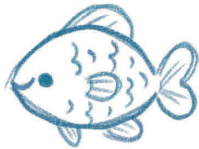
Sonny Sketches It

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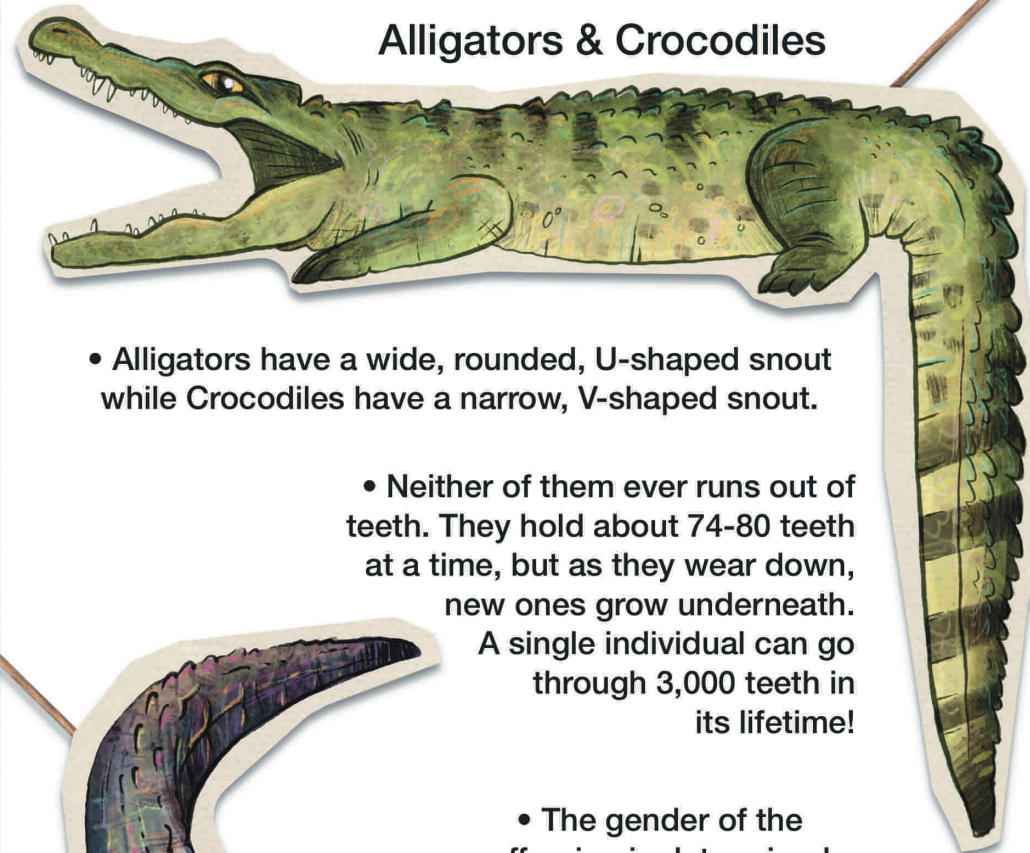
Did You Know?

ANIMAL FACTS



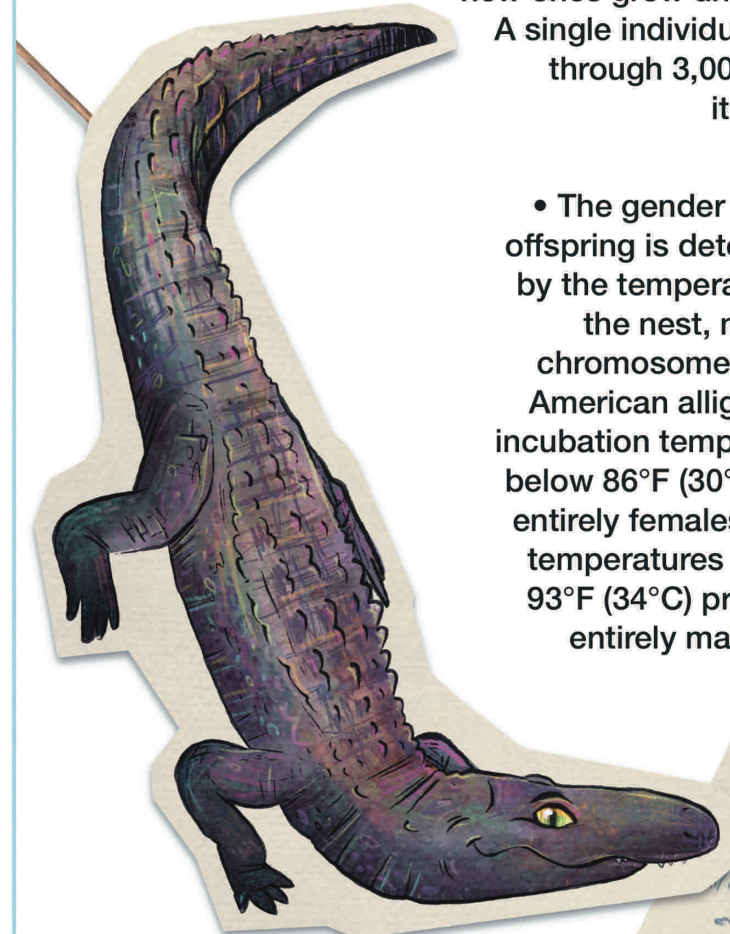
Sage Land

Alligators & Crocodiles



- Alligators have a wide, rounded, U-shaped snout while Crocodiles have a narrow, V-shaped snout.

- Neither of them ever runs out of teeth. They hold about 74-80 teeth at a time, but as they wear down, new ones grow underneath. A single individual can go through 3,000 teeth in its lifetime!



- The gender of the offspring is determined by the temperature of the nest, not chromosomes. For American alligators, incubation temperatures below 86°F (30°C) yield entirely females, while temperatures above 93°F (34°C) produce entirely males.





Clownfish & Seahorses

- All clownfish are born as males. They live in strict hierarchical groups led by one dominant female. When the dominant female dies, the largest male changes its biological sex to become the new matriarch.
- Many seahorse species mate for life. Every morning, bonded couples greet each other with a synchronized dance.
- Seahorses don't have a stomach or teeth. Because food passes through them incredibly fast, they must eat continuously throughout the day (up to 3,000 tiny shrimp daily) just to stay alive.



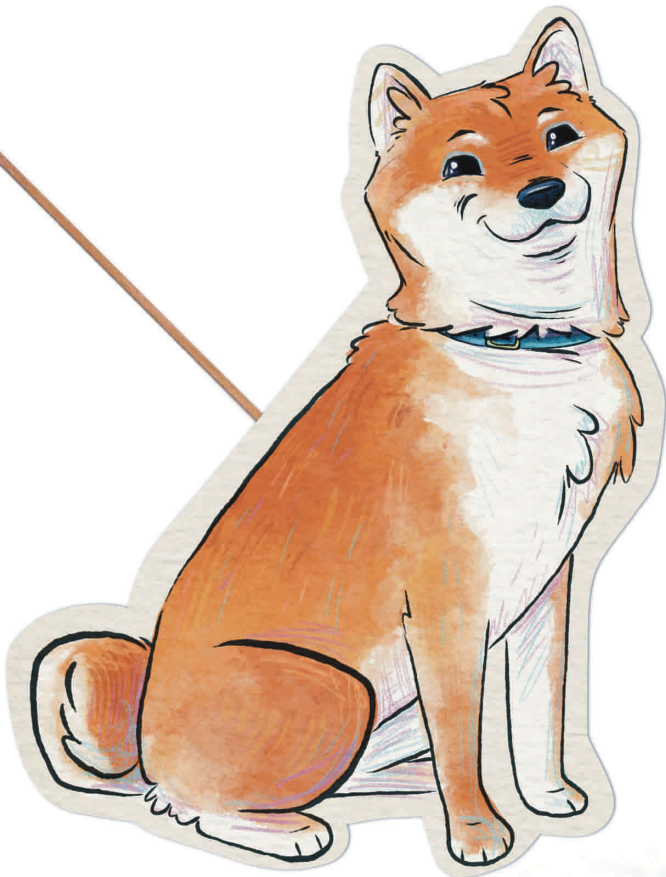
Catfish

- Catfish are essentially "swimming tongues." They do not just taste with their mouths; they have over 100,000 taste buds spread across the surface of their bodies. They can taste their environment just by touching it.
- The whisker-like protrusions on their jaws are called barbels. These are highly specialized sensory organs used to taste and feel their surroundings, which helps them navigate and hunt in dark or murky waters.
- Unlike most fish, catfish do not have scales. Instead, their bodies are covered in smooth skin protected by a slick, slimy mucous coating that acts as a shield against parasites and aquatic diseases.



Shiba Inu

- Shiba Inus are known for being cat-like rather than dog-like because of their dignified behavior and meticulous grooming.
- They are one of Japan's oldest and most recognizable native breeds. DNA traces their origins back to around 300 B.C.
- The breed was nearly lost in WWII due to bombing raids, but a sudden wave of popularity saved the breed when a soldier returned home to the US with a canine companion.



Dachshund

- "Dachshund" literally translates from German as "badger dog".
- They are fearless hunters! Bred to even hunt underground, they would take on aggressive prey like badgers and even wild boars. That tenacious attitude remains heavily ingrained in their personality today.

Beagle

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture runs a government task force of beagles: the Beagle Brigade. At major international airports, these dogs use their legendary sense of smell to sniff out contraband in luggage!

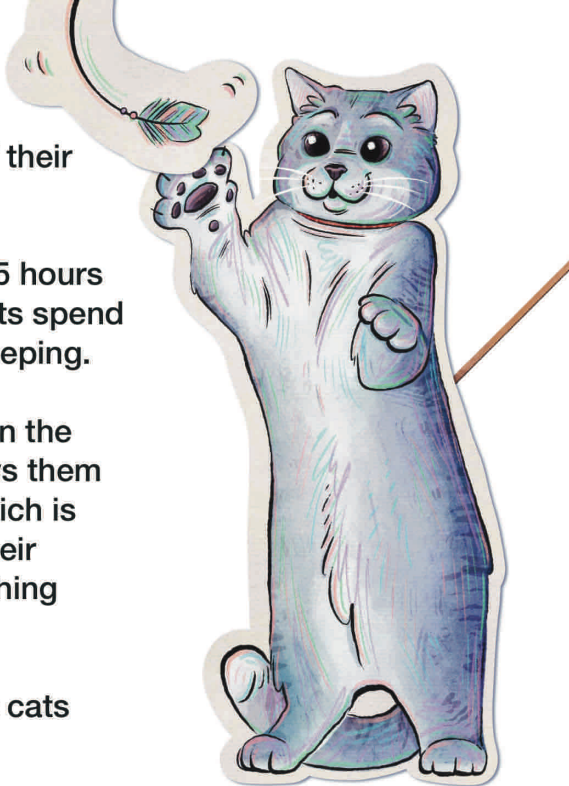


- Those iconic floppy ears are actually specialized, scent-catching tools. When a beagle walks with its head down, the low-set ears catch airborne scent particles and funnel them directly toward their nose.
- Almost every beagle has a white-tipped tail that acts as a "flag". Historically, hunters specifically bred this trait in so they could easily spot their dogs while they were tracking through tall grass and brush.

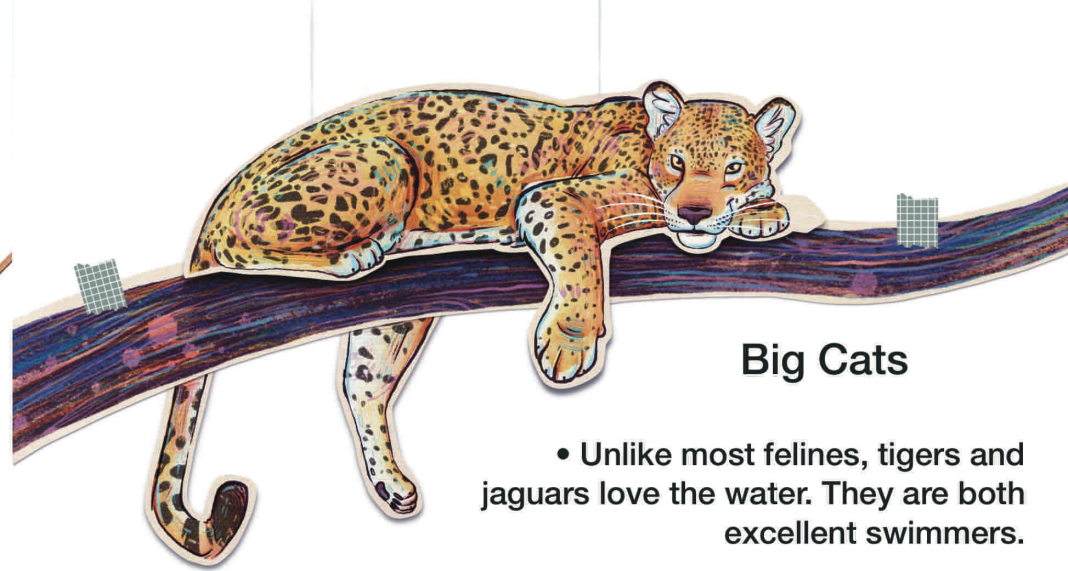


Cats

- House cats share 95.6% of their genetic makeup with tigers.
- Cats sleep an average of 15 hours PER day. This means that cats spend roughly 70% of their lives sleeping.
- Cats have an extra organ on the roof of their mouth that allows them to taste scents on the air, which is why they sometimes open their mouths after smelling something interesting or new.
- Meowing is a behavior that cats developed exclusively to communicate with people.

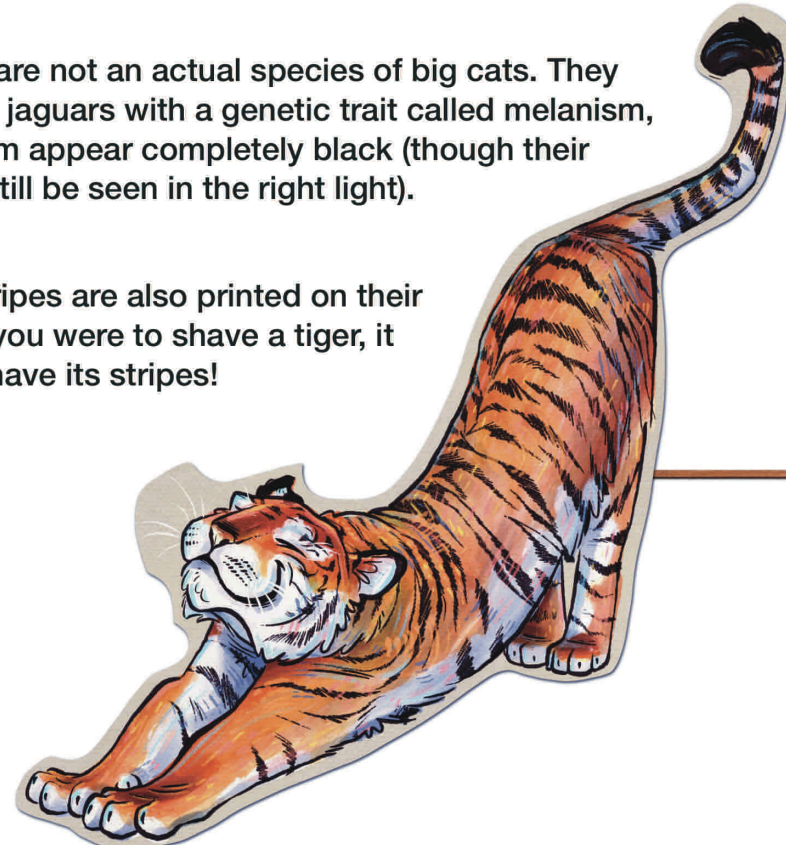


- A group of kittens is called a "kindle."
- Two hundred feral cats prowl the park at Disneyland, doing their part as park employees to control rodents (ironically).
- The first known cat video was recorded in 1894.



Big Cats

- Unlike most felines, tigers and jaguars love the water. They are both excellent swimmers.
- While jaguars have the strongest bite of the big cats, tigers have the largest and have the loudest roar, being heard as far as 3km (1.86m) away!
- Panthers are not an actual species of big cats. They are actually jaguars with a genetic trait called melanism, making them appear completely black (though their spots can still be seen in the right light).
- Tigers' stripes are also printed on their skin. So, if you were to shave a tiger, it would still have its stripes!



Penguins

- They exchange rocks for love. Many male penguins, such as the Adélie and Gentoo, propose to their partners by presenting them with carefully selected smooth pebbles. If the female accepts the rock, it is used to build their nest.
- A group of penguins in the water is called a raft but on land they're called a waddle!



- The penguin is one of the most streamlined animals in the world. A penguin's body is tapered at both ends and it has a large head, short neck and elongated body. This aerodynamic design helps them not only swim fast but "fly" through the water.



FIN



Totally unnecessary but
fun-to-know animal facts
that will make you say
“hmm...interesting”
before immediately
sharing with a friend.