

SANDLÖPARE

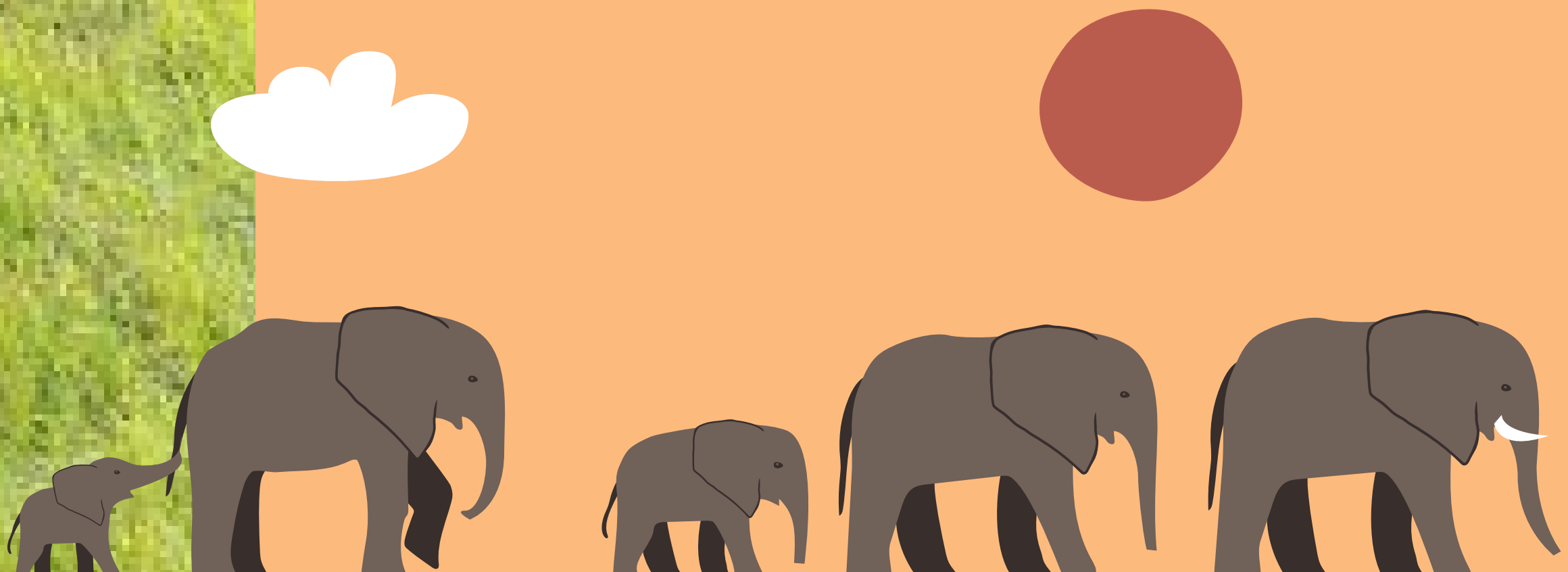
Get to know the wildlife
of the African savannah



Step into the adventures of the savannah

The animals in the **SANDLÖPARE** collection are inspired by the wildlife of the African savannah.

Learn more about the animals and insects living here, the challenges they face and what we can do to protect them. Together, we can make a difference.



Words of the savannah

Did you know?

My spots and the stripes on the zebra are as unique as your fingerprints. No one has the same.

Ecosystem: A community of living organisms that interact with each other and their physical environment. This can be anything from a pond to a forest.

Biome: A type of environment with a certain vegetation type and climate such as forests, deserts, savannahs and tundras.

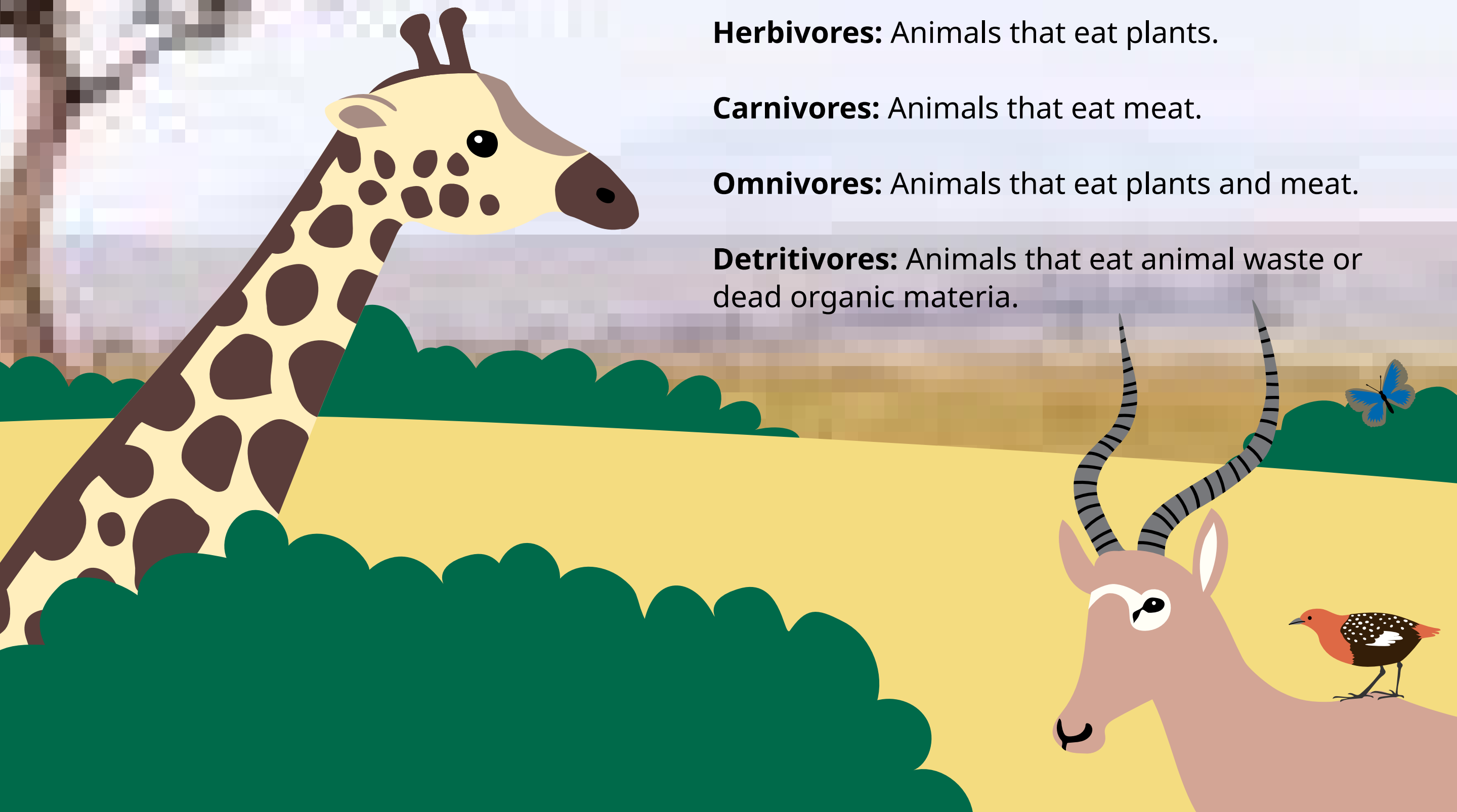
Habitat: A place with perfect conditions for a certain organism to survive, such as the damp environment under a log for a salamander.

Herbivores: Animals that eat plants.

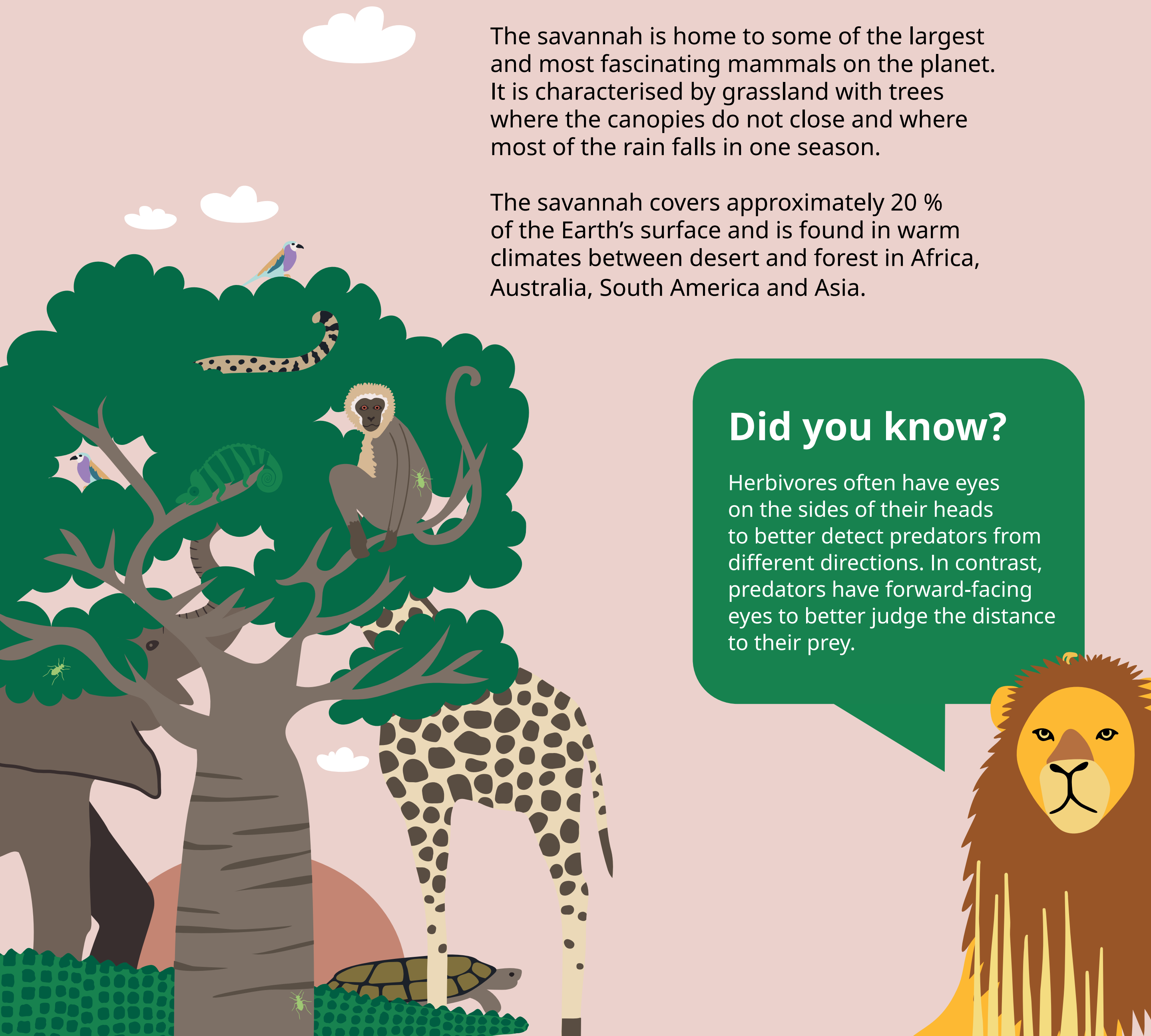
Carnivores: Animals that eat meat.

Omnivores: Animals that eat plants and meat.

Detritivores: Animals that eat animal waste or dead organic material.



A delicate ecosystem



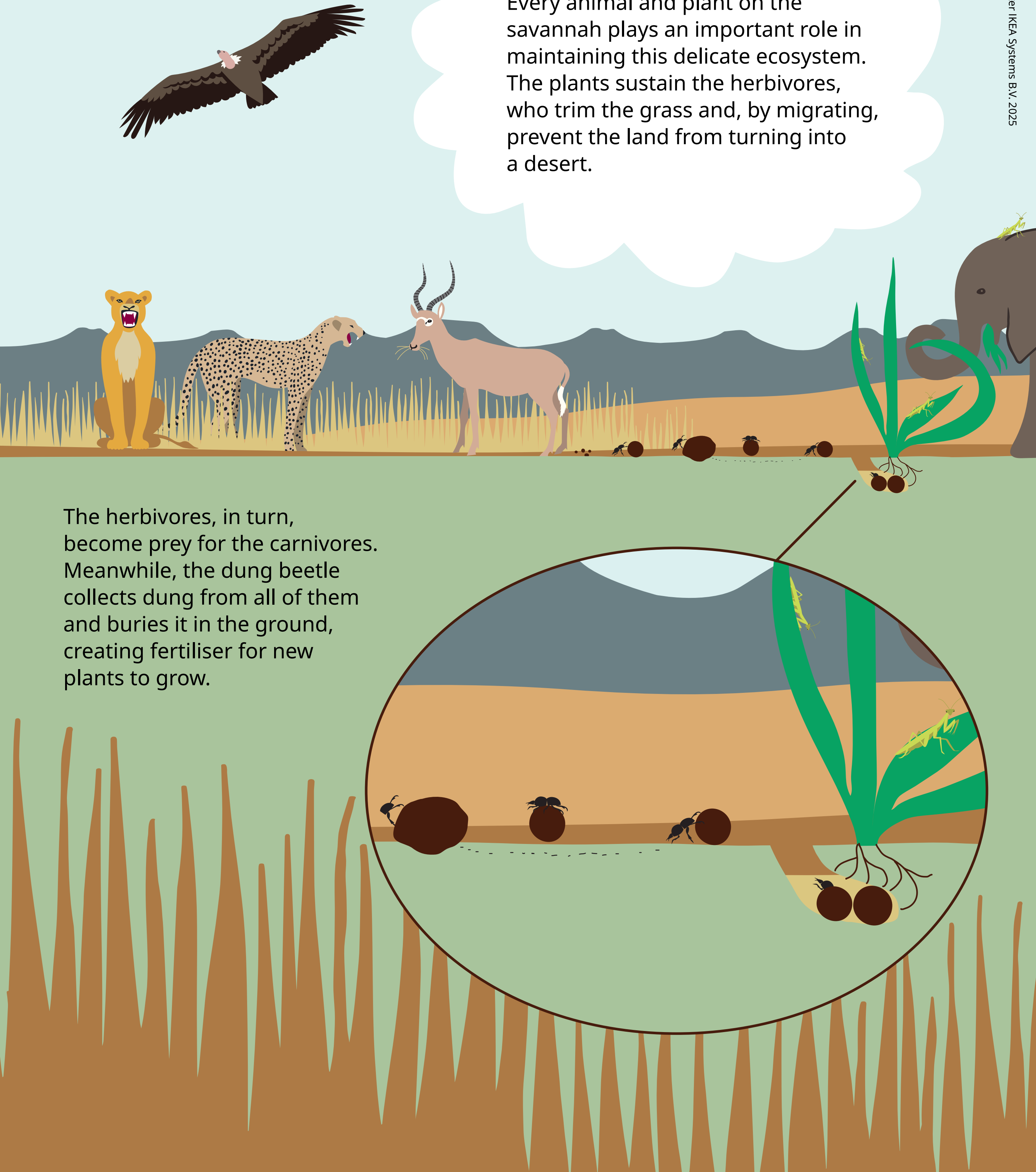
The savannah is home to some of the largest and most fascinating mammals on the planet. It is characterised by grassland with trees where the canopies do not close and where most of the rain falls in one season.

The savannah covers approximately 20 % of the Earth's surface and is found in warm climates between desert and forest in Africa, Australia, South America and Asia.

Did you know?

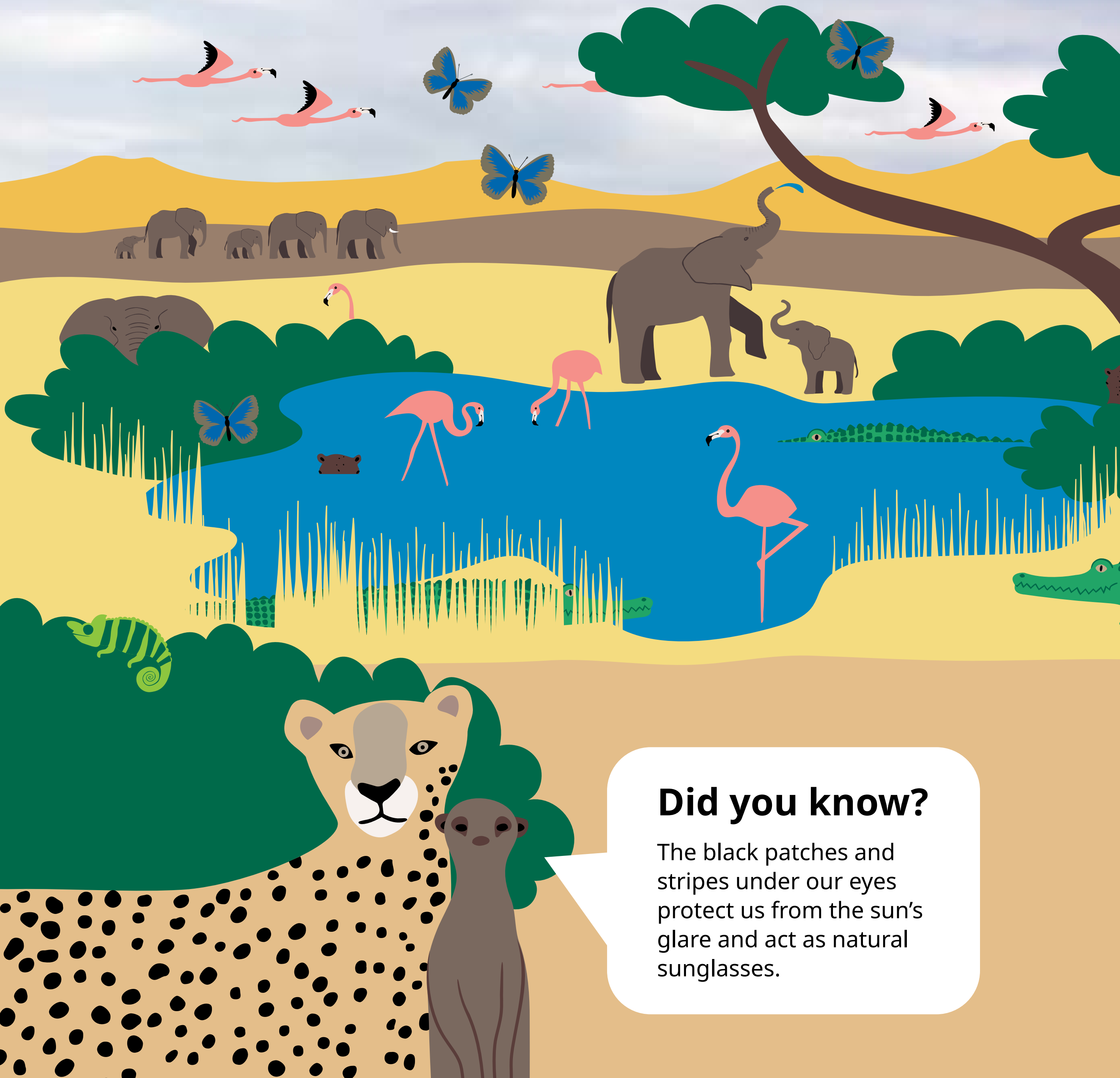
Herbivores often have eyes on the sides of their heads to better detect predators from different directions. In contrast, predators have forward-facing eyes to better judge the distance to their prey.

Every animal and plant on the savannah plays an important role in maintaining this delicate ecosystem. The plants sustain the herbivores, who trim the grass and, by migrating, prevent the land from turning into a desert.



The herbivores, in turn, become prey for the carnivores. Meanwhile, the dung beetle collects dung from all of them and buries it in the ground, creating fertiliser for new plants to grow.

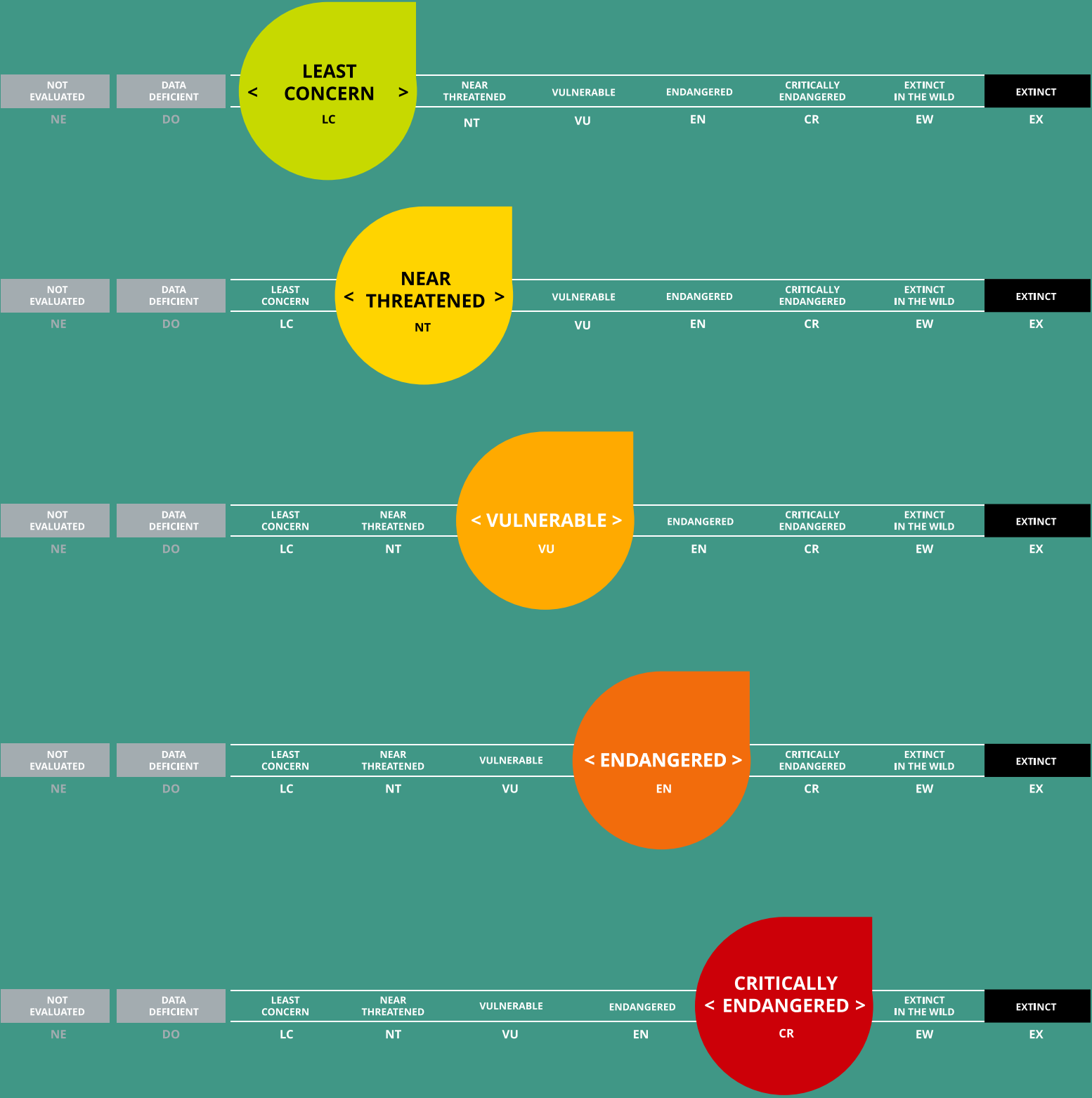
The impressive elephants plough down trees and dig for water where there is no surface water. Their presence on the savannah provides access to food, water and roads and ensures the survival of smaller animals and insects.



Did you know?

The black patches and stripes under our eyes protect us from the sun's glare and act as natural sunglasses.

The red list of risk



Source: IUCN

The IUCN Red List of threatened species, produced by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, keeps track of the biodiversity in the world. The list shows which species are at risk and how close they are to extinction. It aims to inform and inspire action for conservation efforts and policy change to protect the natural resources on the planet.





Cheetah

I am the cheetah, the fastest land-living animal in the world and Africa's most endangered big cat. My coat is beige and covered with solid black spots. Unlike other big cats I don't roar. Instead, I chirp, bark and purr to get the attention of my friends. With my long legs and slim body, I can reach a speed of up to 110 km/h, in just over 3 seconds.



Weight: 30–65 kg



Length: 150 cm, 220 cm with tail



Number of young: 1–6



Diet: Carnivore



Lifespan: 12–15 years

Source: Nordens Ark

Camouflaging cubs

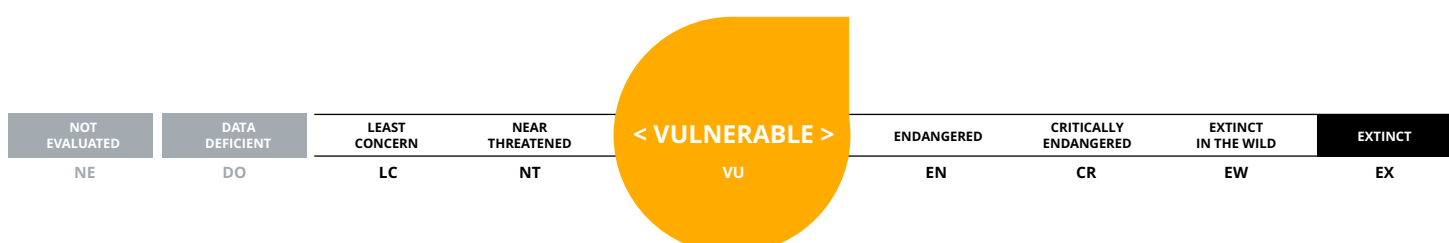
As a little cub I was at my most vulnerable. To fool predators like lions and hyenas I was born with a thick silvery-grey mantle down my back and darker fur on my legs and belly to resemble the aggressive and fearless honey badger.

Less space, more territory to fight over

We are decreasing in number because humans are taking over our hunting land for farming. As our living space becomes smaller, we also suffer from competition with other predators who attack our cubs and steal our prey.

Did you know?

My cubs keep track of me by following my long tail in the tall grass.





Chimpanzee

I am the chimpanzee, but you can call me a chimp. I'm the second most intelligent primate in the world. Can you guess who's first? I share 98 % of the same genes as you humans. Like you, I also get emotional and give hugs to show affection, I like pranks and I communicate with gestures, sounds and facial expressions. Thanks to my opposable thumbs I can use tools and grasp things with my hands. But I have opposable toes too, so it's almost like I have four hands.

Tree nesting

I live in and around the trees of the savannah in a community with many other chimps and we sleep in nests that we build in the trees. Picking fleas and dirt off the fur of my friends and family members is not only to keep them clean but it's also a way of strengthening our bonds and showing that I care about them.

Did you know?

I cling to the fur of my mother's belly for the first six months. After that, I hitchhike on her back until the age of two.

Hunted for food and easily infected

Although it's illegal to hunt us, bushmeat is still the main source of protein in some regions in Africa. We are also sensitive to the same infectious diseases as you, like the Ebola virus and respiratory diseases. Too much research and tourism risk harming us.

-  **Weight:** 32–60 kg
-  **Length:** 100–170 cm
-  **Number of young:** 1–2
-  **Diet:** Omnivore
-  **Lifespan:** 45 years

Source: Nordens Ark



NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	< ENDANGERED >	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX

Meerkat

I'm the meerkat. I have a thin greyish fur with dark skin on my stomach to help control my body temperature and black patches under my eyes to reduce the sun's glare. I live in burrows under the ground together with my clan of up to 50 members. We all help in gathering food, looking out for predators and caring for our young ones, no matter who's the parent.

Always on the lookout

Meerkats are considered food to many other animals, that's why we're always on the lookout for danger. When I'm the scout, I stand on my hind legs and balance on my tail while keeping guard. If I see a predator, I use different warning calls whether it's coming from land or sky. This tells the rest of the clan how to react: if it's a bird the best defence is to go underground, but if it's a snake we all need to come together and drive it off.

Survival skills

I am made to survive on the dry savannah and don't need to drink water. Instead, I get all the liquid I need from the insects I eat. My favourite meal is scorpions. But don't worry, I'm immune to their poison.



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Did you know?

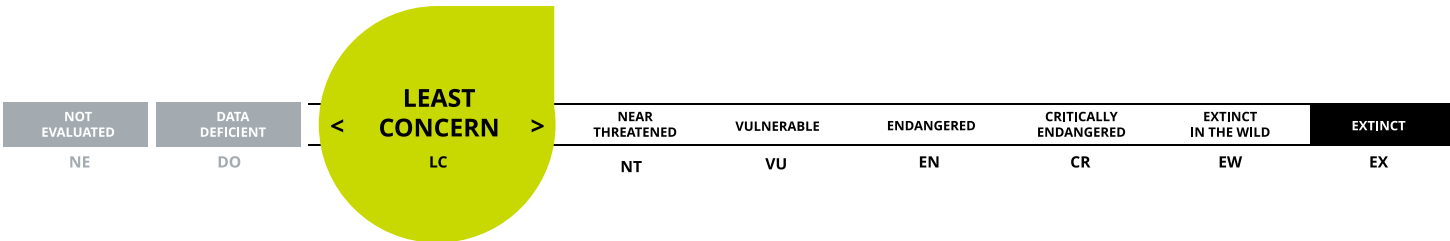
When we sleep, we snuggle on top of each other in a huge pile.

- Weight:** Less than 1 kg
- Length:** 29 cm (and a 19 cm tail)
- Number of young:** 1-2
- Diet:** Omnivore
- Lifespan:** 12-14 years

Source: Nordens Ark

Climate sensitive

We are not considered threatened or endangered. But our homes and livelihood are dependent on the climate. Drought and burrow-flooding rainstorms can greatly affect our survival.





Plains zebra

I am the plains zebra. I'm very social and live in large groups, called herds. I am known for my characteristic black and white stripes. My stripes are unique, just like your fingerprints and that's how we recognise each other in the herd.

Keeping up the good fight

I might look sweet and peaceful, but I'm not afraid to fight for what I care about. If the herd is threatened by predators like lions, hyenas or leopards, we form a semi-circle facing the attacker and prepare to strike. If one of us is wounded or injured, we will circle around and attempt to protect them.

Collaboration accross borders

Every year, I migrate great distances and in my search for fresh water and green pastures I cross many human-made borders. This makes conservation efforts across borders crucial to my survival. It's important that countries that share natural resources collaborate to protect the nature they've been entrusted. Luckily, protecting migration corridors in East Africa is a conservation priority today.

Did you know?
When standing together in a herd our stripes create an optical illusion that confuses predators like lions. Lions are colourblind and only see a large, moving mass that looks a bit like the grass, making it hard for them to single one of us out and attack.

**Weight:** 200–450 kg

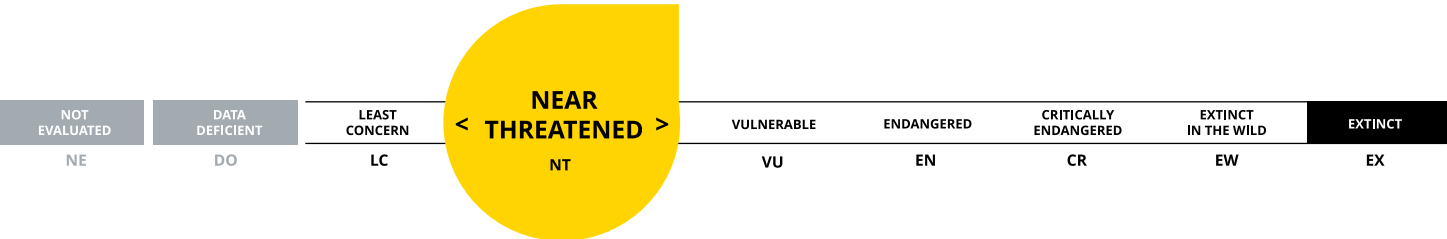
**Length:** 220–250 cm

**Number of young:** 1

**Diet:** Herbivore

**Lifespan:** 25 years

Source: Nordens Ark



Giraffe

I am the giraffe, the tallest animal on the planet. You probably recognise me by my long neck and yellow and brown spotted coat. I can reach the highest branches of the acacia trees and my 50 cm long, tough, black/blue tongue ensures that I don't get hurt by its thorns. I'm also very important to the ecosystem as I help prune the trees and spread seeds.

Born tall

When I was born, I started by falling 2 meters to the ground. When I stood up with my 182 cm, I was already taller than most full-grown humans. The first week of my life I grew 2,5 cm every day. An adult male, called a bull, can become 6 meters tall.

Food before sleep

I spend 16–20 hours of my days eating. I can eat up to 30 kg of leaves and twigs a day. I don't need a lot of sleep and usually only take short naps of 5–30 minutes. For safety reasons I mostly sleep standing up, but I can also sleep lying down or sitting up.

Declining numbers

Over the past 30 years, my friends and I have seen our numbers decline by almost 40 % due to loss of grazing space. However, conservation efforts are being made through habitat management and community-based conservation initiatives.

Did you know?

Thanks to my height, I have a private food supply in the sky that most other animals can't reach.



-  **Weight:** 800–1600 kg
-  **Length:** 450–600 cm
-  **Number of young:** 1
-  **Diet:** Herbivore
-  **Lifespan:** 28 years

Source: Nordens Ark

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	< VULNERABLE >	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Hippopotamus

I'm the hippopotamus, but it's easier to just call me a hippo. Most animals on the savannah fear me. I have a big, strong jaw that I can open 180 degrees. The teeth in my lower jaw are called tusks and can become 50 cm long. You might think that I'd use my famous mouth to eat other animals, but I'm actually a vegetarian and eat mostly grass.



Weight: 1,300–3,200 kg
(like 3 cars)



Length: 3,5 m



Number of young: 1



Diet: Herbivore



Lifespan: 40 years

Source: Nordens Ark

A horse in the river

The name “hippopotamus” comes from ancient Greek and means “river horse”. By living in water, I can stay cool during the hot savannah days. To keep watch while in water, my eyes, ears and nose are all on top of my head. I can't breathe underwater, but I can hold my breath for up to 5 minutes. And despite my size, I move with ease by bouncing up and down or by walking or running on the riverbed. At night, when it's cooler, I go up on land to eat.

Hunted for ivory

As the bans on elephant ivory gained support, people began looking for alternatives and exports of our ivory tusks increased by over 530 %. But if multi-ton grazers like me disappear from the savannah, it will affect everyone who lives here.

Did you know?

I don't need any sunscreen, instead I have a red fluid that comes out of my pores and protects my skin from both sunburn and infections.



NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	< VULNERABLE >	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Vervet monkey

I'm the vervet monkey. I am the most common monkey on the African savannah. You can recognise me by my grey and white fur and black face.

Sleeping and eating

The group I live with is called a troop and we are about 25–50 monkeys. We sleep in trees and start early in the morning to forage for food on the ground. I'm an omnivore and eat whatever I can find, everything from flowers and seeds to lizards and eggs. When the sun is at its highest, I take a siesta and rest for a couple of hours before I start hunting for food again until the day is over.



Weight: 3–5kg



Length: 40–60 cm,
30–50 cm tail



Number of young: 1



Diet: Omnivore



Lifespan: 12–24 years

Source: Nordens Ark

Communication is key

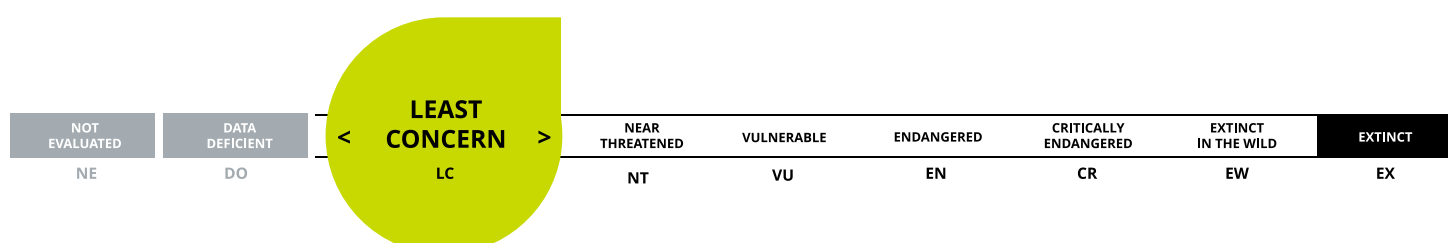
We have developed a sophisticated alarm system to warn each other when predators are nearby. In addition to our sounds, we also use body language to communicate. When I want to create a stronger bond with someone in the troop, I groom their fur or play games like wrestling and chasing them around.

Sensitive but not threatened

We are at low risk of extinction as we are quite resilient and adaptable creatures. But, as human settlements move further into the wild, our communities collide, leading to deadly conflicts with farmers who don't want us to take their crops or mess up their gardens. Conservationists are trying to mitigate this with awareness campaigns, protected areas and research to promote coexistence.

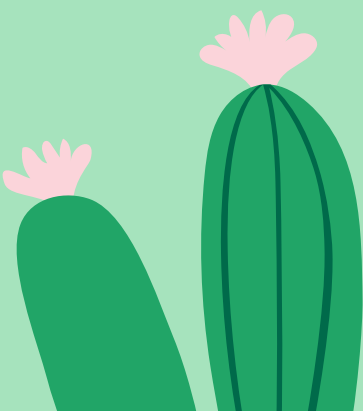
Did you know?

I have a cheek pouch where I can save food to eat later.



West African slender-snouted crocodile

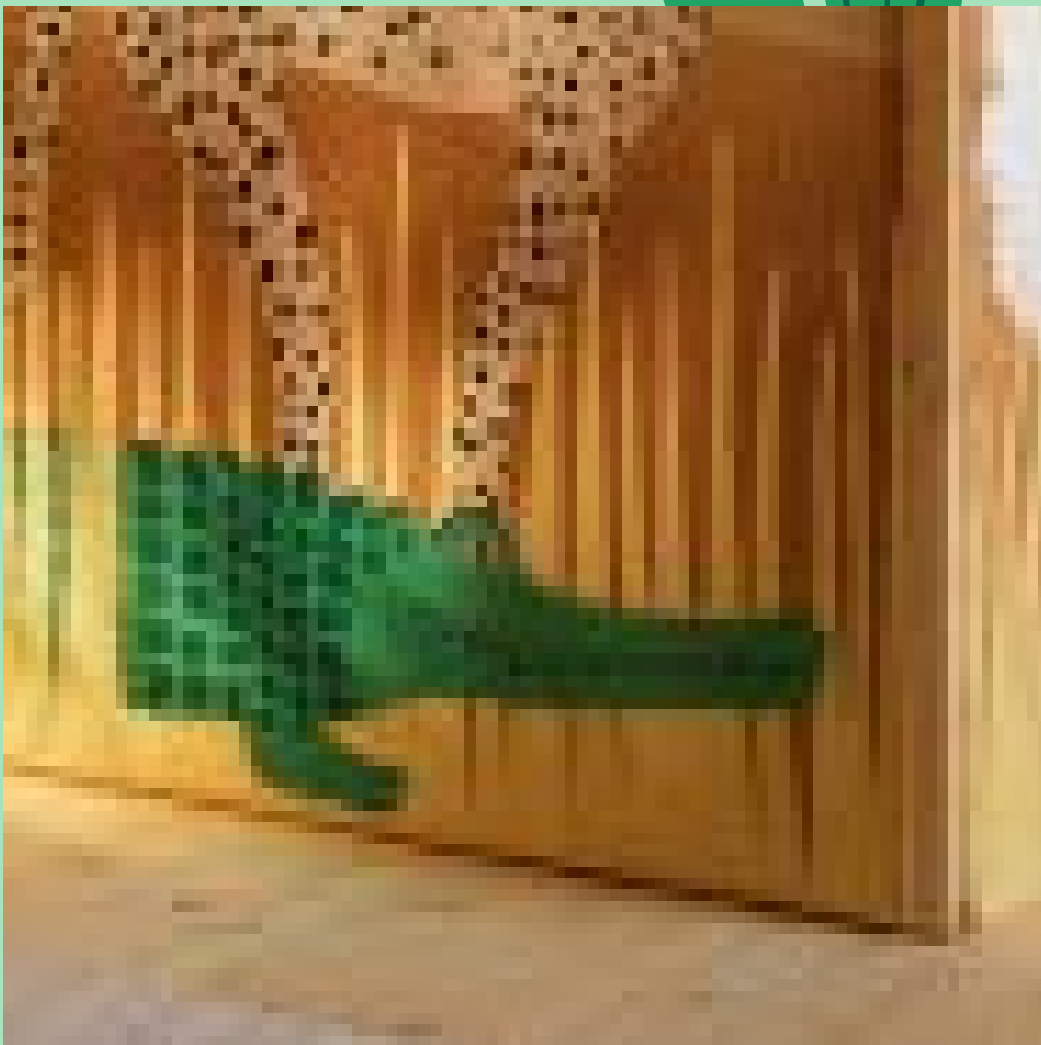
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I am the slender-snouted crocodile. You can find me in the freshwater rivers and swamps in West Africa. I am known for my distinctive narrow snout specially adapted to help move my head faster through the water to catch more fish.

Bone-hard skin

Like all crocodiles, I have small bone discs in my skin to protect me from injuries. But while most crocodiles only have this armour on their backs and sides, I also have it in my stomach. This is because I live in narrow forest rivers where the risk of hitting sharp objects is higher than in larger rivers. This all-round armour makes me move slightly slower in the water, but since I hunt by sneaking up on my prey, it doesn't affect me much.



Weight: 80–140 kg



Length: 2–4 m



Number of young: 13–27 eggs



Diet: Carnivore (primarily fish)



Lifespan: 50 years

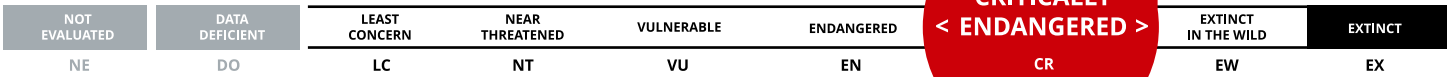
Fear of water pollution

The water pollution of rivers and wetlands from agriculture and urban development has become a significant threat to me and my family. Together with overfishing, hunting and climate change it has made my species critically endangered.

Did you know?

When my babies are ready to hatch from their eggs, they make squeaking noises to inform me, their mother, that it's time to help them down to the water.

Source: Nordens Ark



Bizarre-nosed chameleon

I'm the bizarre-nosed chameleon and I am one of the most endangered chameleon species in Africa. I live in Madagascar, like more than half of all chameleons do.

Emotional shapeshifter

In human tongue, the word chameleon is often used to describe someone who is good at adapting to different situations and environments. But contrary to popular belief, I don't change my colour as a means of camouflage. Instead, it's dependent on my mood and is a way to regulate my body temperature since pale colours reflect heat while dark colours absorb it. When I'm relaxed, I appear (mostly) green and when I'm stressed or excited, I look more brown or black.

Built-in gadgets

I have large, protruding eyes that move independently of each other. This allows me to have a full 360-degree field of vision when hunting. To sneak up on my prey, I move slowly in an irregular swaying motion and when I get close enough, my long, sticky tongue shoots out and catches the unsuspecting insect.

The devil in disguise?

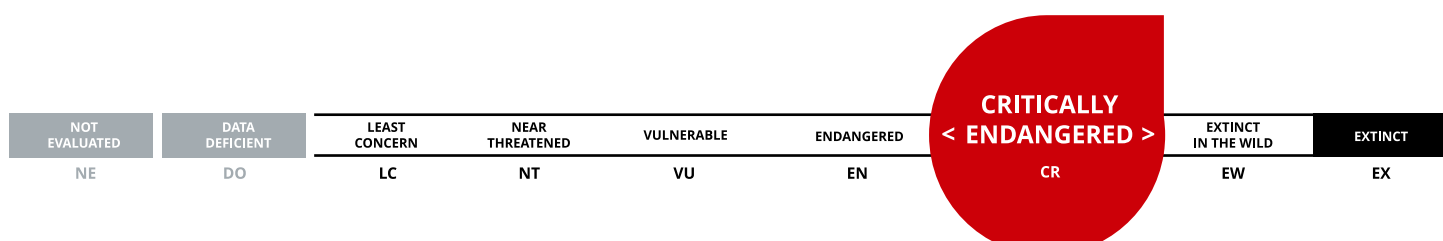
According to some African superstitions, I am considered a bad omen. Apparently, seeing me is like seeing the devil. Many chameleons are killed because of this. Others die from habitat loss.

	Weight: 20–50 grams
	Length: 10–15 cm
	Number of young: 10–20 eggs
	Diet: Carnivore
	Lifespan: 3–5 years

Source: Nordens Ark

Did you know?

My tongue can move from 0 to almost 100 km/h in one hundredth of a second. That's faster than the space shuttle!



Dung beetle

I am the dung beetle. A sturdy and strong black and brown beetle. I might be small, but I'm very important. In fact, without me the whole ecosystem of the savannah would likely collapse.

The pollinator of the ground

When large animals like elephants or rhinos poop, my amazing antennae detect it immediately and lead me to the spot. With my shovel-like front legs, I dig up the dung and shape it into a perfectly round ball the size of a grape. I then push the ball backwards with my hind legs into a hole where I lay my eggs and it becomes food for my larvae when they hatch. This also disperses seeds and return nutrients to the soil, helping plants grow. The healthy plants later become food for herbivores and support the entire savannah food chain.



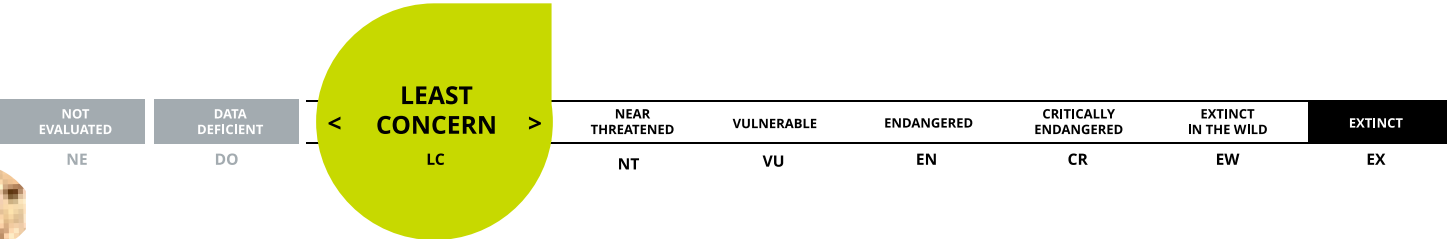
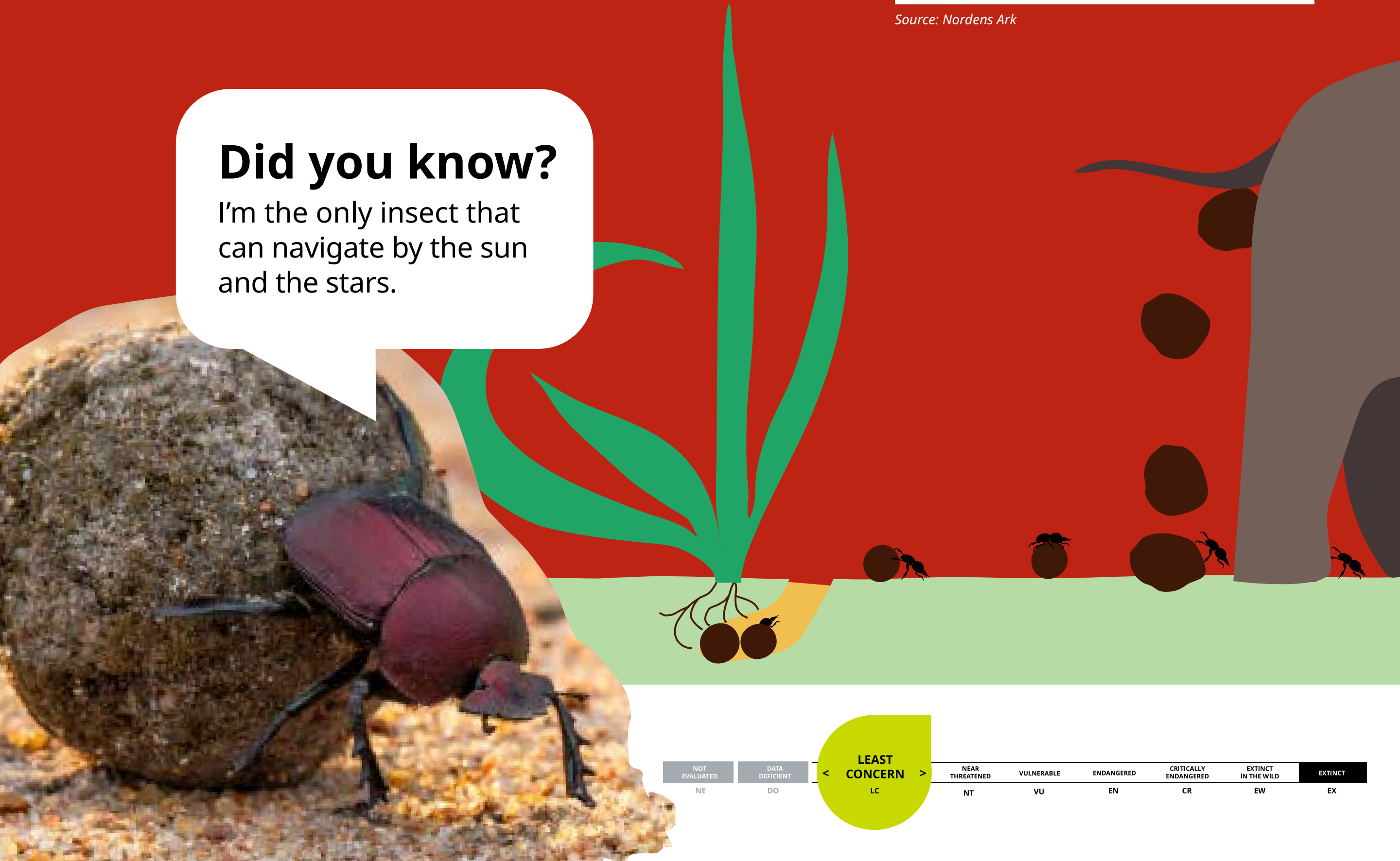
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-  **Weight:** 10–20 g
-  **Length:** 1–3 cm
-  **Number of young:** 10–1000 eggs
-  **Diet:** Detritivore
-  **Lifespan:** Unknown, but probably 4–12 months

Source: Nordens Ark

Did you know?

I'm the only insect that can navigate by the sun and the stars.



Karkloof blue butterfly

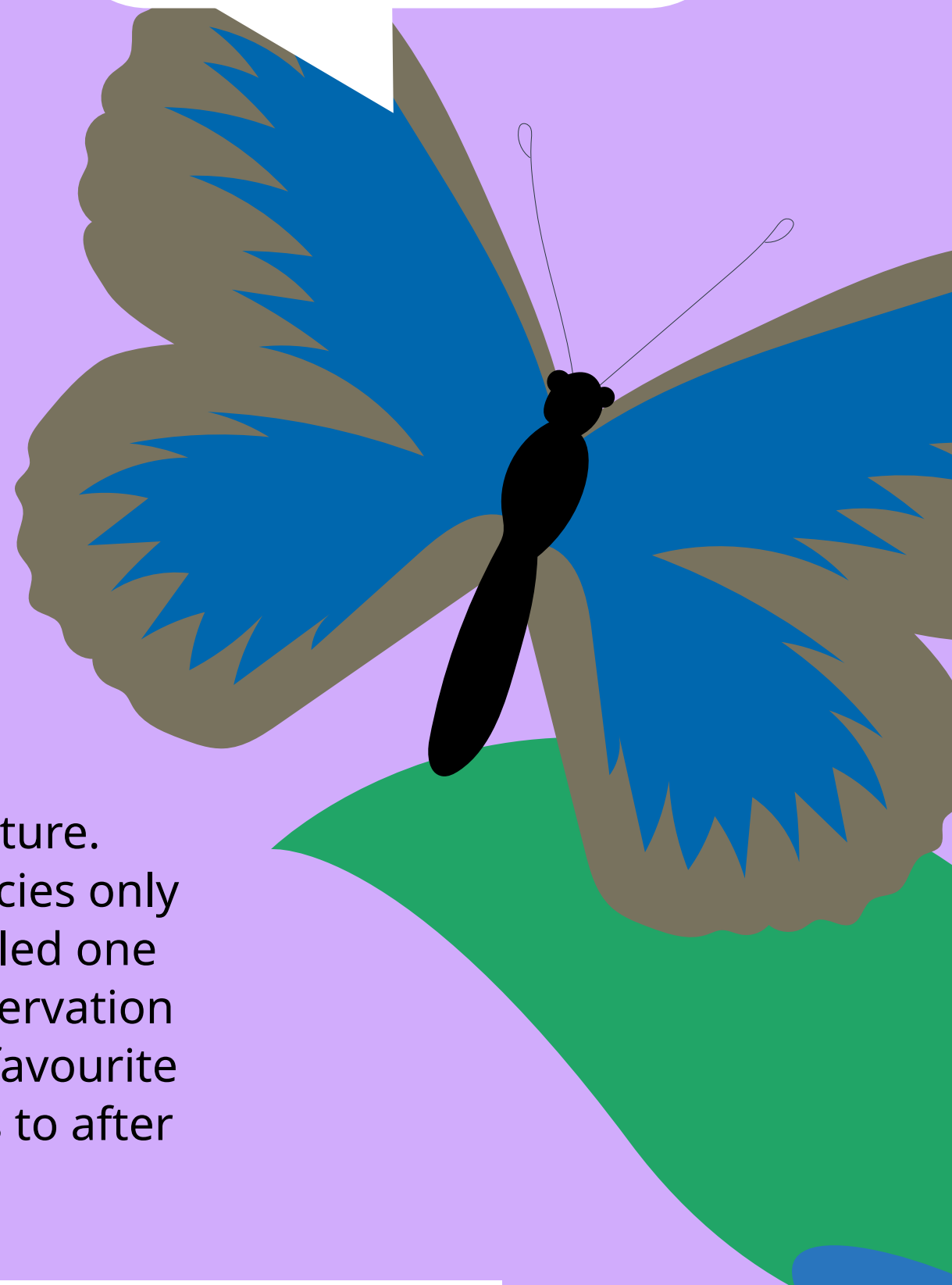
I'm the Karkloof blue butterfly. I am known for my deep blue wings with a dark brown edge, but the back of my wings is beige so if I don't spread my wings you probably won't recognise me. I'm a rare beauty and can only be found in the KwaaZulu-Natal midlands in South Africa.

Sensational but sensitive

I am pretty specific about how I live and what I eat. I only like to lay my eggs in the stems and leaves of the Indigofera plant and my larvae eats its leaves as well. But other invasive plants have started to take its place and my habitat is shrinking as more land is transformed through burning to make way for agriculture. Now only 1 % of the land remains to my liking. My species only produces one generation per year, so if we were all killed one year, there would be none of us left. Fortunately, conservation efforts are being made to protect my habitat and my favourite plant. They are also trying to move the controlled fires to after we enter pupal stages.

Did you know?

You can only see me flying from March to April. The rest of the year I can only be found as an egg, pupa or larvae.



-  **Weight:** Less than 1 g
-  **Length:** 30–40 mm
-  **Number of young:** 12–100 eggs
-  **Diet:** Herbivore (nectar from flowers)
-  **Lifespan:** 1–3 weeks

Source: Nordens Ark



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NE	DO	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX

Our collaboration with Nordens Ark

At IKEA, we collaborate with the wildlife conservation center Nordens Ark, a private non-profit foundation focusing on nature conservation, breeding and rearing, as well as research and education. With their help, we have gained a deeper insight into the conservation efforts needed to preserve wildlife and how we can all contribute.



Over the next few years, we will provide financial support through donations and educational support by raising awareness about endangered species. With the valuable expertise of Nordens Ark, we will also continue to develop new products that aim to inspire curiosity about our planet, nature and all the amazing animals.



Curiosity for conservation

The animals in the wild might feel far away but there is a lot you can do to help them, even from your own home. And you have already taken the first step by learning more about the animals and understanding their struggles. Here are some other examples of how you can help:

Protect nature

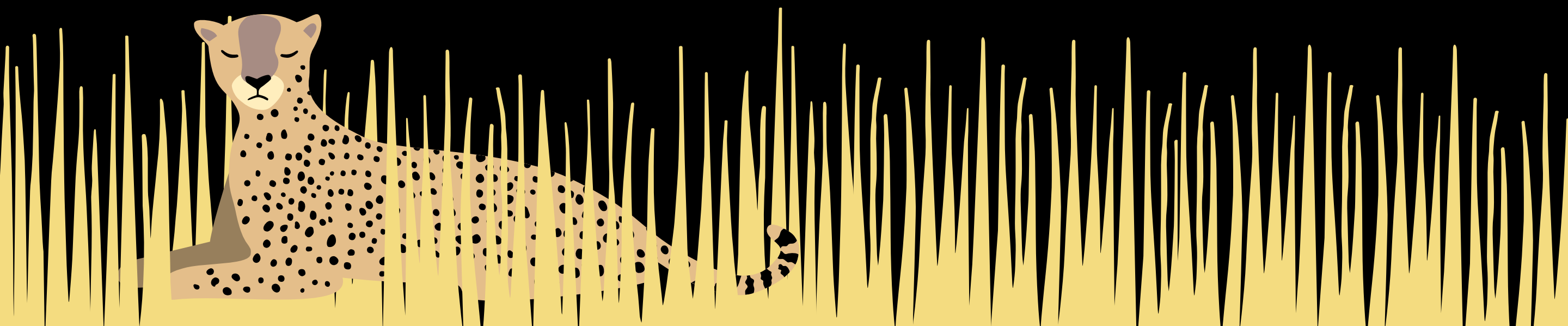
The most important thing you can do for all wildlife is to protect the places where they live. Make sure to take care of nature and never leave behind trash that could harm the animals. It's also good to leave patches of wildflowers in your garden or provide nesting boxes and cups of water for birds and insects.

Let the wild remain wild

Wild animals are not ours to keep. They have their own families and homes to return to and should not be cuddled with. That's what we have soft toys for. Baby animals might look lonely and abandoned, but many times their mothers are nearby or on their way back and our presence may be what keeps them away. Unless you're a gamekeeper, you should not feed the animals either. The wrong food can have fatal consequences for a wild animal. For example, most birds feed on insects and giving them bread can cause the digestion system to fail in baby birds.

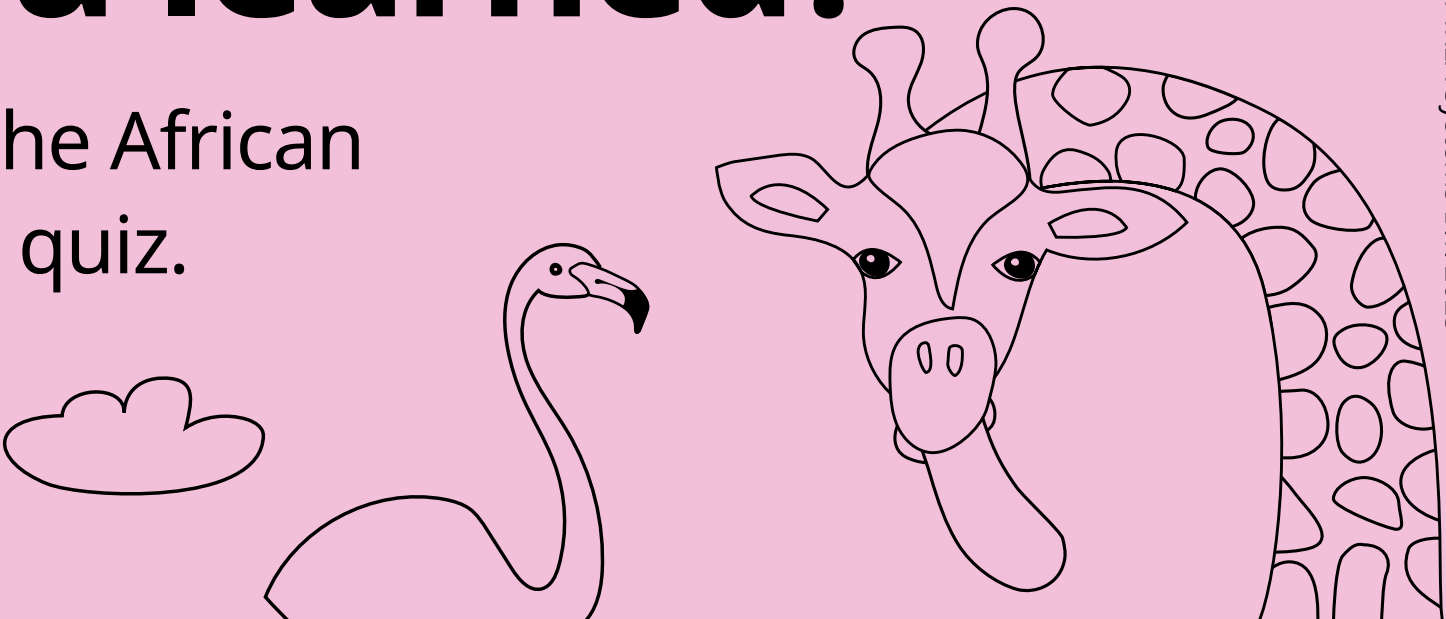
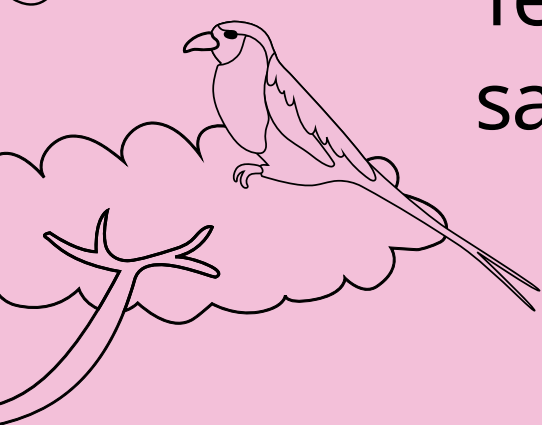
Volunteer at your local nature conservation center

Find out what you can do to help wildlife in your hometown. Many conservation efforts are done locally by dedicated volunteers and they would probably be happy to have your help!



What have you learned?

Test your knowledge of the African savannah with this short quiz.



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1 How much of the Earth's surface is covered by savannah?

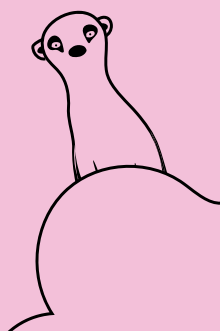
2 What is a herbivore?

3 Why are elephants so important on the savannah?

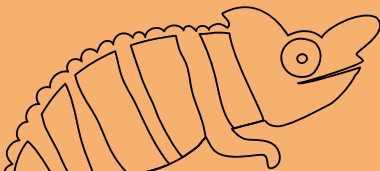
4 Which animal does the cheetah cub resemble to fool predators?

5 Which animal is immune to scorpion venom?

6 What colour is a giraffe's tongue?



7 Where do more than half of all chameleons live?



8 How fast can a hippopotamus swim?

9 Which animal navigates by the sun and the stars?



10 During what two months of the year can you see the Karkloof blue butterfly flying?

11 Which of the 11 animals mentioned here live the longest?

12 What three things can you do to help wildlife?



8. Trick question, they can't swim!
9. The Dung beetle.
10. March and April.
11. The West-African slender-snouted crocodile that can live to 50 years old.
12. Protect nature, let the wild stay wild, volunteer at a conservation centre.

1. 20%.
2. An animal that eats plants.
3. They provide food and water for others by digging up water and ploughing down trees.
4. The honey badger.
5. The meerkat.
6. Black/blue.
7. In Madagascar.

Results!



Thank you!

Contact

Helene Fernström
Marketing & Communication Content Leader
IKEA Marketing & Communication AB
helene.fernstrom4@inter.ikea.com

