

# Animals, Big and Small

Cycle 26 Decodable  
Student Reader



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There are numerous animals living on the earth. So numerous, it would be ridiculous to try to count them all!

Some of the animals and plants are very small. Some are enormous. And some are sort of in between. Let's learn about some of the smallest and the largest of each.



A blue whale is the biggest animal on earth. It's monstrous! It can be as heavy as 180 tons. That's bigger than a bus! And a blue whale's heart can be as heavy as a car!



One of the smallest animals is the gold frog. Are you curious how small it is? A gold frog is not even a centimeter long! That's about the size of a fingernail!

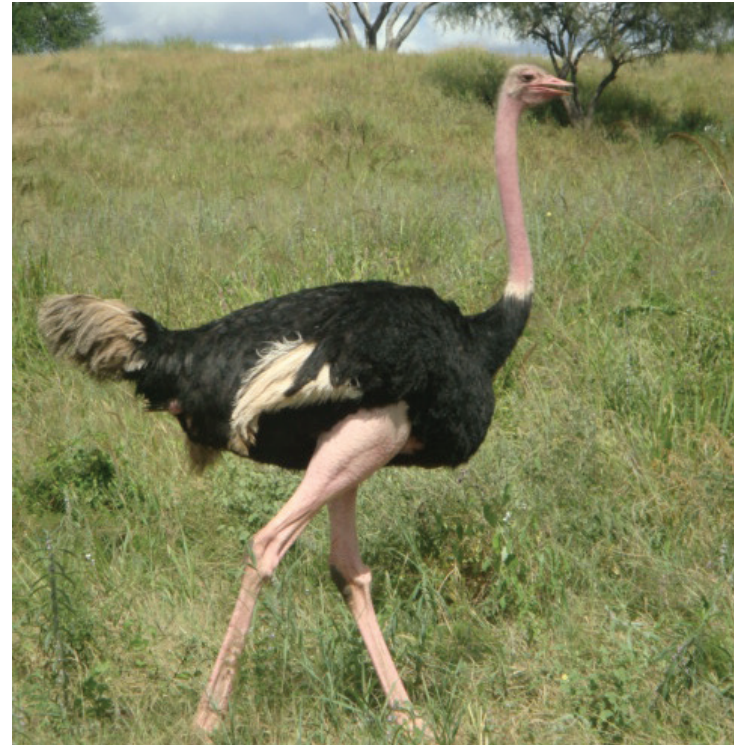


The next enormous animal can be found in the Africa, and at the circus. Did you guess it? Right, the fabulous African elephant. Elephants can stand as tall as thirteen feet. That's taller than a basketball hoop.





Have you ever heard of a slender blind snake? These reptiles are very skinny and only about 11 centimeters long, and have very tiny eyes. They look and act more like a worm than a snake. They are not poisonous or dangerous.



Have you ever heard of a tremendous bird called an ostrich? The ostrich is the biggest bird on earth. This bird is also famous for being very fast. An ostrich's wings help it to run even faster, but they do not help them fly.

You learned about some of the biggest animals and some of the smallest. The earth is also full of many other animals in between! Like the fabulous octopus! Or the whiskery walrus. What is your favorite animal?