

CLASSROOM WORKBOOK



World Animal Day: Animal World Records

Discover the incredible world of animal champions, learning about record-breaking speeds, sizes, and unique abilities across the animal kingdom.

August 25, 2026

Activities

NEW WHAT'S INSIDE?



The Animal Olympics: World Records! 🐾



Vocabulary



Math Problems



Amazing Animal World Records 🐾



Writing Prompt



Animal Record Holders Match-Up! 🐾



Animal Champions Sort! 🐾



Word Search



Animal Records Crossword Challenge 🐾



STUDENT INFORMATION

NAME

DATE

CLASS



Welcome to the most incredible competition on Earth: The Animal Olympics! Every year, on World Animal Day (October 4th), animals from across the globe show off their amazing talents and unbreakable records. Forget about human athletes – these creatures are true champions!

Who's the fastest? It's not always who you think! The **peregrine falcon** is the ultimate speed demon, diving through the air at over 240 miles per hour! On land, the **cheetah** races across the savannas at speeds up to 70 miles per hour. In the ocean, the sleek **sailfish** zips along at 68 miles per hour. These animals prove speed isn't just one thing!

When it comes to size, nothing compares to the **blue whale**, the largest animal EVER known. Its tongue alone can weigh as much as an entire **elephant**, which is the biggest land animal. Standing tall above them all is the **giraffe**, reaching about 18 feet tall with a tongue that can stretch up to 20 inches long!

Deep down in the ocean, the **Cuvier's beaked whale** is the champion diver, plunging almost 3,000 meters on a single breath. The **emperor penguin**, a bird that loves the cold, can dive around 500 meters! And for the longest journey, the **Arctic tern** flies an incredible 44,000 miles each year, from the Arctic to the Antarctic and back again. Even tiny **monarch butterflies** fly thousands of miles on their migration!

But there's more! A tiny **ant** can lift 50 times its own body weight, making it one of the strongest animals for its size. The **kangaroo** leaps about 25 feet, showing off amazing jumping power. Who sleeps the most? The cuddly **koala**, snoozing for 20-22 hours a day! From the **octopus** with its three hearts, to the **owl** that can turn its head 270 degrees, and the unique **sloth** (the slowest mammal), the animal kingdom is full of record-breakers and wonders. Even the **shark**, one of the oldest animal groups on Earth, is here to cheer on these amazing athletes!



Did You Know? A giraffe's tongue can be up to 21 inches long, allowing it to reach leaves on tall trees and even clean its own ears!



Write the definition for each word in your own words.

Migration

definition

Nocturnal

definition

Biome

definition

Mammal

definition

Predator

definition

Echolocation

definition



Did You Know? Dolphins sleep with only half of their brain at a time, keeping one eye open and staying alert for predators or to surface for air.

Solve each problem. Show your work in the space provided.

1. An Arctic tern flies 44,000 miles during its annual migration journey. If it flies the same distance back, how many total miles does it travel in a round trip?

Answer: _____

2. A cheetah can run at a top speed of 70 miles per hour. If it sprints for 2 hours at this speed, how many miles would it cover?

Answer: _____

3. The blue whale's tongue alone weighs as much as an elephant, which can be around 13,000 pounds. If a baby blue whale weighs 6,000 pounds, how much heavier is an elephant's tongue than the baby whale?

Answer: _____

4. A Cuvier's beaked whale can dive to a depth of 2,992 meters. If an emperor penguin can dive to about 500 meters, how much deeper can the whale dive than the penguin?

Answer: _____

5. A koala can sleep for 20 hours in a single day. How many hours is the koala awake each day?

Answer: _____

6. An ant can lift about 50 times its own body weight. If an ant weighs 1 gram, how many grams can it lift?

Answer: _____

7. A giraffe is about 18 feet tall. If a person is 6 feet tall, how many times taller is the giraffe?

Answer: _____

8. A peregrine falcon dives at 240 miles per hour. A sailfish swims at 68 miles per hour. What is the difference in their record speeds?



Answer: _____



Sharky's Joke! Why did the cheetah get kicked out of the race? Because it was always *cheetah*-ing!



Animal	Record Type	Measurement	Habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Dive Speed	240+ mph	Global (except Antarctica)
Blue Whale	Largest Animal	~100 feet long	Oceans Worldwide
Cuvier's Beaked Whale	Deepest Dive	2,992 meters	Deep Oceans
Arctic Tern	Longest Migration	44,000 miles/year	Arctic to Antarctic
Ant	Relative Strength	50x body weight	Most Terrestrial Regions

Use the table to answer these questions.

1. Which animal listed has the fastest record, and what is it?

2. What is the record measurement for the Blue Whale?

3. Which two animals listed live in oceans?



Did You Know? No two tigers have the exact same stripe pattern; each tiger's stripes are unique, just like human fingerprints.



Writing Prompt

World Animal Day: Animal World Records

Imagine you are an animal competing in the 'Animal Olympics.' Which record-breaking event would you participate in, and what animal would you be? Describe your event, how you prepare, and what makes you the best champion!



Did You Know? A lion's mighty roar can travel up to 5 miles, a sound used to communicate, warn rivals, and defend territory.

Match each item on the left with the correct item on the right. Write the matching letter in the blank.

1. _____ Peregrine Falcon
2. _____ Blue Whale
3. _____ Giraffe
4. _____ Arctic Tern
5. _____ Octopus
6. _____ Ant
7. _____ Koala
8. _____ Bat
9. _____ Kangaroo
10. _____ Cuvier's Beaked Whale

- A. Longest Annual Migration
- B. Deepest Marine Dive
- C. Largest Animal Ever
- D. Three Hearts
- E. Tallest Land Animal
- F. Fastest Dive
- G. Only Flying Mammal
- H. Longest Jump
- I. Strongest (relative to size)
- J. Longest Sleeper



Sharky's Joke! What do you call a sleeping bull? A bulldozer!

Sort each word from the word bank into the correct category.

Word Bank:

Peregrine Cheetah Sailfish Bluewhale Giraffe Elephant Octopus Sloth Owl Bat Hummingbird Flamingo

SPEED Champions

SIZE Champions

WEIRD & WONDERFUL



Did You Know? Honeybees are incredibly busy, visiting up to 1,000 flowers in a single day to collect nectar and pollen.



Word Search

World Animal Day: Animal World Records

Find and circle all the hidden words in the grid.

E	E	D	V	P	O	Q	D	Q	W	K	O	N	J
B	L	L	K	E	I	I	C	H	E	E	T	A	H
H	D	P	E	N	N	W	U	K	T	C	M	O	O
E	V	M	R	P	C	I	O	N	E	L	F	W	O
W	F	B	A	T	H	A	R	L	Q	G	I	L	R
O	S	F	G	O	L	A	A	G	K	S	H	O	A
N	C	R	A	A	G	H	N	Q	E	T	J	B	G
I	B	T	K	R	W	N	N	T	O	R	S	K	N
U	P	T	O	E	I	I	I	L	B	H	E	F	A
G	F	J	U	P	H	G	S	M	A	G	D	P	K
N	O	L	T	P	U	P	B	R	A	L	M	H	E
E	B	O	L	A	H	S	K	N	T	L	J	D	Q
P	X	O	U	T	N	Q	W	Y	U	V	F	T	S
F	D	H	C	R	A	N	O	M	U	A	X	T	V

FIND THESE WORDS

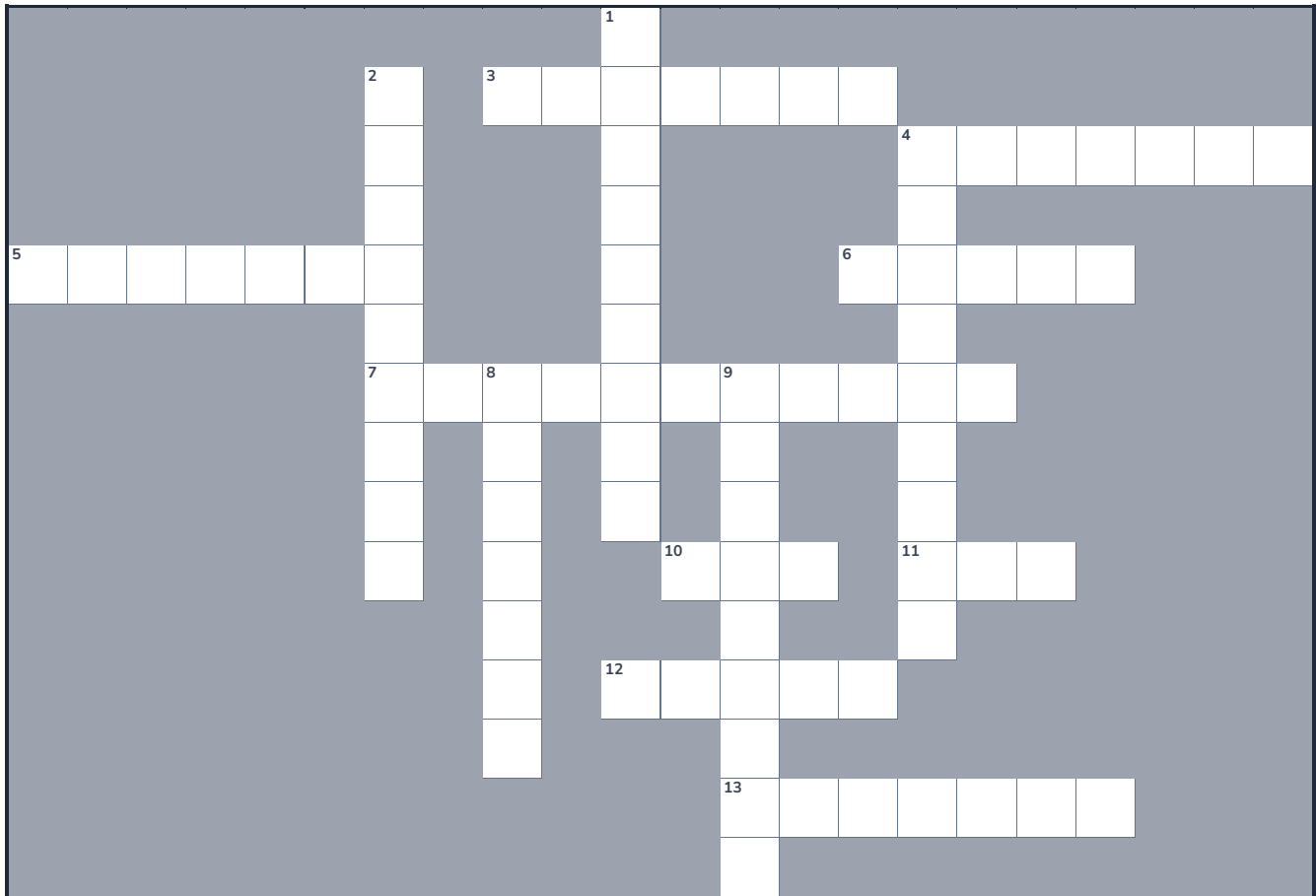
PEREGRINE CHEETAH BLUEWHALE GIRAFFE ELEPHANT PENGUIN MONARCH KANGAROO
 KOALA DOLPHIN OCTOPUS OWL SLOTH BAT FLAMINGO SHARK



Did You Know? Flamingos are born with gray feathers; they only turn pink because of the special pigments found in the brine shrimp and algae they eat.



Fill in the crossword using the clues below.



ACROSS

3. Fastest land animal, reaching 70 mph
4. Bird known for deep dives in icy waters
5. Tallest land animal with a long neck and tongue
6. Slowest mammal on Earth
7. Bird that can fly backward
10. Only mammal that can fly
11. Animal known for lifting 50 times its body weight
12. Host of the Animal Olympics
13. Animal with three hearts

DOWN

1. Bird that can dive over 240 miles per hour
2. Largest animal on Earth, weighing up to 200 tons
4. Bear with black skin under its white fur
8. Migrating insect known for long journeys
9. Reptile known for living over 100 years



Sharky's Joke! Why did the turtle cross the road? To get to the shell station!

Check Your Answers Online!

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to check your answers and find more fun activities on Shark Learning.



sharklearning.com/workbook/2026-08-25-world-animal-day-animal-world-records

or scan the QR code above

 Keep practising — great things take time! ★