

## **Animals from Different Places**

6 Articles

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# Frogs Have Special Skin

By ReadWorks



Leon Brooks

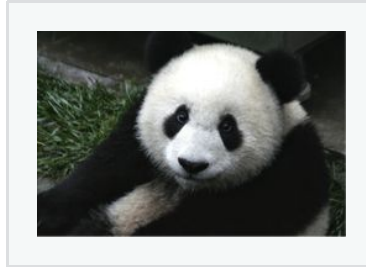
Have you ever seen a frog in a pond? You can often spot one there. Most frogs live near water. They need to keep their skin wet.

A frog's skin is special. It makes a slimy coating that helps the frog stay wet. A frog drinks through its skin. It also breathes through its skin. A frog can do that only when its skin is wet.

Frogs also breathe using lungs. What else do frogs use lungs for? Frogs make noise. Ribbit!

# Meet a Baby Panda

By ReadWorks



In the United States, pandas live in zoos. Some baby pandas are born in the zoo.

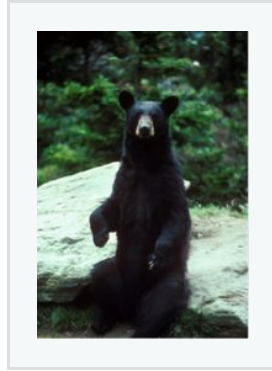
At first, a baby panda does not look like its mother. It does not have much hair at all. Its eyes are closed. The baby drinks its mother's milk. The mother holds the baby in her paws.

The baby grows quickly. Now it looks like its mother. Soon the little panda starts to eat bamboo. Bamboo is a kind of plant.

Then the panda spends less time with its mother. It likes to be on its own. It will climb trees. It will sit on their branches.

# Keeping Bears Out

By ReadWorks



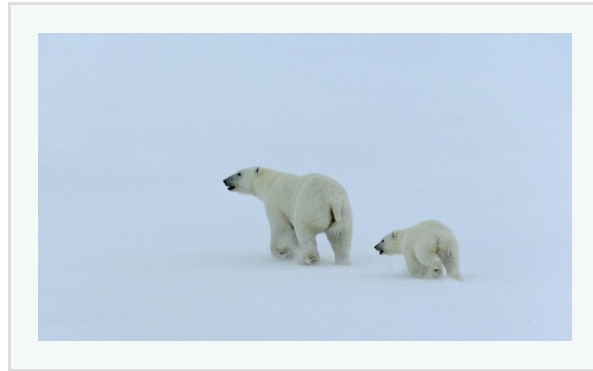
Wild bears live in many U.S. national parks. People visit the parks. People bring food when they camp out.

Hungry bears smell the food. They want to eat the food. Bears look for leftover food in trash cans. Bears look for food at people's campsites. That is a problem for people.

Park workers are trying to solve this problem. Workers have put out special garbage cans. The bears cannot break into the cans. Workers tell park visitors to use special boxes for their food. The boxes are metal. People must lock them. Bears cannot get into the boxes.

# A Baby Polar Bear Grows Up

By ReadWorks



Polar bears live in ice and snow. A polar bear baby is a cub. A cub is born with its eyes closed. It does not have much hair. A cub drinks its mother's milk. The mother keeps the cub warm.

The cub grows bigger. Soon the cub can walk. Its mother shows it how to hunt. She shows it how to swim. The cub likes to play. It rolls in the snow.

The cub grows stronger. The cub learns to swim. It can find its own food. Now the cub can live by itself.

# A Shell is Great for Protection

By ReadWorks



All turtles have shells. Most turtles have hard shells.

Hard shells protect turtles. A predator cannot bite the hard shell. Some turtles can pull their legs inside their shells. They can pull in their heads and tails too.

Shells come in many different shapes. Some shells are tall and round. Other shells are flat.

Sometimes cartoons show turtles leaving their shells. But... that cannot really happen! A turtle cannot leave its shell. The shell is attached to the turtle. It is a permanent part of its body.

# What Lives in the Desert?

By Rachelle Kreisman



A desert is a dry place with little rain. How little? A desert gets less than ten inches of rain each year. Some deserts are hot. A few can be cold. A desert is a habitat. A habitat is a place where animals and plants live.

Hot deserts are home to many kinds of living things. Animals living there include owls, snakes, lizards, and coyotes. Another hot desert animal is the kangaroo rat. It sleeps underground during the day, when the weather is hot. The kangaroo rat comes out at night, when it is cooler. Kangaroo rats get the water they need from food. They eat mostly seeds.

Some plants live in the hot desert. Only a few kinds of trees and bushes can survive there. One of the most common desert plants is the cactus. The cactus collects and stores water in its stem. Sharp spines protect most cacti from animals.