

Real, Extinct, or Imaginary?

Do you think these mysterious creatures are alive today, extinct, or totally made up? How could you find out? Check your library for more information!

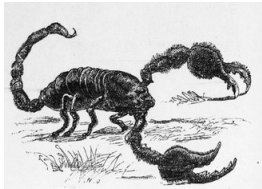


What am I?

Hint 1: I come from Australia.

Hint 2: I am a monotreme, which means I am a mammal that lays eggs.

Hint 3: My scientific name means “flat-footed duck”

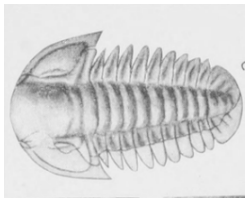


What am I?

Hint 1: I glow under a black light.

Hint 2: I am not an insect, even though I look a bit like one.

Hint 3: The sting at the end of my tail contains a deadly venom.



What am I?

Hint 1: I can roll into a tight ball if threatened.

Hint 2: I first evolved more than 550 million years ago, during the Cambrian period.

Hint 3: My scientific name means “three-part-body.”



What am I?

Hint 1: I am often considered an excellent treasure guardian.

Hint 2: You can find pictures of me in the art of many different cultures, including Greek and Persian.

Hint 3: You may have found me in the pages of Harry Potter, Percy Jackson, or the Spiderwick Chronicles.

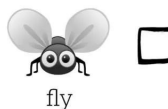
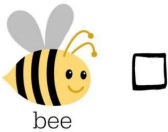
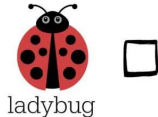
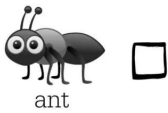
Answers: 1. Platypus (real) 2. Scorpion (real) 3. Trilobite (extinct) 4. Griffin (imaginary)

Bug Hunt!

Explore outside and look closely! You are sure to find some of the most amazing creatures on earth – bugs!

- How many of these bugs can you find?
- Did you see any that are not on this chart?

BUG scavenger hunt



Source: MyMommyStyle.com

Did You Know?



When the Italian explorer Marco Polo traveled to Indonesia during the Middle Ages, he claimed to have found unicorns.



He described them as:

- Nearly as large as elephants
- With a single thick black horn
- Having a long prickly tongue
- Head resembling a boar (pig)
- Loving mud
- Having feet like elephants
- Ugly to look upon

What animal do you think he really saw? Use the back of this paper and try drawing a creature with the features described, and then take a guess. Check the answer key to see if you were right!

What did Marco Polo actually find? Rhinoceros!

Design Your Own Creature



- Grab a sheet of blank paper and something to draw with (pencil, marker, crayon, etc.)
- Think about your creature... Does your creature have a body? Head? Arms? Legs? Claws? Tail? Horn? Scales? Fur? Wings? Sharp teeth?
- Got your ideas? Begin to draw!
- Finish by giving it a name!