


JANE PARK

# HIDDEN CREATURE FEATURES







Animals have even more features than those included in this book. Different features help animals do different things.

Imagine a special feature that would help you if you had to

- CLIMB A TREE
- SWIM
- DIG HOLES
- FLY
- KEEP WARM
- SEE IN THE DARK



# GLOSSARY

**adaptation:** a change in animals' appearance or behavior that helps them survive

**feature:** a notable part or characteristic of an animal

**keratin:** a hard protein that makes up hair, nails, horns, hoofs, and feathers

**membrane:** a thin layer that connects parts of an organism

**parachute:** a device that can slow an object falling through the air

**semitransparent:** a material that allows some light to pass through

**spur:** a sharp, hollow hook on a male platypus's back legs

**talon:** the claw of a bird of prey such as owls, hawks, and eagles

**venomous:** making a poisonous liquid that is usually passed on by a bite or sting

## FURTHER READING

### Books

Hanáčková, Pavla. *Why Penguins Don't Get Cold: How Animals Adapt to Their Surroundings*. London: Windmill Books, 2021.

Jenkins, Steve, and Robin Page. *Creature Features: Twenty-Five Animals Explain Why They Look the Way They Do*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014.

Murphy, Julie. *Odd Bods: The World's Unusual Animals*. Minneapolis: Millbrook Press, 2021.

Piro, Radka. *Animal Adaptations: Unique Body Parts*. Prague: Albatros Media, 2021.

### Websites

Idaho PBS: Animal Adaptation

[https://sciencetrek.org/sciencetrek/topics/animal\\_adaptations/facts.cfm](https://sciencetrek.org/sciencetrek/topics/animal_adaptations/facts.cfm)

National Geographic Society: Adaptation and Survival

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/article/adaptation-and-survival/>

PBS: Animal Adaptation

<https://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/animal-adaptation-video/science-trek/>

For Adeline and Grant

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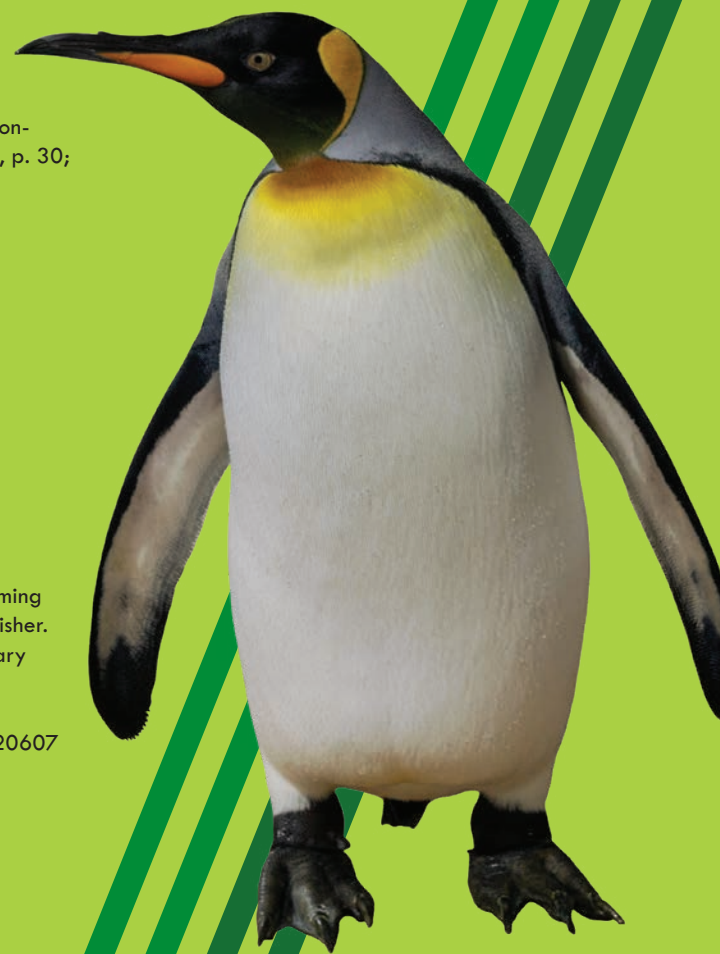
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Some animal features are easy to see—

LONG TAILS,

LARGE WINGS,

PATTERNED FUR,

or SHARP BEAKS!

But look closer—you might be surprised  
by what you find!



A penguin's sharp **BEAK** hides a textured tongue that helps it grip fish. A red-eyed tree frog has a **GOLDEN EYELID** that covers its eyes so it can see predators while it sleeps.

Rhyming text and eye-catching photos offer an up-close look at lots of fascinating **HIDDEN CREATURE FEATURES!**