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# Wonders of Nature



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A male bower bird puts colorful objects in its home.

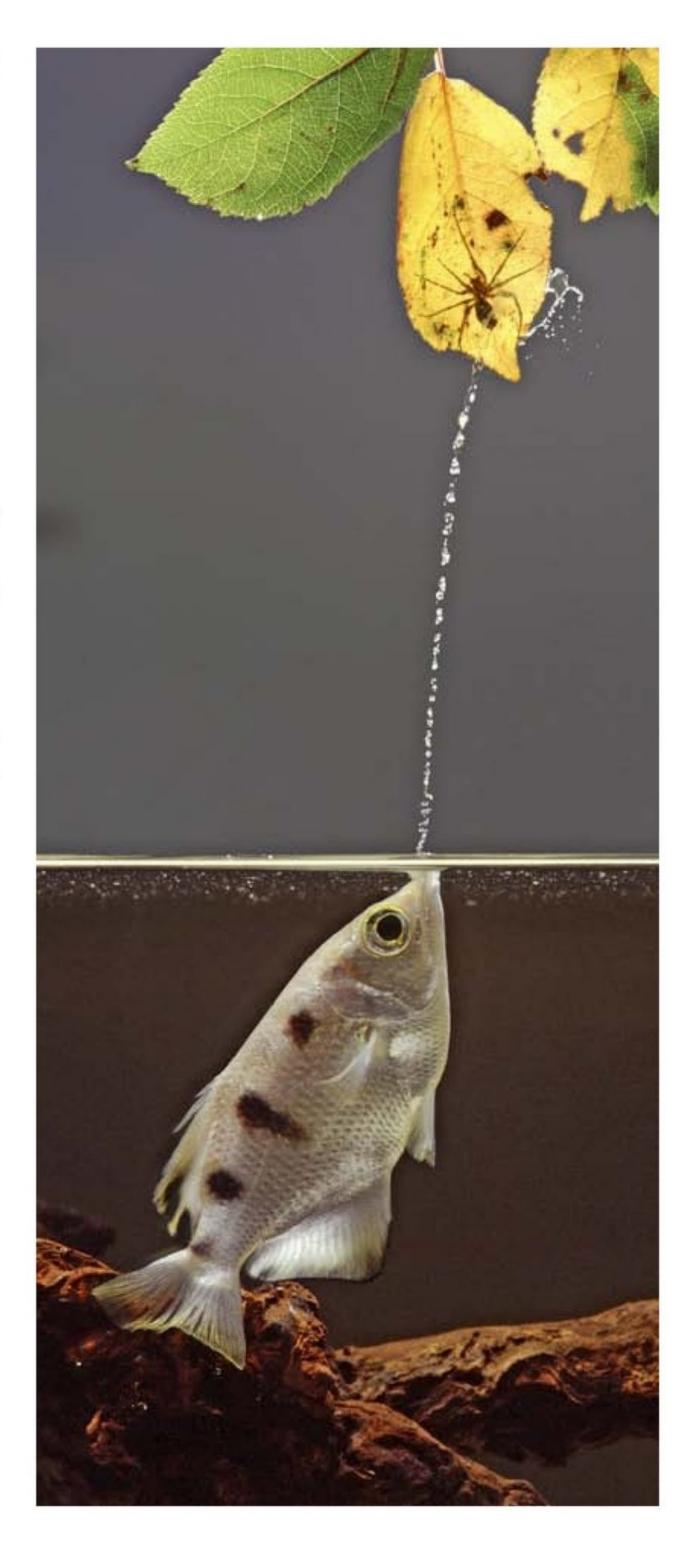
#### Introduction

The world is full of interesting animals. Some animals look strange or have special skills.

Let's look at some of these wonders of **nature**.

## **Archerfish**

Archerfish spit water at bugs. The bugs fall into the water, where the archerfish catch and eat them.



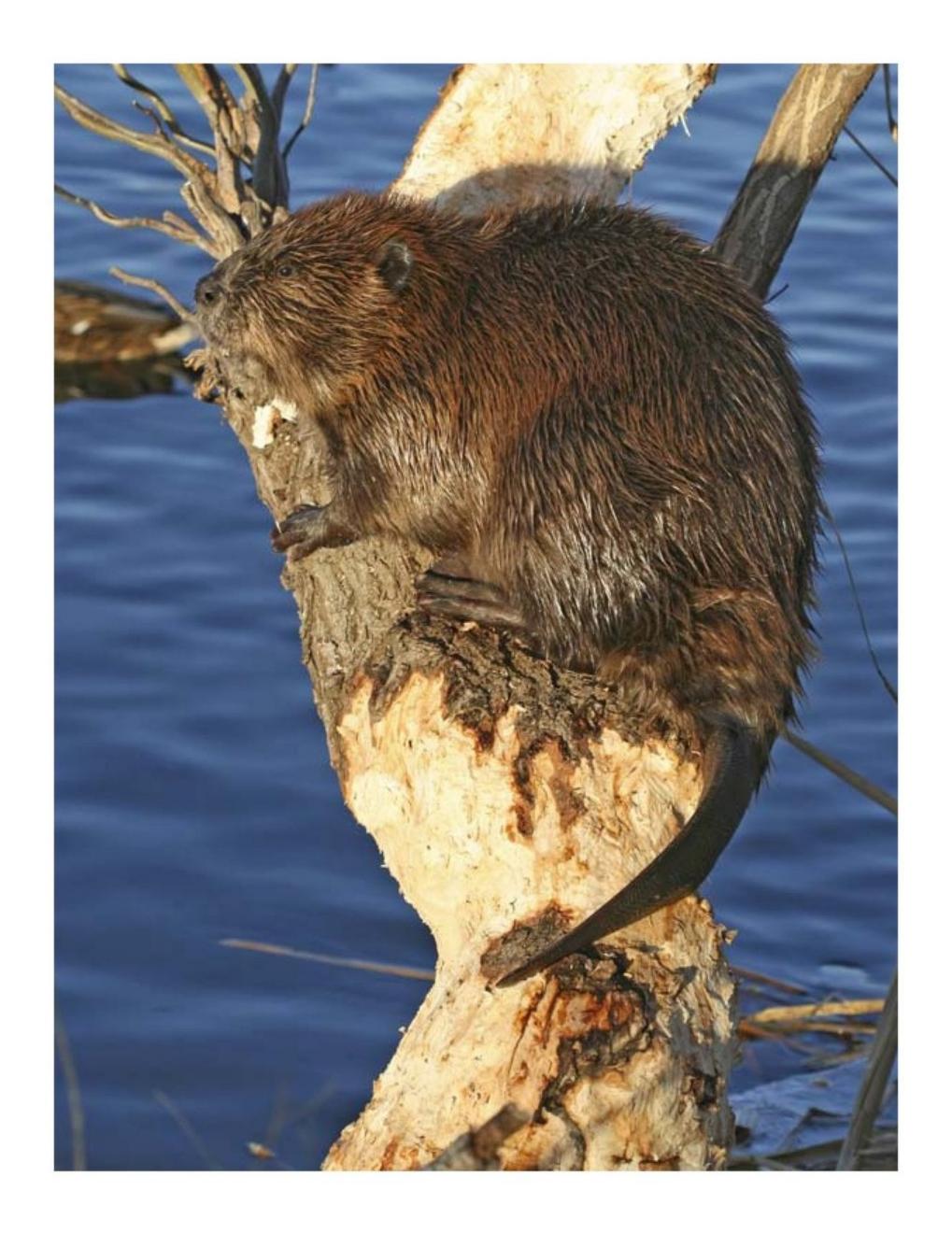
# **Trap-Door Spider**

The trap-door spider lives in a tunnel in the ground.

Its home has a hidden door made of **silk** and dirt.

The spider hides in its tunnel to hunt.





#### **Beaver**

Beavers chew through tree trunks. They make **dams** out of trees, mud, and stones.

#### Chameleon

Chameleons change color to hide themselves.

They even change color to show how they feel.





# Flying Dragon

Flying dragons have skin on their sides that opens like wings.

They jump and **glide** from tree to tree.

### **Leaf Insect**

The body parts of leaf insects look just like leaves.

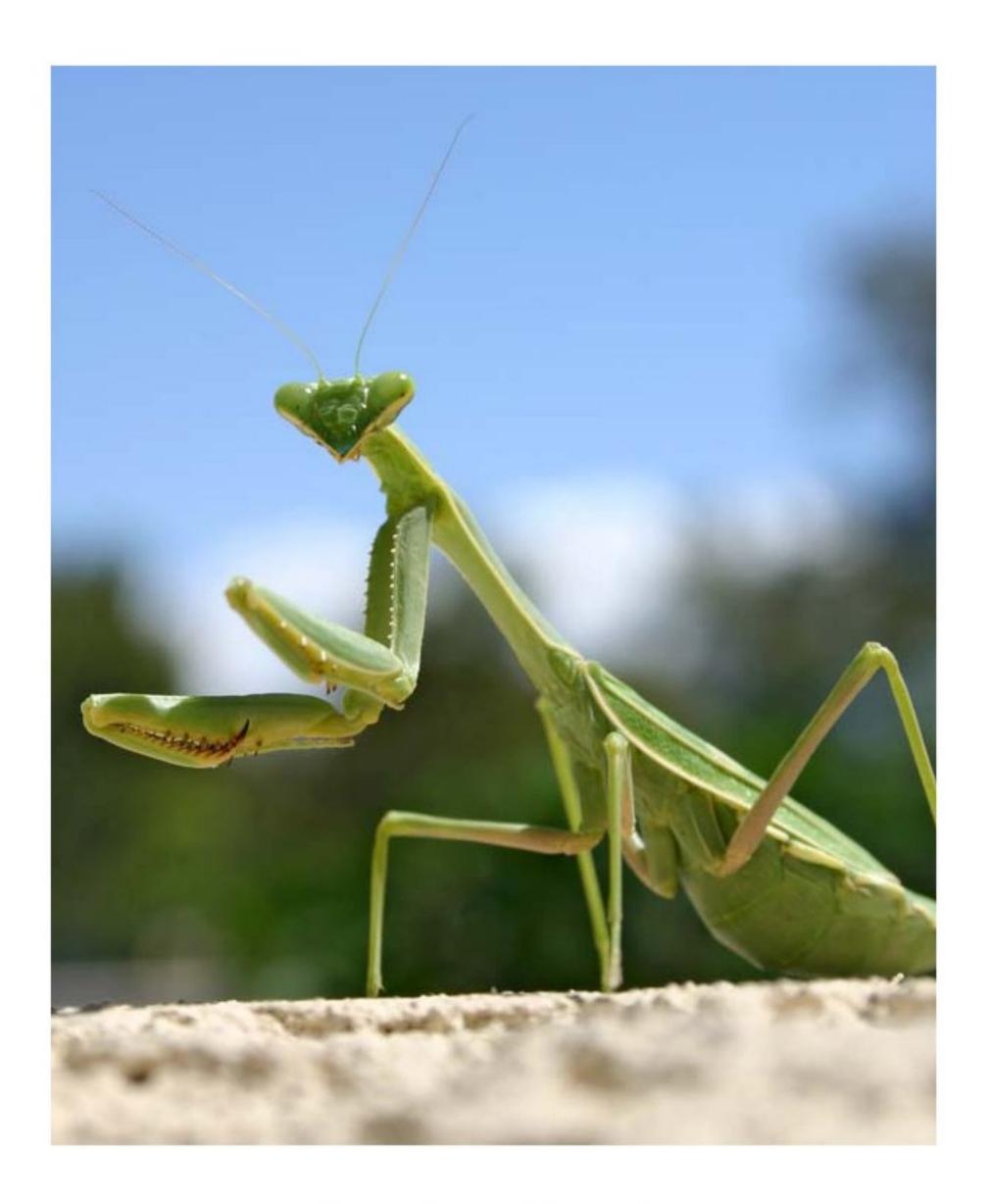
These animals blend in well with real leaves on trees.



# **Leaf-Rolling Weevil**

The female leaf-rolling weevil rolls a leaf into a cone. She lays her eggs inside the cone. The leaf hides and protects her eggs.





# **Praying Mantis**

The praying mantis holds its front legs in a praying position.

A mantis has five eyes to help it hunt for food.

#### Mole

Moles dig tunnels to find and eat worms.

These animals have tiny eyes, but they are not blind.





Side view of a mole's nest and tunnels

## Sea Dragon

Sea dragons are small fish.

They look like ocean plants.

Their leafy parts help them catch food and hide from enemies.





The three-wattled bell bird makes a strange sound.

#### Conclusion

Interesting animals come in many shapes and sizes.

They are all wonders of nature.

# Glossary

dams (n.) walls that stop the flow of water (p. 7)

**glide** (v.) to move smoothly and quietly through air or water (p. 9)

nature (n.) the natural world, including animals, plants, and land (p. 4)

silk (n.) threads produced by a spider or caterpillar (p. 6)

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