

LEVELED BOOK • K

What Lives in This Hole?

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Written by Kira Freed

What Lives in This Hole?



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www.readinga-z.com



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Animal Burrows

I found a big hole in the ground two months ago. I thought it might be an animal's **burrow**. I took a picture with my phone to show my teacher.



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My teacher and I work together.

She helped me find out what lives
in the hole. Now I study the burrow
of a different animal every week.
Then I write about it on our class
blog. Check out what I've learned!

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Burrows

The image shows a map of the western United States and Mexico with a red shaded area indicating the 'Desert tortoise range'. Labels include California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and MEXICO. The Pacific Ocean is to the west. A compass rose shows cardinal directions. To the right is a photograph of a desert tortoise resting near a burrow entrance in a dry, sandy environment.

Do You Know?

Some burrows are only a little bigger than a desert tortoise's shell.

A large desert tortoise hangs out in a burrow.

Staying Cool

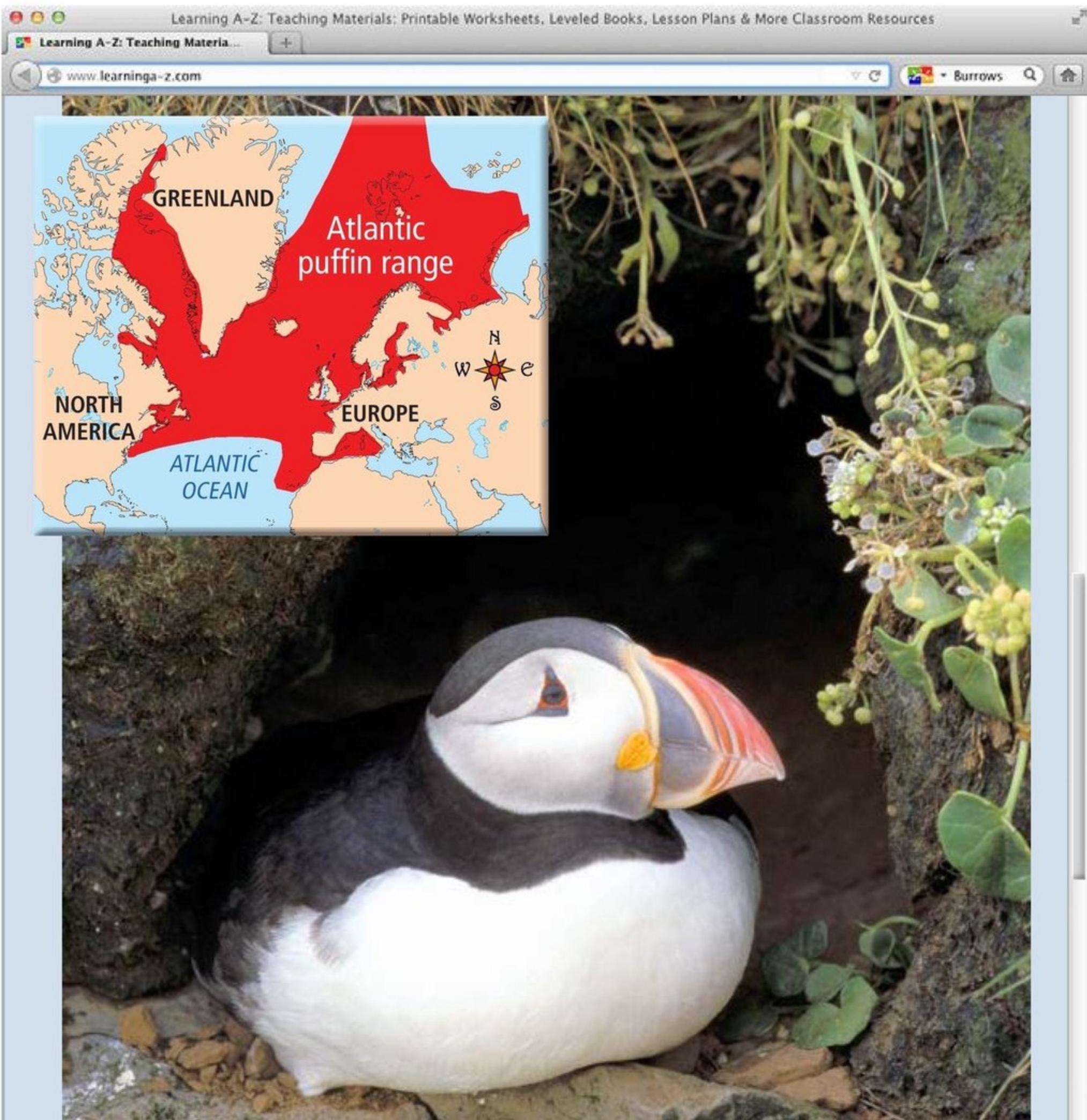
A desert tortoise lives in this hole! This animal lives in a desert. It digs a burrow to get away from the heat. It spends most of its life in the burrow.



Goliath bird-eating spiders live in rainforests in northern South America.

Keeping Eggs Safe

A *huge* spider lives in this hole! It lives in a deep burrow. A female lays about fifty eggs in a little bag. She takes the bag with her if she leaves to hunt.



Atlantic puffins nest along the coasts of Europe and North America.

Making a Nest

This hole belongs to **puffins!** These birds spend most of their life at sea. They use their strong wings and webbed feet to fly and swim. Puffins swim better than they fly.

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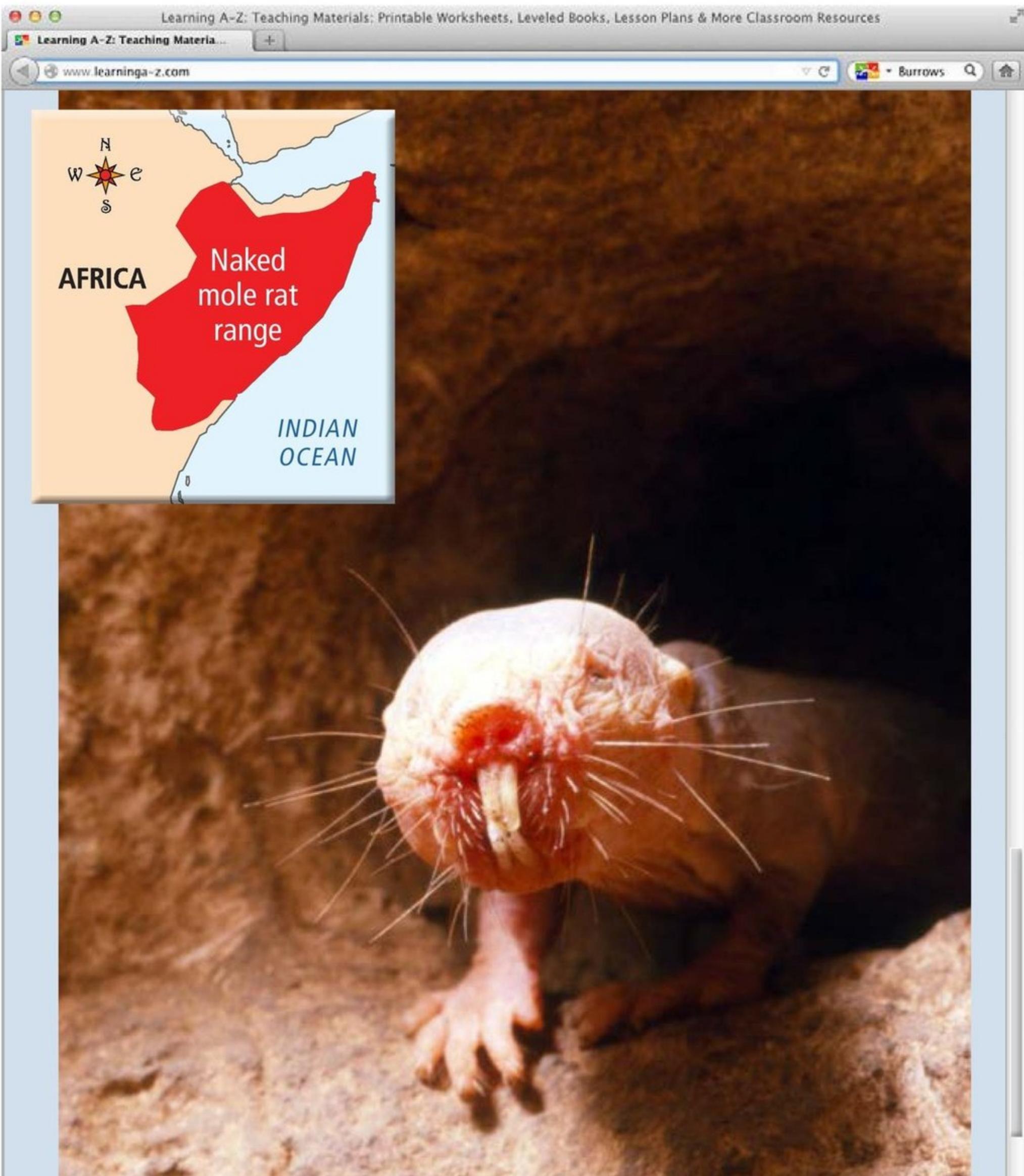
Learning A-Z: Teaching Mater... www.learninga-z.com Burrows

A puffin feeds its chick.

Wowser!

Atlantic puffins have brightly colored bills at certain times of the year. Some people call these birds "sea parrots" or "clowns of the sea."

Puffins use a burrow as a nest. They dig the burrow on a high cliff. Both parents care for the egg and then the chick.



Naked mole rats live in dry grasslands in East Africa.

Living in the Dark

Naked mole rats live in this hole!
They spend their whole lives in the dark. They dig tunnels to find roots to eat.



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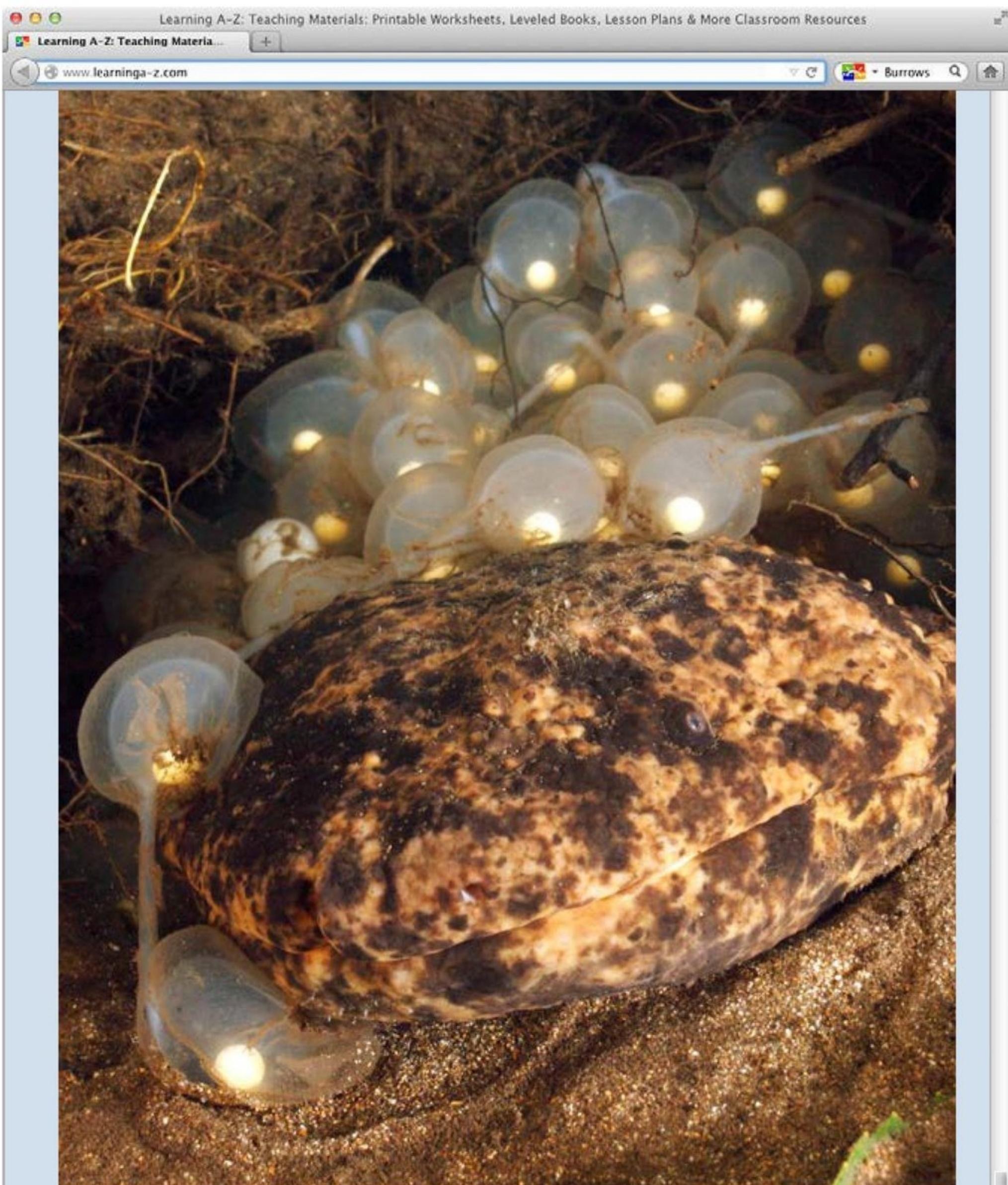
The page displays a map of China and Japan with a red shaded area indicating the 'Giant salamander range' in Japan. To the right is a large, detailed photograph of a Japanese giant salamander (aurata) resting on a dark, textured surface. A callout box contains the text: 'Wowser! Japanese giant salamanders can grow as long as 1.5 meters (5 ft.).'



A Japanese giant salamander comes out of its burrow.

Hiding and Laying Eggs

A big **salamander** lives in this underwater hole! It lives in rivers and streams. It hides in a burrow or under rocks during the day. It comes out to hunt at night.



A male salamander protects the eggs.

In late summer, males and females gather at burrows. A female lays up to five hundred eggs there. A male watches the eggs to make sure no fish eat them.

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Wowser!

A wombat's burrow may be as long as three school buses!

AUSTRALIA

Tasmania

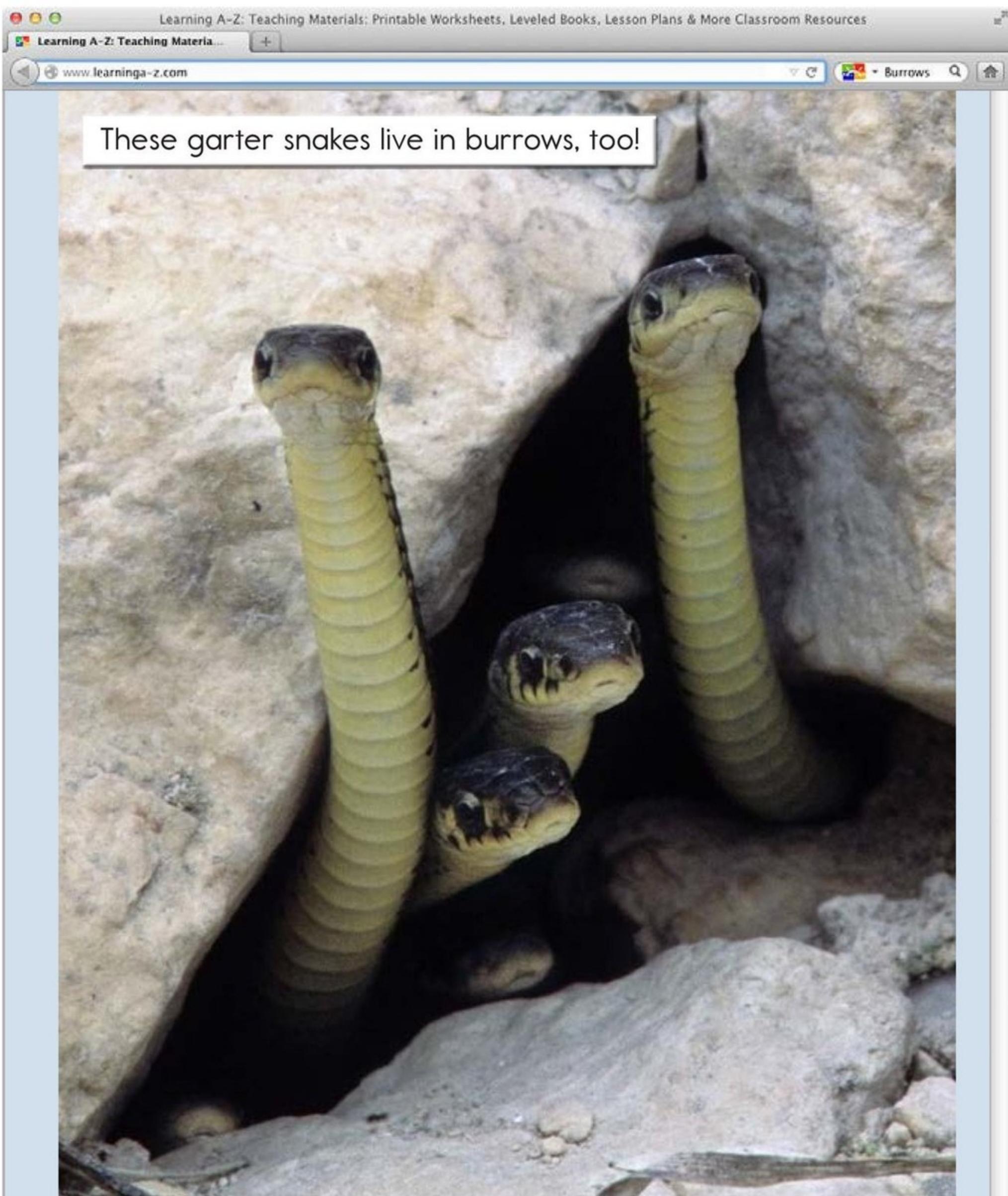
SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

N
W E S
Wombat Range

Three kinds of wombats live in parts of Australia and some nearby islands.

Taking a Nap

A **wombat** lives in this hole! This animal digs a burrow with its huge claws. It sleeps in its burrow during the day. At night, it comes out to find plants to eat.



More to Come

I'm going to study more animals that live in holes. Next, I will write about rabbits, snakes, and ants. It's so fun to learn about animals!

Glossary

burrow (<i>n.</i>)	a hole dug in the ground by an animal for use as a home (p. 4)
naked mole rats (<i>n.</i>)	burrowing, almost hairless rodents that are nearly blind and live in Africa (p. 10)
puffins (<i>n.</i>)	any of three kinds of diving seabirds known for their brightly colored beaks (p. 8)
salamander (<i>n.</i>)	a kind of amphibian that has smooth, wet skin, a long tail, and short legs (p. 12)
tunnels (<i>n.</i>)	underground passages (p. 10)
wombat (<i>n.</i>)	a burrowing mammal with a pouch and short legs that looks similar to a small bear (p. 14)

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Back cover: Hermit crab

Title page: Yellow armadillo

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