

# EXOTIC WILDLIFE MYSTERY MINI BLOCKS

Collect all 12 Different Animals!

Each pack includes one of the following:

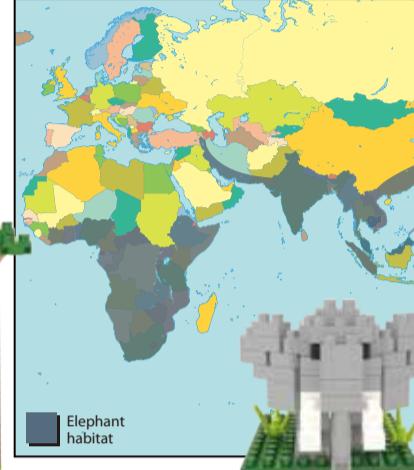
Chimpanzee, Elephant, Flamingo, Giant Panda, Giraffe, Gorilla, Koala, Lion, Penguins, Rhino, Tiger or Zebra

Humans have long been fascinated by the exotic animal species of the world. Unfortunately, they have not always chosen to live in harmony with these animals. Many have been hunted down for their exotic furs, horns, and tusks, while others have lost their natural habitats through farming, grazing, and industry. Poaching and environmental destruction have endangered the very survival of many animals, and it is time to recognize our responsibility to preserve and protect these exotic species.



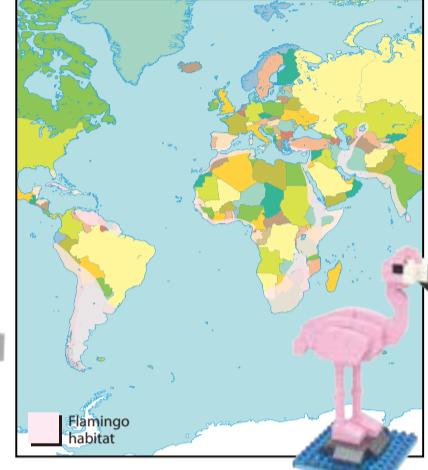
## Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*)

The Chimpanzee is a species of ape that is most closely related to humans. Chimpanzees inhabit tropical forests and savannas of equatorial Africa. They stand approximately 3–5 ½ feet tall and weigh about 70–130 pounds and are covered by a coat of brown or black hair. Chimpanzees spend their time in both the trees and on the ground, but they normally feed in the trees. Their diet is mainly vegetarian, but they do still eat meat.



## Elephant

Elephants are extremely intelligent animals and have memories that span many years. It is this memory that serves matriarchs well during dry seasons when they need to guide their herds, sometimes for tens of miles, to watering holes that they remember from the past. Recent discoveries have shown that elephants can communicate over long distances by producing sub-sonic rumble that can travel over the ground faster than sound through air.



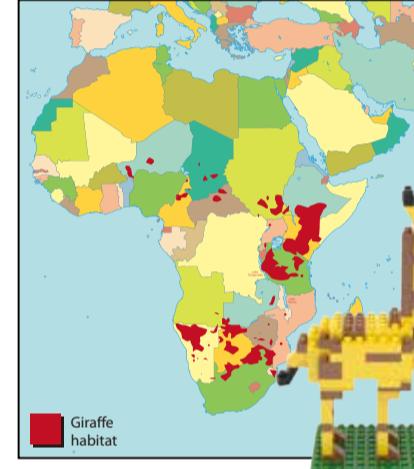
## Flamingo

Flamingos are the most instantly recognizable wading birds in the world. The word "flamingo" comes from the Spanish and Latin word "flamenco" which means fire, and refers to the bright color of the birds' feathers. They are strong but rare swimmers and powerful fliers, even though they're most often seen just wading. Flamingos hold their bent bills upside down while feeding, often for several hours a day, so they can filter out their food while skimming the water.



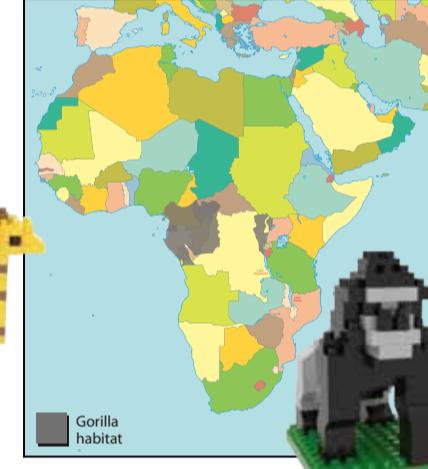
## Giant Panda (*Ailuropoda melanoleuca*)

Giant pandas are an endangered species that live in mountain forests in central China. Pandas can stand nearly 6 feet tall and weigh up to 300 pounds. The giant panda's diet consists especially of bamboo shoots and roots; they spend up to 14 hours each day consuming 30 to 80 pounds of bamboo. Pandas are accomplished climbers and swimmers and are rambunctious, playful animals.



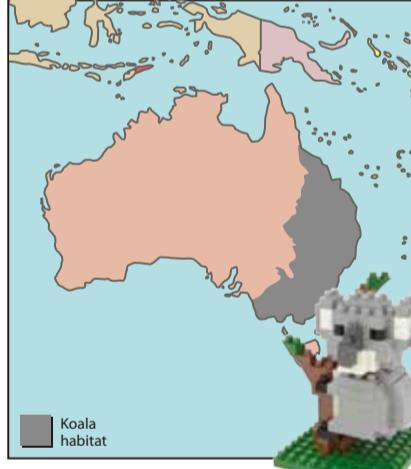
## Giraffe

Giraffes grow about 4 feet in their first year of life and a newborn giraffe is about 6 feet tall at birth weighing about 150 pounds. Once a giraffe reaches adulthood its height is often enough to protect it from lions. Adult giraffes, however, must still be careful of lions when they are bending down to drink water or rest. Usually, giraffes will drink or rest in shifts, so that at least one giraffe is always on the lookout for approaching predators.



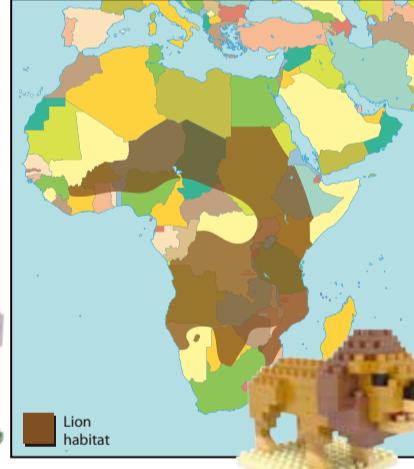
## Gorilla

Gorillas display many human-like behaviors and emotions, such as laughter and sadness. They even make their own tools to help them survive in the forest. In fact, gorillas share 98.3% of their genetic code with humans, making them our closest cousins after chimpanzees and bonobos. The largest of the great apes, gorillas are stocky animals with broad chests and shoulders, large, human-like hands and small eyes set into hairless faces.



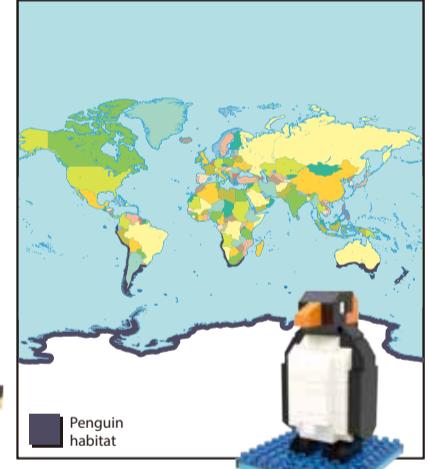
## Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)

Koala, also called koala bear, is a tree-dwelling marsupial of coastal eastern Australia. An adult will range from 24 to 33 inches long and can weigh up to 31 pounds. They have very strong, clawed feet with opposable digits, which make it easy for them to grasp branches. It is a very selective eater and only feeds on leaves of certain eucalyptus trees.



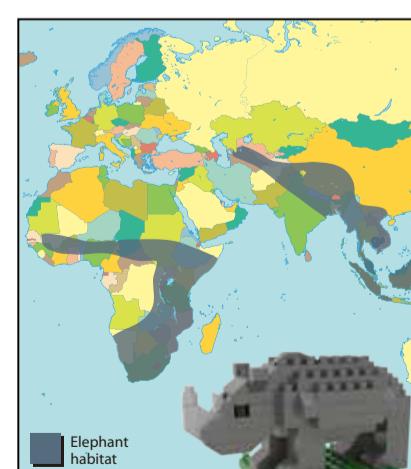
## Lion (*Panthera leo*)

Lions usually live in groups of 15 or more animals called prides. In a pride, lions hunt prey, raise cubs, and defend their territory together. The females do most of the hunting and cub rearing. While the females usually live with the pride for life, the males often stay for only two to four years. After that, they go off on their own or are evicted by other males who take over the pride. The main job of males in the pride is defending the pride's territory.



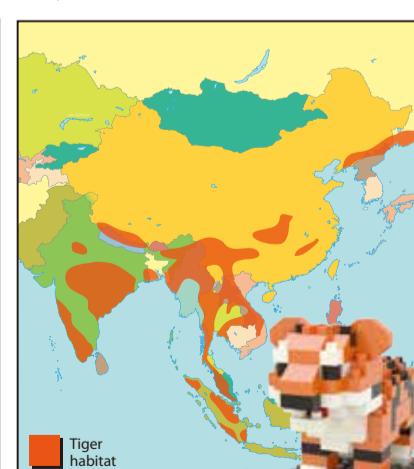
## Penguin

Penguins are aquatic, flightless birds that are highly adapted to life in the water. Their distinct tuxedo-like appearance is called countershading, a form of camouflage that helps keep them safe in the water. Penguins do have wing-bones, though they are flipper-like and extremely suited to swimming. Penguins are found almost exclusively in the southern hemisphere, where they catch their food underwater and raise their young on land.



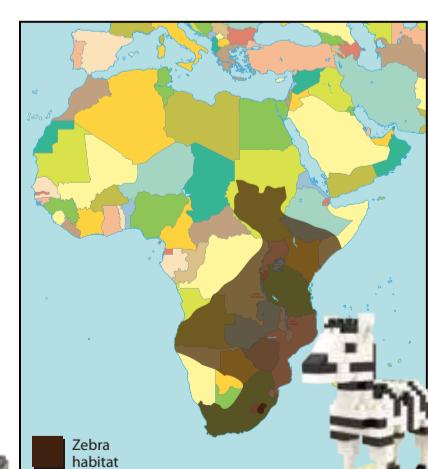
## Rhinoceros

Rhinoceros are known for their thick skin, which forms folds especially around their shoulders and thighs. They are large animals and can measure as long as 13 feet, stand up to 7 feet tall and weigh anywhere from 3-5 tons. All rhinos are gray or brown in color and are nearly hairless, except for the tip of their tail and ear fringes. They have poor eyesight, but very acute senses of hearing and smell. Female rhinoceros will not conceive until they are about six years of age and the gestation period is 16 months, with only one calf being born at a time.



## Tiger

Easily recognized by its coat of reddish-orange with dark stripes, the tiger is the largest wild cat in the world. The powerful predator generally hunts alone, able to bring down prey such as deer and antelope and wait until dark to hunt. Tigers live far apart from each other. A tiger knows if it is in another tiger's territory based on the trees around him. Tiger stripes are special to each individual, and their tails help them to keep their balance.



## Zebra

Zebras are found through many regions of Africa. They are closely related to domestic horses and are large single-hoofed ungulates that are built for speed and long-distance migrations. Zebras average between 42–60 inches in height, can weigh up to approximately 770 pounds and have teeth that are specifically adapted to grazing. All zebras are dark skinned and they have special skin cells that determine the color of their fur. These cells will transfer melanin into some of their hair, making that hair appear black, and the hair not receiving melanin appear white.