

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

African Habitat

lion

Lion says, “rrrooaaaaaaarr.”

It's a lion.

A lion resting.

He has a tawny coat.

Lions rest for many hours each day.

Lion starts with /l/. Find /l/.

elephants

funny elephants

It's three elephants.

wrinkled elephants

Elephants have long trunks.

The tusk is used for digging for food and water.

Elephants starts with /e/. Find /e/.

zebra

stripey zebra

It's a zebra.

dark and light stripes

Some stripes are wide and some are narrow.

The zebra's stripes help it hide.

Zebra starts with /z/. Find /z/.

giraffe

lots of spots

It's a giraffe.

tall giraffe

He must really stretch to get a drink.

The giraffe does not bend his knees when he is drinking.

Giraffe starts with /j/. Find /j/.

hippopotamus

roly poly hippo

It's two hippopotami.

in the water and on the land

Hippopotamus skin looks smooth.

These animals eat plants.

Hippopotamus starts with /h/. Find /h/.

meerkats

One, two, three, four, five!

It's five meerkats.

a group of meerkats

Some are tall and some are short.

Meerkats stand up to look for enemies.

Meerkats starts with /m/. Find /m/.

rhinoceros

Here comes rhino.

It's a rhinoceros.

powerful rhinoceros

It has two horns on its snout.

The rhinoceros uses mud to protect its skin from the sun.

Rhinoceros starts with /r/. Find /r/.

cheetah

spotty cheetah

It's a cheetah.

runs so fast

The cheetah has spots and long whiskers.

It runs fast to catch its prey.

Cheetah starts with /ch/. Find /ch/.

wildebeest

Hello, wildebeest!

It's a wildebeest.

curved pointed horns

A herd of wildebeests is in the grass.

The wildebeests can hide in the tall grass.

Wildebeest starts with /w/. Find /w/.

crocodile

Watch out!

It's a crocodile.

on the bank

The crocodile is lying on the river bank.

He is getting warm in the sun.

Crocodile starts with /k/. Find /k/.

Desert Habitat

snake

“Hiss, hiss.”

It's a snake.

a desert snake

His head is shaped like a triangle.

This snake is poisonous.

Snake starts with /s/. Find /s/.

camels

mama and baby

It's two camels.

one-hump camels

Each camel has a large hump on its back.

The hump stores water for the camel.

Camels starts with /k/. Find /k/.

lizard

pretty lizard

It's a lizard.

colorful lizard

The lizard has a pouch under its chin.

A lizard is a type of reptile.

Lizard starts with /l/. Find /l/.

desert tortoise

M o v e s s o s l o w l y .

It's a desert tortoise.

Carries his shell.

His shell is thick and bony.

The tortoise pulls into his shell for protection.

Tortoise starts with /t/. Find /t/.

Gila monster

black and orange

It's a Gila monster.

long tail

He likes to sun on the rocks.

This reptile is poisonous.

Gila monster starts with /h/. Find /h/.

roadrunner

He's not running!

It's a roadrunner.

Run, run roadrunner!

He has a very long tail.

He eats lizards and snakes.

Roadrunner starts with /r/. Find /r/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

coyote

Coyote says, "owooooo."

It's a coyote.

small wolf

The coyote stands at attention.

His coloring makes a good camouflage.

Coyote starts with /k/. Find /k/.

kit fox

three little ones

It's three kit foxes.

a small fox

The foxes are alert.

They live in the southwestern United States.

Kit fox starts with /k/. Find /k/.

termite mound

small hills

It's a termite mound.

Where?

The termites are under the ground.

They build houses under the ground.

Termite mound starts with /t/. Find /t/.

hyena

Look, hyena!

It's a hyena.

spotted fur

The hyena is snarling.

He is a scavenger.

Hyena starts with /h/. Find /h/.

Forest Habitat

bird

Bird says, "Caw, Caw."

It's a bird.

jay on a branch

The jay is blue and black.

It's called a Stellar's Jay.

Bird starts with /b/. Find /b/.

wolf

Wolf howling.

It's a wolf.

Howling in the forest.

The fur is thick around his neck.

The wolf is a predator.

Wolf starts with /w/. Find /w/.

cardinal

red bird

It's a cardinal.

A cardinal is a red bird.

It has crimson feathers.

The top of its head is called a crown.

Cardinal starts with /k/. Find /k/.

porcupine

Don't touch!

It's a porcupine.

Porcupine is eating.

The porcupine's quills are very sharp.

She uses the quills for protection.

Porcupine starts with /p/. Find /p/.

moose

huge moose

It's a moose.

Eat leaves.

A moose eats bark, leaves and grass.

He likes green vegetation.

Moose starts with /m/. Find /m/.

bobcat

furry cat

It's a bobcat.

tufts on his ears

Some of his fur is rust colored.

The bobcat blends in with the background.

Bobcat starts with /b/. Find /b/.

badger

lo o o o o ng white stripe

It's a badger.

pointed nose

He stops and listens.

The badger digs a burrow.

Badger starts with /b/. Find /b/.

great horned owl

Owl says, "Hoot, hoot."

It's a great horned owl.

night flyer

The owl has yellow eyes.

He uses his talons to grab prey.

Great horned owl starts with /g/. Find /g/.

opossums

one, two, three 'possums'

It's three opossums.

black beady eyes

They have long white faces and dark ears.

Opossums live in trees.

Opossum starts with /o/. Find /o/.

wild boar

dirty piggy

It's a wild boar.

stiff bristles

The wild boar is covered with stiff bristles.

He digs with his snout.

Wild boar starts with /w/. Find /w/.

House Habitat

dog

Panting dog.

It's a dog.

Sit dog.

She can sit.

Can you pant like a dog?

Dog starts with /d/. Find /d/.

cat

kitty cat

It's a cat.

gray and white cat

The cat has gray and white fur.

The fur looks very soft.

Cat starts with /k/. Find /k/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

rabbit
wiggle nose
It's a rabbit.
soft and fluffy
I like to pet bunny rabbits.
Be very gentle with a rabbit.
Rabbit starts with /r/. Find /r/.

guinea pig
brown guinea pig
It's a guinea pig.
Which one?
The guinea pig is brown.
She is next to the stuffed rabbit.
Guinea pig starts with /g/. Find /g/.

hamster
small hamster
It's a hamster.
He has tiny ears.
A hamster could fit in my hand.
He uses his nose to smell.
Hamster starts with /h/. Find /h/.

mouse
Eek! A mouse!
It's a mouse.
I like my mouse.
My mouse is a pet.
A pet mouse lives at my house.
Mouse starts with /m/. Find /m/.

bird
pretty bird
It's a bird.
Sing, bird sing!
The bird has colorful feathers.
This colorful bird is a lovebird.
Bird starts with /b/. Find /b/.

fish
Swim fish.
It's fish.
They can swim.
The goldfish swim in the bowl.
When the fish are hungry they eat fish food.
Fish starts with /f/. Find /f/.

lizard
big lizard
It's a lizard.
long tail
It can run fast.
The lizard eats bugs in the garden.
Lizard starts with /l/. Find /l/.

snake
pet snake
It's a snake.
No legs!
A snake does not have any legs.
It wiggles its muscles to move.
Snake starts with /s/. Find /s/.

Insect Habitat
bee
fuzzy bee
It's a bee.
yellow and black stripes
This bee has transparent wings.
The bee is pollinating a plant.
Bee starts with /b/. Find /b/.

grasshopper
Hop, hop, grasshopper!
It's a grasshopper.
long hind legs
The grasshopper has a long, shiny body.
His hind legs are used for leaping.
Grasshopper starts with /g/. Find /g/.

ladybug
shiny red bug
It's a ladybug.
brightly colored insect
There are dark spots on the round body.
The ladybug eats other insects.
Ladybug starts with /l/. Find /l/.

butterfly
Pretty butterfly!
It's a butterfly.
swallowtail butterfly
The butterfly has striking black and yellow wings.
In the morning he spreads his wings to dry them.
Butterfly starts with /b/. Find /b/.

moth
Munching moth.
It's a moth.
Moth eats.
The moth flies at night.
A moth is not as colorful as a butterfly.
Moth starts with /m/. Find /m/.

caterpillar
Eat, eat, eat.
It's a caterpillar.
monarch caterpillar
The caterpillar's job is to devour food.
The caterpillar will turn into a butterfly.
Caterpillar starts with /k/. Find /k/.

dragonfly
Ooooh, so pretty!
It's a dragonfly.
large insect
Its wings are horizontal when it is resting.
The dragonfly hatches from its egg as a nymph.
Dragonfly starts with /d/. Find /d/.

mosquito
uh, oh, mosquito
It's a mosquito.
long proboscis
This mosquito has a long proboscis.
Mosquitos lay their eggs in water.
Mosquito starts with /m/. Find /m/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

hornet

Long legs!

It's a hornet.

social insect

The hornet is about to land on the flower.

Another name for hornet is wasp.

Hornet starts with /h/. Find /h/.

praying mantis

Funny bug!

It's a praying mantis.

gardeners' friend

Its long front legs hold onto prey.

The praying mantis eats other insects.

Praying mantis starts with /p/. Find /p/.

Jungle Habitat

tiger

Tiger resting.

It's a tiger.

enormous cat

It can be identified by its stripes.

The tiger is a solitary hunter.

Tiger starts with /t/. Find /t/.

gorilla

gorilla watching

It's a gorilla.

female gorilla

She sits with her arms crossed.

The gorilla is an omnivore.

Gorilla starts with /g/. Find /g/.

chimpanzee

hairy chimp

It's a chimpanzee.

social animal

He has a thoughtful look on his face.

Chimpanzees communicate with their facial expressions.

Chimpanzee starts with /ch/. Find /ch/.

parrot

Beautiful bird!

It's a parrot.

colorful plumage

His beak is hooked and powerful.

Another name for this parrot is macaw.

Parrot starts with /p/. Find /p/.

peacock

Big tail!

It's a peacock.

amazing feathers

He fans out his beautiful tail.

The peacock is looking for a mate.

Peacock starts with /p/. Find /p/.

iguana

Wanna iguana?

It's an iguana.

sun-loving lizard

Its tail is longer than its body.

This reptile lives in warm regions.

Iguana starts with /i/. Find /i/.

orangutan

Silly ape!

It's an orangutan.

Eats fruit and leaves.

The orangutan's hair is reddish-brown.

The orangutan builds leafy nests in trees.

Orangutan starts with /or/. Find /or/.

anteater

Sharp, don't touch!

It's an anteater.

toothless mammal

The anteater's coat is covered with spines.

Its long tongue helps the anteater catch ants.

Anteater starts with /a/. Find /a/.

gecko

spotty lizard

It's a gecko.

nocturnal reptile

The gecko's coloring is an effective camouflage.

His toes can grip smooth surfaces.

Gecko starts with /g/. Find /g/.

cockatoo

fancy feathers

It's a cockatoo.

scalloped layers

The cockatoo has a thick curved beak.

The cockatoo is a loud, showy bird.

Cockatoo starts with /k/. Find /k/.

River or Lake Habitat

duck

Go for a swim!

It's a duck.

Swimming in the pond.

This duck has a green head.

The duck's webbed feet are like paddles.

Duck starts with /d/. Find /d/.

frog

Where are his eyes?

It's a frog.

bright green frog

A frog eats insects.

Frogs usually live in moist climates.

Frog starts with /f/. Find /f/.

beaver

Brrrrr-cold beaver!

It's a beaver.

large rodent

The beaver is carrying a small log.

He will use it in his beaver lodge.

Beaver starts with /b/. Find /b/.

swan

big, white bird

It's a swan.

a Mute Swan

The swan's neck is curved gracefully.

It is called mute because its voice is rarely heard.

Swan starts with /s/. Find /s/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

salmon

red fish

It's a salmon.

migratory fish

There are many red salmon in this stream.

Salmon can swim upstream to breed.

Salmon starts with /s/. Find /s/.

goose

Goose says, "Honk, honk."

It's a goose.

large water bird

A goose has a long neck.

Geese migrate in a V-formation.

Goose starts with /g/. Find /g/.

flamingo

long, curvy neck

It's a flamingo.

stilt-like legs

The flamingo has rosy-white plumage.

His thick bill is good for fishing.

Flamingo starts with /f/. Find /f/.

river otter

Long whiskers!

It's a river otter.

graceful and powerful

It has a silver gray throat and chest.

The river otter is a very playful animal.

River otter starts with /r/. Find /r/.

black bear

He's fishing.

It's a black bear.

baby bear

He is very wet.

The black bear will look for fish in the river.

Black bear starts with /b/. Find /b/.

alligators

scaly gators

It's alligators.

a pile of alligators

The snout of an alligator is wide and rounded.

Alligators hunt by slapping the water with their tails.

Alligators starts with /a/. Find /a/.

Mountain Habitat

squirrel

big furry ears

It's a squirrel.

Eats seeds and nuts.

This squirrel is mostly gray.

His tail helps him balance in the trees.

Squirrel starts with /s/. Find /s/.

raccoon

Masked bandit!

It's a raccoon.

clever mammal

The raccoon has a black face mask.

The raccoon can turn doorknobs with its nimble fingers.

Raccoon starts with /r/. Find /r/.

grizzly bear

big shaggy bear

It's a grizzly bear.

slow, clumsy walk

He has a hump above his shoulders.

The grizzly bear is good at catching fish.

Grizzly bear starts with /g/. Find /g/.

fox

bushy tail

It's a fox.

shy, cautious, and smart

It has rusty red fur with a white chest.

The fox can live in many different habitats.

Fox starts with /f/. Find /f/.

eagle

Regal eagle!

It's an eagle.

bald eagle

The bald eagle has a snowy white head.

The eagle is noted for its strength and grace.

Eagle starts with /ea/. Find /ea/.

cougar

one, two cougars

It's cougars.

They hide from humans.

A cougar is tan with long, heavy legs.

The cougar is a good climber and excellent jumper.

Cougar starts with /k/. Find /k/.

deer

doe, a deer, a female deer

It's a deer.

a Mule Deer

She is grazing on the hillside.

She is called a Mule Deer because of her large ears.

Deer starts with /d/. Find /d/.

bighorn sheep

in the snow

It's a bighorn sheep.

massive brown horns

He is dark brown with a white nose and rump.

The male bighorn sheep is called a ram.

Bighorn sheep starts with /b/. Find /b/.

llamas

I see three llamas.

It's llamas.

camel's relative

Two are in front and one is behind.

We get wool from llamas.

Llamas starts with /l/. Find /l/.

lynx

wild cat

It's a lynx.

Crouches in the snow.

The lynx has tufted ears.

The ear tufts are sensitive antennae.

Lynx starts with /l/. Find /l/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

Ocean Habitat

seagull

Wading bird.

It's a seagull.

near the ocean

A seagull flies in the sky but eats in the ocean.

It searches for fish.

Seagull starts with /s/. Find /s/.

crab

Pinch, pinch, crab

It's a crab.

jointed legs

The crab has a hard outer skeleton.

He lives in shallow water where food is plentiful.

Crab starts with /k/. Find /k/.

dolphin

Look, teeth.

It's a dolphin.

an ocean mammal

The dolphin has a long snout.

He breathes through a hole in the top of his head.

Dolphin starts with /d/. Find /d/.

sea star

one, two, three, four, five arms

It's a sea star.

spiny skin

The sea star lies on the ocean floor.

Its muscular arms pry open its prey.

Sea star starts with /s/. Find /s/.

sea turtle

Turtle swimming.

It's a sea turtle.

protective shell

The sea turtle has leathery skin.

Air pockets in his shell allow him to float.

Sea turtle starts with /s/. Find /s/.

sea otter

Otter floating

It's a sea otter.

tool user

He floats on his back in the ocean.

The sea otter uses a stone to break open a shell.

Sea otter starts with /s/. Find /s/.

angelfish

fish with stripes

It's an angelfish.

brightly colored

This angelfish has black, yellow, and white stripes.

It lives in coral reefs.

Angelfish starts with /ae/. Find /ae/.

elephant seal

Floppy nose!

It's an elephant seal.

covered with sand

Its nose resembles an elephant's trunk.

The elephant seal makes loud noises with its snout.

Elephant seal starts with /e/. Find /e/.

whale

Swimming whale.

It's a whale.

It swims.

The black and white whale is in the blue ocean.

The Orca whale is a mammal.

Whale starts with /wh/. Find /wh/.

sea anemone

water creature

It's a sea anemone.

no backbone

The sea anemone has many tentacles.

It catches and stings fish with its tentacles.

Sea anemone starts with /s/. Find /s/.

Prairie or Grasslands Habitat

prairie dog

Here's his nose!

It's a prairie dog.

burrow dweller

This prairie dog is peeking out of his burrow.

He hides in his burrow during rainstorms.

Prairie dog starts with /p/. Find /p/.

hawk

Sharp beak!

It's a hawk.

small nostril

A hawk has good eyesight.

It spreads its wings and flies.

Hawk starts with /h/. Find /h/.

kangaroo

Hop, hop.

It's a kangaroo.

big ears

A kangaroo can jump.

His tail helps him balance.

Kangaroo starts with /k/. Find /k/.

bison

full grown bison

It's a bison.

It is heavy.

A bison can weigh a ton!

He munches on grasses.

Bison starts with /b/. Find /b/.

bull elk

big antlers

It's a bull elk.

He's calling.

The elk makes a bugling sound.

This sound challenges other male elk.

Bull elk starts with /b/. Find /b/.

deer

many spots

It's a deer.

spotted fawn

Its big ears help it hear well.

The baby waits for its mother.

Deer starts with /d/. Find /d/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

ostrich

L o o o ng legs, l o o o o ng neck!

It's an ostrich.

flightless bird

This tall bird runs across the grasslands.

The ostrich is a scavenger.

Ostrich starts with /o/. Find /o/.

antelope

How many horns? One...two.

It's an antelope.

plant eater

He has a buff and white coat.

The antelope runs swiftly on its hooves.

Antelope starts with /a/. Find /a/.

cottontail

He's hiding.

It's a cottontail.

Lives in a warren.

This rabbit has bright brown eyes.

Rabbits have a keen sense of smell.

Cottontail starts with /k/. Find /k/.

vulture

Strong bird!

It's a vulture.

sharp hooked bill

The vulture's head and neck are bare.

He grips prey in his sharp talons.

Vulture starts with /v/. Find /v/.

Ranch or Farm Habitat

puppies

One, two, three, four, five puppies!

It's puppies.

Gathered in the doorway.

They all have a white stripe down the forehead.

There is a barrier to keep them in.

Puppies starts with /p/. Find /p/.

cat

"Meow, meow!"

It's a cat.

green-eyed cat

This plump cat has dark stripes.

It is a good hunter.

Cat starts with /k/. Find /k/.

cow

Cow says, "Moo!"

It's a cow.

dairy cow

She has a full udder.

Lots of people drink cows' milk.

Cow starts with /k/. Find /k/.

pig

"Oink, oink."

It's a pig.

muddy pig

She has a curly tail.

Pigs roll in the mud to keep cool.

Pig starts with /p/. Find /p/.

horse

new baby

It's a horse.

hungry foal

The mare is dark and the foal is light.

This pasture provides food for the mare.

Horse starts with /h/. Find /h/.

sheep

Sheep say, "Baa-baa."

It's sheep.

a ewe and a lamb

They have thick wool.

Wool is used to make warm clothing.

Sheep starts with /sh/. Find /sh/.

chicken

"Cluck, cluck," says the chicken.

It's a chicken.

hen and chicks

The hen and her chicks are in their nest.

She covers them with her body to keep them warm.

Chicken starts with /ch/. Find /ch/.

goat

Hungry goat!

It's a goat.

Grazing goat.

His horns curve toward his neck.

Goats produce creamy milk.

Goat starts with /g/. Find /g/.

duck

"Quack, quack."

It's ducks.

two white ducks

They are walking side by side.

Their feathers are waterproof.

Duck starts with /d/. Find /d/.

rooster

"Cock-a-doodle-doo!"

It's a rooster.

colorful feathers

His tail feathers are long and black.

His bright colors attract a mate.

Rooster starts with /r/. Find /r/.

Tundra or Arctic Habitat

polar bear

huge bear

It's a polar bear.

very small ears

He has white fur and a black nose.

The polar bear's fur blends in with the snow.

Polar bear starts with /p/. Find /p/.

arctic fox

white fur

It's an arctic fox.

his winter coat

This fox has a pure white coat in winter.

He is hard to see in the snow.

Arctic fox starts with /ar/. Find /ar/.

Wild, Woolly, Wonderful Critters Word List

bighorn sheep
Curly horns!
It's a bighorn sheep.
white nose and rump
His horns are large and heavy.
He uses them when fighting.
Bighorn sheep starts with /b/. Find /b/.

bobcat
big cat
It's a bobcat.
thick fur
He is dark on top and light underneath.
This cat is similar to the lynx.
Bobcat starts with /b/. Find /b/.

mountain goat
Shaggy goat!
It's a mountain goat.
short horns and long face
This goat has long, pure white hair.
He lives in rugged steep terrain.
Mountain goat starts with /m/. Find /m/.

muskox
Find his eye.
It's a muskox.
arctic dweller
This bull's horns cover his forehead.
He uses his horns to fight other bulls.
Muskox starts with /m/. Find /m/.

snowy owl
yellow eyes
It's a snowy owl.
small pointed beak
Most of his head feathers are white.
This bird is silent when it hunts.
Snowy owl starts with /s/. Find /s/.

ground squirrel
Sitting up!
It's a ground squirrel.
long strong claws
It has a blunt nose and round ears.
He hibernates for about eight months.
Ground squirrel starts with /g/. Find /g/.

harp seal
soft, soft fur
It's a harp seal.
young harp seal
It has black eyes, nose, and whiskers.
The young seal is camouflaged by its white fur.
Harp seal starts with /h/. Find /h/.

ptarmigan
spotted head
It's a ptarmigan.
nests on the ground
Its feathers are red, black, and white.
This bird is related to the grouse.
Ptarmigan starts with /t/. Find /t/.