

科学就是力量

知识就是财富

Animal
动物卷

双语 十万个为什么

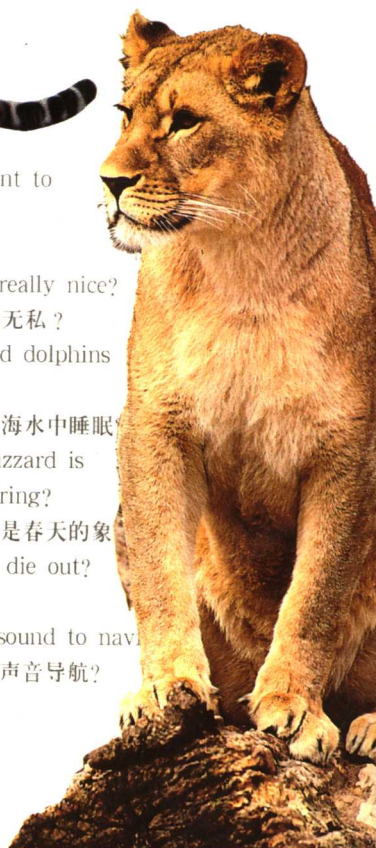
BILINGUAL SO MANY WHY

主 编 / 谢 志 敏



- Why does bear want to hibernate?
- 熊为什么要冬眠?
- Why are ants not really nice?
- 为什么蚂蚁并非真的无私?
- Why do whales and dolphins sleep at sea?
- 为什么鲸和海豚能在海水中睡眠?
- Why to say the buzzard is the first sign of spring?
- 为什么说红头美洲鸢是春天的象征?
- Why did dinosaurs die out?
- 为什么恐龙会灭绝?
- Why can bats use sound to navigate?
- 为什么蝙蝠能够利用声音导航?

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双语

十万个为什么

DOUBLE LANGUAGE
SO MANY WHY

动物

□主编 / 谢志敏



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目 录

为什么猫从高处落下不会有危险?	
Why Can Cats Which Fall From a High Place Be Not in Danger	1
为什么红腹滨鹬要长时间飞行?	
Why Do Red Knots Fly with Long Time	4
为什么要善待动物?	
Why Should We Treat Animals Kindly	9
熊为什么要冬眠?	
Why Does the Bear Want to Hibernate	13
为什么蚂蚁并非真的无私?	
Why Are Ants Not Really Nice	17
为什么鲸和海豚能在海水中睡眠?	
Why Do Whales and Dolphins Sleep at Sea	21
为什么说红头美洲鹫是春天的象征?	
Why to Say the Buzzard Is the First Sign of Spring	28
为什么海洋里有生物?	
Why Is There Marine Life in the Ocean	31



为什么动物能找到家?

Why Can the Animal Make Its Way Back to the Nest 35

为什么说大猩猩是最聪明的动物?

Why to Say Gorillas Are the Most Extremely

Intelligent Animals 40

为什么人类几乎都害怕蛇?

Why Are Nearly All of Humans Afraid of Snakes 42

为什么说招潮蟹是个活闹钟?

Why to Say the Fiddler Crab Is a Living Clock 45

为什么动物要进行迁徙?

Why Does the Animal Want to Migrate 48

为什么河马能够抗晒?

Why Isn't a Hippo Hurt by Ultraviolet Rays 51

为什么蜘蛛要织网?

Why Does the Spider Make Webs 53

为什么恐龙会灭绝?

Why Did Dinosaurs Die Out 56

为什么蝙蝠能够利用声音导航?

Why Can Bats Use Sound to Navigate 60

为什么动物有保护色?

Why Does the Animal Have Protective Colour 65



为什么用猎鹰来驱赶海鸥?

Why to Use Falcons to Scare the Sea Gulls Away 68

为什么候鸟具有迁徙能力?

Why Does the Migratory Bird Have the Ability of Migrating 71

为什么需要动物参加战争?

Why Do We Need Animals to Attend the War 75

为什么海蜇是一种奇特的生物?

Why Is the Jellyfish a Kind of Unique Animal 80

动物怎样保暖?

How Do Animals Keep Warm 84

为什么羊驼是对付狐狸的绝佳武器?

Why Is the Alpaca the Perfect Weapon Against Foxes 88

为什么螯虾可以无性繁殖?

Why Does a Crayfish Reproduce Asexually 91

为什么鳄鱼要“吃”自己的幼仔?

Why Do Crocodiles “Eat” Their Young 95

为什么狼要嚎叫?

Why Do Wolves Howl 98

为什么大猩猩拍打胸脯?

Why Does a Gorilla Beat Its Chest 100

动物为什么有各自的行为?

Why Do Animals Do What They Do 102





为什么蝴蝶翅膀可以反射光线?

Why Can Butterfly Wings Re-emit Light 107

为什么鸭嘴兽为极其罕见的动物?

Why Is the Platypus a Rare Animal 109

为什么大熊猫面临野外生存困难?

Why Are Giant Pandas Facing Survival Threat 112

为什么会有食人狮?

Why Are There Man-eating Lions 115

人们是如何对待动物的?

How Do People Treat Animals 119

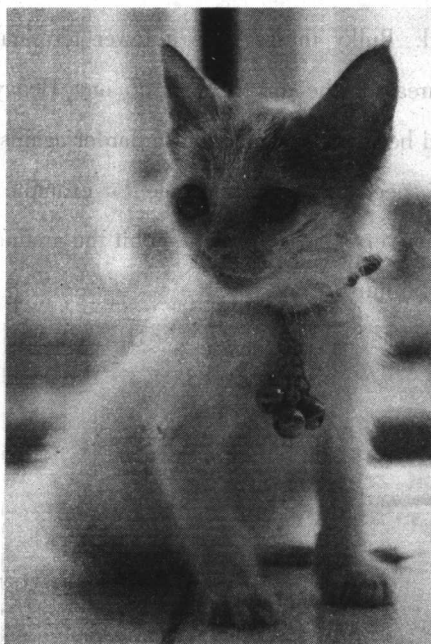


Why Can Cats Which Fall

From a High Place Be Not in Danger

为什么猫从高处落下不会有危险？

There is a saying that cats have nine lives. A study examined why. Scientists carried out a study of cats which had fallen out of windows of buildings. Nine out of ten remained alive after a fall of two storeys or more. One cat which fell from the 32nd floor of a building only broke a



tooth. Interestingly, the cats were in greatest danger of being killed if they fell from the 7th floor. Falling from either a lower or greater height gave them a better chance of survival.

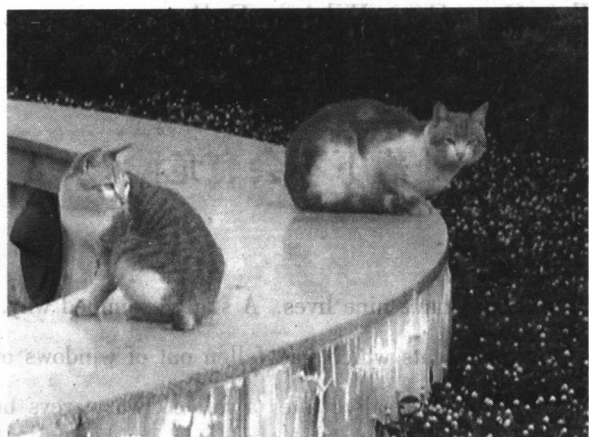
俗话说“猫有九命”，一项研究揭示了其中的原因。科学家们对从高楼的窗子坠落的猫进行了研究。当它们从2楼或更高的楼层坠落时，十有八九还活着。有一只猫曾从32层的楼上掉下来，仅仅碰坏

一颗牙齿。有趣的是，若它从7楼掉下来反而有死亡的危险。无论



比7楼高还是低,它们都有最大的求生机会。

Damage to a body depends on how fast it hits the ground, which in



turn depends on how far it has fallen. But it's not quite that simple, because as an object falls through the air, the air holds it back and slows the object

down. After a while the object stops accelerating and continues at a fixed speed. This is the terminal speed. Bulky things have a lower terminal speed because there is a larger area for the air to push up on. Heavy things have a higher terminal speed because they push down harder against the air. Cats have a lower terminal speed than falling people, for example, because they are quite bulky and not very heavy so that they hit the ground more slowly and are less likely to be hurt.

跌落的损伤取决于身体撞击地面速度,而速度与离地面的高度相关。但事情往往并没有这么简单,因为物体在下落时有空气阻力,速度会减慢,但过一会儿物体就不再加速而持续





以一种恒定速度下降,这就是临界速度。庞大物体下落的临界速度会很慢,因为受空气阻力的面积增加了。沉重物体下落时临界速度快一些,因为它们会更猛烈地撞击空气。比如,猫坠落的临界速度比人慢,它们的身体大而体重轻,撞击地面速度也比较慢,从而受伤的可能性就比较小。

Then what does the 7th floor matter? This is the distance cats take to reach their terminal speed. After the 7th floor, they may relax and spread out their legs like a flying squirrel and change their falling position so that they may land on their feet. This would slow them down and allow their muscles to reduce the force of impact, and thus reduce the damage.

但从7楼坠落是怎么回事呢?这段距离刚好使猫达到了它的临界速度。在落下7层以后,再往下落时猫就



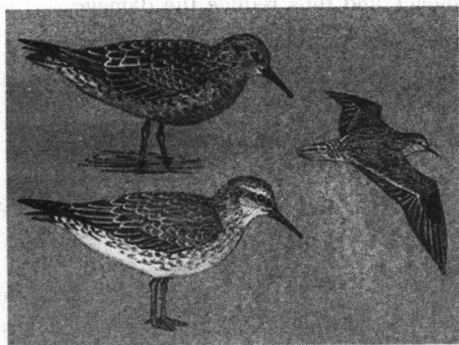
会放松,伸展出它的腿,像一只飞翔的松鼠,同时改变落地的方位以使它们能四脚落地。这可以减慢下落的速度,使肌肉承受冲击力,从而减小损伤。



Why Do Red Knots Fly with Long Time

为什么红腹滨鹬要长时间飞行？

Each year, the little red knot flaps its way round—trip from the southern tip of South America to Canadian arctic with just a few pit stops.



红腹滨鹬每年都要从南美洲的最南端飞往加拿大的北极地区,沿途仅作几次停留。

Most of the world's red knots—there are at least 80,000—are in Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, painting the

sky in magnificent synchronized formations, as though controlled by some mysterious collective brain. When spring arrives, they will turn northward for an arduous 10,000 mile jour-





ney to the arctic. No one knows exactly how they accomplish this feat, and solving the riddle could teach us volumes about evolution, about how animals navigate and how they react to changes in their environments.

世界上大部分红腹滨鹬(至少8万只)栖息在阿根廷的火地岛地区,它们编队在天空中飞翔,每一队都保持着同一速度,好像有某一神秘的统一指挥中心控制着它们似的。到了春天,它们向北作1万英里的艰辛飞行,到达北极地区。没有人真正地理解这些鸟是怎样完成这一壮举的。解开这个谜团,人们将会获得许多知识——它们的进化,它们是如何导航的以及它们是怎样应付环境变化的。



The birds' odyssey begins in April. As their dull winter plumage turns robin-red, they make their way up the eastern coast of South America to northern Brazil.

Then they take off over the Atlantic, flying 3,500 miles in about two weeks, en route^① to Delaware Bay.

每年的4月份,红腹滨鹬便开始漫长的迁徙飞行。当它们灰暗的羽毛变成知更鸟那样的红羽毛时,它们便沿着南美洲的东海岸线来到巴西的北部,然后从那儿起飞,在大西洋上空飞行3 500英里,历时约两个星期,到达美国东部的特拉华海湾。

Currently, the feeding habits and metabolisms of the red knots are



drawing special scrutiny. The birds are more than phenomenal^② fliers; they are also prodigious^③ eaters. They arrive at the bay emaciated^④, with less than a month to prepare for the nonstop 2,500-mile hop to their arctic breeding grounds. To make it, each bird gobbles about 10,000 tiny horseshoe crab eggs daily. It takes most knots a little more than two weeks to bulk up.

红腹滨鹬的食性和新陈代谢能力通常会引起人们特别的兴趣。这些鸟不仅有惊人的飞行能力，而且也有很大的食量。它们到达特拉华海



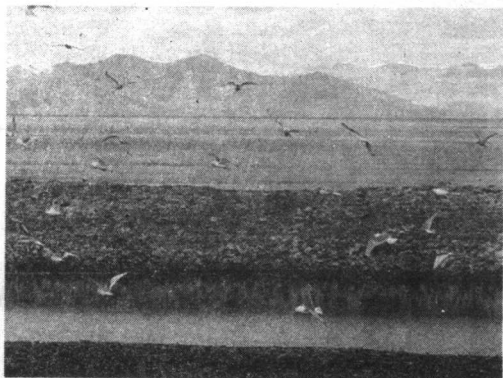
湾时已是瘦弱不堪，但要在不到一个月的时间内为到达北极的2 500英里持续飞行作好准备。为此，每一只鸟每天都得吃下1万枚马蹄蟹蛋。大部分红腹滨鹬要花两星期多一点的时间才能喂饱自己。

Once the red knot has transformed from a half-starved featherweight to an arctic-ready fatso, it continues northward at 40 miles per hour, arriving in the arctic in less than three days. It gets right down to breeding and eggs hatch three weeks after they are laid. It's grueling^⑤ schedule and an unforgiving one. Birds that cannot keep to it are unable to reproduce.



一旦红腹滨鹬从半饥饿状态的瘦鸟变成已作好北极之旅准备的胖家伙后,便以每小时 40 英里的速度继续向北飞行,不到三天就可以到达北极地区。它们随即开始繁殖后代,下蛋三周后就开始孵出幼仔。这个过程会将它们弄得筋疲力尽,却又无可奈何。那些不能坚持下去的红腹滨鹬就不能繁殖后代。

The frantic pace of a knot's life begins at birth. A week after hatching, its mother departs; two weeks later, its father takes off. And three weeks after



that, usually in late August, the young knot follows them toward Tierra del Fuego. Stopovers are more frequent during the trip south, but the flight is

still miraculous for a juvenile bird. A red knot can live as long as 10 years, over which time it will have traveled some 190,000 miles.



小红腹滨鹬一出生就开始了快节奏的生活。一周后,鸟妈妈离开它;两周后,鸟



爸爸也飞走了;三周后,通常在8月下旬,小红腹滨鹬就追随它们朝火地岛飞去。尽管南飞的途中经常停留,但对小红腹滨鹬来说,这种长途飞行仍然是一种奇迹。红腹滨鹬的寿命为10年,一生中大约飞行19万英里。

关键词注解:

①en route 在途中

②phenomenal *adj.* 非凡的,杰出的

③prodigious *adj.* 巨大的,庞大的尺寸、力量或程度异常巨大的

④emaciated *adj.* 瘦弱的,衰弱的

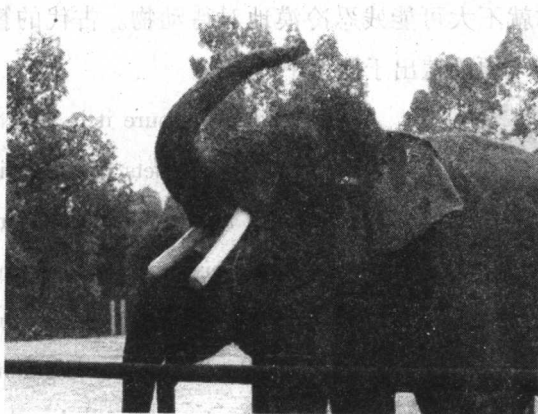
⑤grueling *adj.* 折磨的,使筋疲力尽的,对生理或心理上的要求达到极限的



Why Should We Treat Animals kindly

为什么要善待动物？

It is man's nature to live together in families and tribes^①, and cities and nations, and therefore men have learned to prize^② those qualities in each other which make social life happiest and best. Of these qualities one of the most important is sympathy^③— fellow-feeling^④. If a man had no fellow-feeling, we should call him “inhuman^⑤”; he would be no true



man. We think so much of this quality that we call a kind man “humane^⑥”— that is, man— like in his conduct, first to other men, and afterwards to all living things.

在家庭和部落、城市和国家里共同生活，是人类的天性。因此，人们学会了珍惜各自身上具有的一些品质；正是这些品质使群体生活愉悦美好。在这些品质中，最重要的就是同情，即友爱之情。一个人若是没有友爱之情，人们就说他“不仁”，他就不是真正意义上的



人。人们非常珍视这一品质,常用“仁慈”来形容一位善良的人。这种人的行为首先是对其他人,进而又对一切生物都具有“人味”。

If you are cruel to animals, you are not likely to be kind and thoughtful^⑦ to men; and if you are thoughtful towards men, you are not likely to be cruel and thoughtless^⑧ towards animals. This is why the wise man of old wrote, “The merciful^⑨ man is merciful to his beast.”



你若是残忍地对待动物,你就不可能对其他人友善体贴;你若是对其他人体贴入微,你就不大可能残忍冷漠地对待动物。古代的智者写道“仁者爱人及畜”,原因盖出于此。



What a pleasure it is also to be loved by our pets or domestic animals^⑩; and to feel that we are caring for them and are deserving of their love; or to watch the ways of wild creature, and gradually to make friends with them!

此外,感受着宠物或家养动物敬爱我们,感受着我们关爱它们并心安理得地接受它们的敬爱,观察着野生动物的生