

Looking at
Animals
in Hot Places

炎热地带 动物探秘



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引言 Introduction

世界上有许多地方十分炎热，这些炎热的地方包括沙漠、雨林和草原等。

有些沙漠几乎长年没有降雨，除了沙子外一无所有。另一些沙漠由岩石和卵石组成。还有的沙漠每年会降一次暴雨。雨林则终年雨量充沛，气候闷热、潮湿。草原大多数时间都很干燥，但每年会下一次大雨。

许许多多的动物，从细小的昆虫、外貌奇异的蜥蜴到各种鸟类和大型动物，住在这些炎热地带。它们都以自己的方式在炎热中生存。

There are many parts of the world where it is very hot. These hot places are called deserts, rainforests and grasslands.

Some deserts have hardly any rain and here there is nothing but sand. Other deserts are made of rocks and boulders. In some deserts it rains very hard once a year. Rainforests have a lot of rain and are very hot and steamy all year round. Grasslands are very dry for most of the time, but have lots of rain once a year.

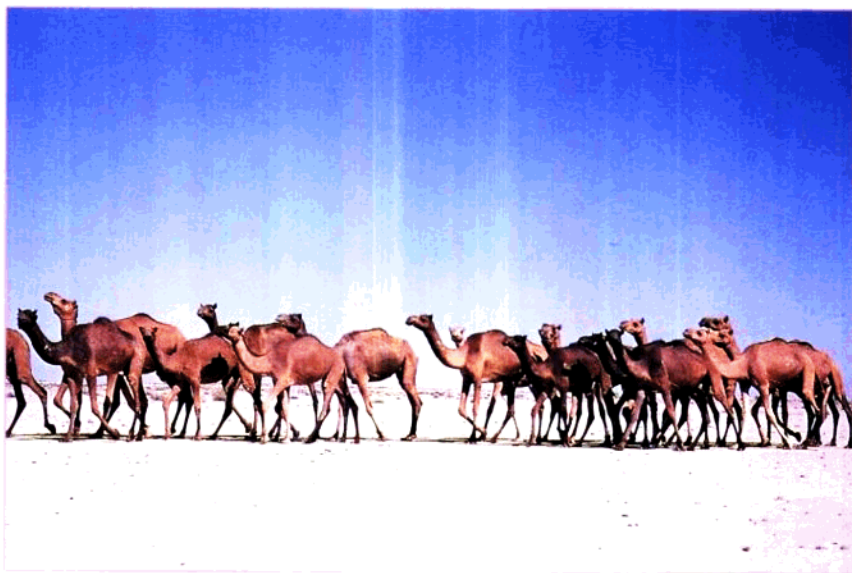
Lots of animals live in these hot places, from tiny insects and strange looking lizards, to birds and big animals. They all have their own ways of living in the heat.



骆驼 Camel

骆驼生活在炎热而又干燥的沙漠里，可以很多天不吃不喝。它们的脚又大又宽，这有助于它们在松软的沙上行走。在非洲的沙漠地带，人们常常用骆驼代替汽车，骑着它们旅行。

Camels live in deserts which are hot and dry. They can go without food and water for many days. Their feet are big and wide which helps them to walk on soft sand. In the deserts of Africa people often use camels instead of cars to carry them around.





蝎子 Scorpion

蝎子生活在炎热的地方，但是白天它们都躲在阴凉的地方，到晚上天气较凉爽时才爬出来。蝎子以昆虫和蜘蛛为食，用它们结实的大钳子杀死猎物；它还用尾巴末端长着的毒针来蜇死个头大的昆虫。



Scorpions live in hot places, but they hide in the shade during the day. They come out at night when the weather gets cooler.

Scorpions eat insects and spiders. They kill them with their strong claws. They kill big insects with the sting on the end of their tail.



大猩猩 Gorilla

大猩猩生活在闷热潮湿的热带丛林里。它们要吞食大量的水果和树皮。它们生活在由最强壮的雄猩猩当头头的大家族里。成年大猩猩可以达到成年人的三倍大。成年大猩猩会爬上大树，在上面筑好巢后在里面睡觉。

Gorillas live in jungles which are hot and steamy. They eat lots of fruit and bark. They live in big family groups, headed by the strongest male. Adult gorillas can be three times as big as a grown man. Adult gorillas climb trees where they build a nest to sleep in.





沙猫 Sand cat

小巧的沙猫生活在北非。它野性难驯，不像宠物猫那么温顺友好。在夜里，它四处游荡，寻找老鼠和蛇当美餐。它有尖利的牙齿和爪子，在脚掌底部长着许多毛，所以可以在灼人的热沙上走动而不被烫伤。



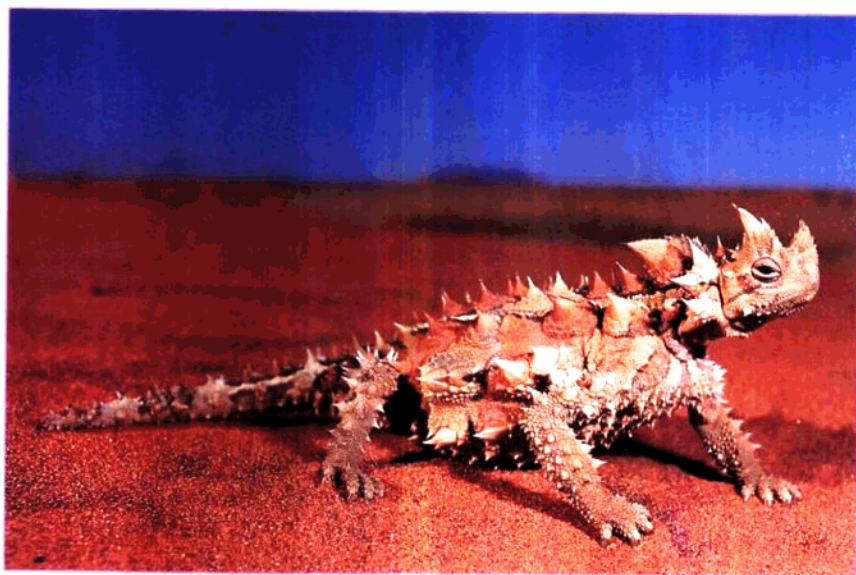
The little sand cat lives in northern Africa. It is wild, not tame and friendly like a pet cat. It prowls around at night looking for mice and snakes to eat. It has sharp teeth and claws. The bottom of its paws are hairy so it can walk on hot sand without burning itself.



摩洛蜥 Moloch lizard

蜥蜴喜欢炎热的地方。这种长着刺的摩洛蜥生活在澳大利亚的一片沙漠里。有时因为它背上覆盖着锋利的尖刺而被叫做“带刺的魔鬼”。这些尖刺能够吓退攻击它的其他动物。它长着长长的舌头，用来从地上舔食蚂蚁。

Lizards like hot places. This prickly moloch lizard lives in a desert in Australia. Sometimes it is called a thorny devil because its back is covered in sharp spines. The spines stop other animals attacking it. It has a long tongue that it uses to lick up ants from the ground.





貘 Tapir

貘生活在沼泽地或丛林中的溪流旁。它们白天美美地睡觉，夜里天气凉爽了才出来。貘吃水生植物和树叶。它们很会游泳，这种本领帮助它们逃脱像美洲虎等爱吃它们的大型动物的猎捕。



Tapirs live in swamps or near streams in the jungle. They sleep in the daytime and come out at night when it is cool. They eat water plants and leaves. They can swim well, which helps them to escape bigger animals such as jaguars who would like to eat them.



侏儒猫头鹰 Elf owl

各种鸟类也生活在炎热地方。这种小小的侏儒猫头鹰只有一只咖啡杯子大小。它生活在美洲大陆，把卵产在高大而且长满刺儿的仙人掌洞里。在那里，这些鸟蛋可以免受伤害。这种猫头鹰太小，无法自己打洞，所以它会寻找比它大的鸟打好的洞“安家”。

Birds live in hot places, too. This tiny elf owl is about the size of a coffee mug. It lives in America. It lays eggs in a hole in a tall, prickly cactus, where they will be safe from harm. The owl is too small to make its own hole so it looks for one that a bigger bird has made.

