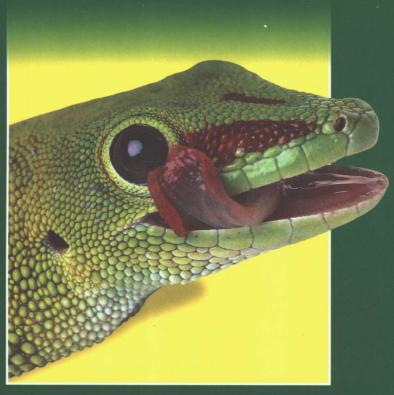
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ELEMENTARY A 初级 A

动物感官 ANIMAL SENSES

Caroline Laidlaw (英) 著



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Caroline Laidlaw(英) 著 卫亚利 译

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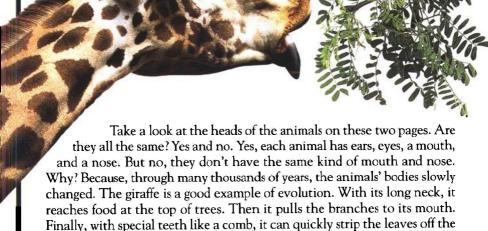
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在这两页里,让我们来看一下动物的头部。它们全都是一样的吗? 一样,但又不一样。说它们一样,是因为每种动物都有耳朵、眼睛、嘴 巴和鼻子。说它们不一样,是因为它们的嘴巴和鼻子长得各不相 同。这是为什么呢?原来,动物历经千万年的演变,身体已经 发生了变化。长颈鹿就是说明动物进化的一个好例子。

> 它的长脖子使它可以够到树顶上的食物。然后将树枝 拉到嘴里。最后,它用自己长得很特别的像梳子一 样的牙齿很快地将叶子从树枝上扒个精光。

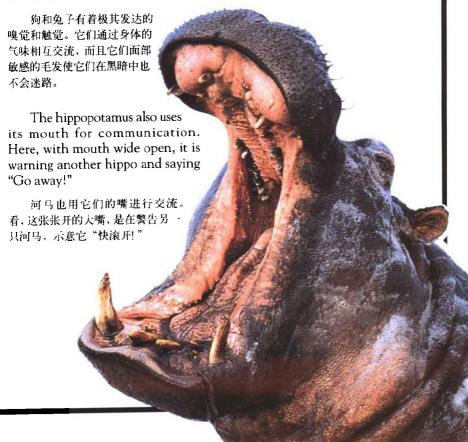
The chimpanzee uses facial expressions for communication. For example, a mouth with closed lips can mean "I am not very happy". An open mouth showing top and bottom teeth can mean "I am frightened".

黑猩猩用面部表情进行交流。例如,当它 双唇紧闭时,意思是"我不太高兴"。而当它张 着嘴露出上下牙齿时,则表示"我害怕"。

branches.

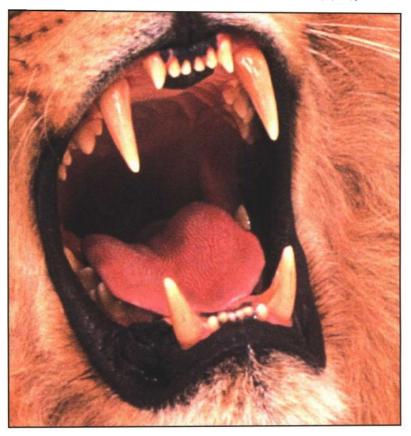


Dogs and rabbits have highly developed senses of smell and touch. They communicate with each other by using pheromones (scent from their bodies). And the sensitive hairs on their faces help the animals to find their way in the dark.



Whose mouths are these? Can you guess? They all belong to carnivores (meat-eaters).

这些都是什么动物的嘴? 你能猜到吗? 对了, 它们都是食肉动物的嘴。



A long time ago the "king of beasts" lived in northern India, the Middle East, and even in Europe. Today, the lion lives only in Africa, and in one nature reserve in north-west India. In fact, there are very few lions left in the world. In the past, hunters killed them and kept their heads and skins as trophies. Nowadays, lion hunting is strictly controlled.

很久以前,"兽中之王"狮子生活在印度北部、中东,甚至欧洲一带。然而今天,狮子却仅存于非洲以及印度西北部的一个自然保护区内。事实上,世界上的狮子已经为数不多了。从前,捕猎者杀死它们,将它们的头和皮毛当作战利品。如今,猎杀狮子的行为已经受到严格控制。



This dog's mouth contains sharp teeth like the lion's. The teeth tell a story about the dog's evolution. His ancestors needed these teeth for killing and eating prey.

这只狗嘴里的牙齿像狮子的牙齿一样尖利。 这些牙齿说明了狗的进化历程,它的祖先需要这 样的牙齿去捕杀和享用它们的猎物。

The frog is an amphibian, which means it can live on land and in water. It is a carnivore, but it doesn't have any teeth. This is because frogs catch mainly soft animals like worms and snails. So why is a frog's mouth so big? Perhaps because it is like a sound-box, adapted for communication. Frogs can "sing" and make many different sounds.



青蛙属于两栖动物,也就是说它既能生活在陆地也能生活在水里。它是一种食肉动物,但是却没有牙齿。这是因为青蛙的捕食对象主要是软体动物,比如昆虫和蜗牛。那么,青蛙的嘴为什么这么大呢?或许因为它的嘴类似于一个音箱吧,便于传达信息。青蛙能够"唱歌",并发出各种不同的声音。



The crocodile uses its powerful jaws and sharp teeth for catching prey such as buffalo, zebra, and other animals. It pulls the unlucky animal under water and drowns it. It tears pieces of meat off by twisting the animal over and over. The crocodile must swallow whole pieces because it can't chew. Sometimes, some of

the crocodile's teeth fall out. But this doesn't matter, because new ones soon grow. Crocodiles always have a lot of teeth.

鳄鱼用自己的巨腭和利齿捕获水牛和斑马之类的动物。它将倒霉的动物拖入水下,让其溺水而死。它一遍又一遍不停地将猎物扭来扭去,将肉一片片撕下。由于鳄鱼不能咀嚼,所以它必须整块地吞下肉片。有时,鳄鱼的某些牙齿也会脱落,但这没有关系,因为新的牙齿很快就会长出来。鳄鱼总是有许多牙齿。

Lions communicate with their whole bodies, but especially with their faces. They can show anger, fear, and contentment.

Lions also make different noises that mean different things. A snarl means they are attacking another animal, or defending their cubs (young

> lions). A roar keeps lions in touch over long distances. And a roar can mark territory.

Lions have very good noses. Their highly developed sense of smell gives them information about animals nearby, especially other lions and lionesses.

狮子用它们的整个身体, 尤其是面 部来传达信息。它们能表达愤怒、恐惧和 满足。

狮子也通过发出不同的声音来表达不 同的意思。咆哮意味着它们将要攻击其他 动物,或是保护它们的幼仔。吼叫声使相 距遥远的狮子彼此保持联系,而且还能划分 各自的领地。

狮子有着非常灵敏的鼻子。高度发达 的嗅觉使它们能了解附近动物的情况、尤 其是其他雄狮和母狮的情况。

Dogs can make a lot of noise with their loud bark. But these animals are not as loud as lions. People often keep guard dogs to protect their

is saying "Go away!". 狗狂吠时会发出许多噪 音,但它们的嗓门远没有狮 子的大。人们往往喜欢用看 门狗看家。大多数的狗在 ·般情况下是不会主动 攻击的。一只吠叫的狗是 在说:"快走开!"

fight if possible. A barking dog





The male frog on this leaf is calling to the female frogs in the water. He attracts them by croaking. But he is not alone. Hundreds of other male frogs are croaking with him. They sound like small motorbike engines.

这只趴在荷叶上的雄蛙正在召唤水里的雌蛙 们,它通过呱呱声吸引它们。你可不要以为它是在 自拉自唱,要知道,有数以百计的雄蛙在和它一起高 歌呢。它们的声音简直像小型摩托车的发动机。

This crocodile is opening its huge mouth, but it isn't making a noise. Instead, it is probably keeping cool. Water from the skin inside the mouth evaporates and cools the crocodile. Or perhaps the crocodile wants clean teeth. It is inviting birds to find bits of food in its teeth.

这条鳄鱼也张着大嘴,不过它可不是在叫喊。没 准儿它这样做是为了保持凉爽哩——它嘴 里皮肤上的水蒸发到空气中、就能使它凉 快起来。要么、它就是要清洁牙齿、正邀 请鸟类到它的牙缝里觅食呢。

Body talk

As well as making noises with their mouths, many animals "talk" with their bodies and tails. This dog wants to play.

身体语言

许多动物不仅用嘴巴发声,它们还能用自己的身体和 尾巴"说话"。瞧,这条狗想要玩儿呢。



The chameleon is a kind of lizard. Like crocodiles and snakes, lizards belong to the reptile group of animals. They evolved from amphibians millions of years ago.

> A chameleon is a good hunter. Its success depends on three things: camouflage, stillness, and speed. The prey doesn't see the chameleon, which cleverly camouflages itself. This means the colour of its skin can be the same as its surroundings. It waits patiently for food to come along, turning its eyes in every direction. And all the time it remains as still as a rock. Then, suddenly, a long, sticky tongue shoots out of its mouth. Quick as a flash, the tongue and prey are back in the chameleon's

变色龙是蜥蜴的一种。像鳄鱼和蛇一样、蜥蜴属于爬行类动物。 它们是由数百万年以前的两栖类动物进化而来的。

变色龙可是个出色的猎食者。它的成功全仰仗于它的三件法宝 它的伪装术、它的静功和它的速度。猎物不能发现变色龙、是因为它 巧妙地伪装了自己,也就是说,它能够变换自己的肤色,使之与环境混同起来。它 耐心地等待食物送上门来,只是转动眼珠四处观望,而在等待的整个过程中,它的 身体像岩石一样一动不动。然后,突然间从嘴里喷射出一条长长的黏舌头,迅如闪 电地将食物带回嘴里。

A tongue like a gun

mouth.

A chameleon's tongue shoots out of its mouth like a bullet from a gun. But catching insects in this way is difficult, and baby chameleons are often unsuccessful. It takes a lot of practice to become a good insect hunter.

舌如枪

变色龙的舌头从嘴里喷出,如同子弹出膛。但是用这种方法捕捉 昆虫相当困难,小变色龙经常失败,它要经过长久的实践才能成 为杰出的昆虫猎食者。



Cats also have useful tongues. The cat in the picture is washing its head. It is using its paw as a cleaning cloth. Cats spend a lot of time keeping clean.

猫的舌头作用颇多。这张画里的猫正在 清洁头部,它正把它的爪子当抹布使呢。猫 总是花很多时间清洁身体。



The gecko is another kind of lizard. Here, it is using its tongue for cleaning its eyes. Unlike the cat, the gecko doesn't use its feet for cleaning. But the gecko's feet are unusual in another way: they can grip (hold on to) any surface, even glass.

壁虎是另一种蜥蜴。瞧,画里的它正在用舌头清洗 眼睛。与猫不同的是,它不用自己的脚去做清洁工作。 但是从另一方面来讲,它的脚的确也非同寻常:它们能 抓住(贴在)任何物体的表面,哪怕是光滑的玻璃面。



All snakes are carnivores. They swallow their meals whole because they cannot chew. This is why they need special jaws that open very wide. The snake in the picture is swallowing a whole egg. Snakes do not have ears. They "hear" by feeling vibrations through the ground. And they can "taste" the air with their tongues. In this way they get information about their prey, even in complete darkness.

Many snakes have an extra sense, called a heat sensor.
With this, they can detect a change in temperature. So warm-blooded animals are never safe near hungry snakes.

所有的蛇都是食肉类动物。由于它们不能咀嚼,所以只能整个吞下食物。这样一来,它们就得有特殊的腭,能够张得很大。看,图片里的蛇就正在吞咽一个整蛋。蛇是没有耳朵的,靠感觉地面的震动来"听"。蛇还能用舌头"品尝"空气。这种功能使它们甚至在漆黑的夜晚也能获取猎物的信息。

许多蛇有一种很了不起的感官,叫做"热传感器"。这个器官使它们 能感应到温度的变化。所以,如果恒温动物靠近饥饿的蛇是很危险的。

Unlike the snake, this monkey is not interested in swallowing an egg. But it is thinking about breakfast. It's a fine morning in a forest in

Venezuela. Time to look for food. But first, the monkey must open its mouth and howl.

Why? Because it is a howler monkey. The howl is a warning sound. It tells other monkeys in the forest to stay away, because howler monkeys are territorial.

与蛇不同的是,这只猴子对吞咽整蛋不感兴趣,但它也正在琢磨着早餐的问题。这是在委内瑞拉的一个森林里,一个阳光明媚的早晨,正是寻找食物的时间。可首先这只猴子要张开嘴大声吼叫。为什么呢?原来啊,它是一只吼猴。它的吼叫是一种警告,它在警告森林里其他的猴子快走开,因为吼猴是有领地意识的。

A spotted hyena looks like a very large dog. But hyenas are not part of the dog family. Their closest relatives are aardwolves.

Hyenas are clever hunters. They hunt in small packs (*groups*) of 10–30 hyenas. Good senses of hearing and sight help them catch animals at night. They can run many kilometres and still not get tired. After the kill, the hunters begin to eat. At this time, they make their strange laughing sounds. They are often called "laughing hyenas" because of this noise.

Spotted hyenas don't waste food. They can eat nearly all of their prey. How do they do this? Look for the answer in the skull below, with its powerful biting jaws.

斑点鬣狗看起来像一只巨型犬, 但它却不是 狗家族的成员。与它们血缘关系最近的是土狼。

鬣狗是聪明的狩猎者。10~30只鬣狗组成狩猎小组,一起狩猎。它们凭借良好的听力和视力,可以在夜间捕获猎物。它们可以奔跑好几公里,而一点儿也不觉得累。将猎物杀死后,它们开始进食。这时,它们会发出怪异的笑声。由于这个原因,它们经常被称为"笑鬣狗"。

既点鬣狗不浪费食物,它们几乎能将猎物全部吃光。它们是如何做到这点的呢?不妨从下面的头骨中寻找答案,看看它那强壮有力而又尖锐无比的腭吧。

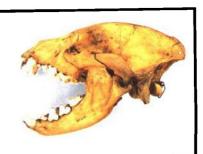


Powerful biters

Spotted hyenas have very strong jaws. They can crush and chew large bones and other hard parts of their prey. Even lions can't do this.

强壮的腭

斑点囊狗有非常强壮的腭,它们能咬碎和咀嚼猎物的大骨头及其他坚硬的部分。这一点就连狮子 也做不到。



There are more than 350 species (kinds) of shark. Some of them are enormous, many are small, and most are harmless.

The hammerhead has a strange head. Its eyes are at the end of two wings shaped like hammers. Sharks often lose teeth. But this doesn't matter because inside the large mouth there are several rows of teeth. Another tooth is always there, ready to replace the lost one. A shark can use more than 20,000 teeth in its lifetime.



鲨鱼有 350 多种。有些鲨鱼体形庞大,许多鲨鱼体形娇小,不过它们中间的绝大 多数都不会伤害人类。

槌头双髻鲨长着怪异的头。它的双翼形状像锤子,而眼睛就长在双翼的末端。鲨 鱼的牙齿常常会脱落。不过这并无大碍,因为在它那张大嘴里长着许多排牙齿。另一 颗牙齿一直恭候着,随时准备替换脱落的牙齿。一条鲨鱼一生中使用的牙齿超过 20,000 颗。

Like human beings, hamsters have only one row of teeth at the top and one row at the bottom. But their teeth are not the same as ours because

they never stop growing. Luckily, hamsters eat a lot of hard food such as cereal grains, seeds, and roots. Continual gnawing (biting and chewing) keeps the hamster's teeth short.

像人类一样,仓鼠也只有上下两排牙齿。但是与我们不同的是,它们的牙齿会永无休止地生长下去。幸运的是,仓鼠的食物多是一些坚硬玩意儿,比如谷类啦,种子啦,根茎啦,等等。它们通过不停地咬食和咀嚼来磨牙,使自己的牙齿不至于长得太长。



Turtles don't have problems with teeth. The reason is simple – they don't have any! Instead of teeth, they have jaws with very hard, bony edges. They use these for biting and chewing. But their food is easy to bite, so teeth aren't necessary. Turtles eat mainly shellfish and worms. Many turtles also eat plants.

海龟不存在牙齿的问题,原因很简单:因为它们根本没有牙齿。它们用坚硬、多骨、锋利的腭代替牙齿来咬食和咀嚼。由于食物易嚼(咬),所以牙齿也就显得多余。海龟主要捕食贝类和虫类,许多海龟也吃植物。



How to catch a fish with a "worm"

An alligator snapping turtle has a tongue that looks like a worm. It can trap its prey with this false worm. The turtle lies completely still on the seafloor with its mouth open. A fish swims past and sees the "worm". It tries to catch the worm. Snap! Too late!

如何用"虫子"捕鱼

美洲淡水大鳖长着像虫子一样的舌头,它能用这样的假舌头 引诱猎物上钩。这只海鳖张着嘴静静地躺在海底。一条鱼从此游过、 看到了这只"虫"。它想设法捕获这条"虫"。啪!想逃脱已经太迟了!