

Unit 2

Copycat Animals

In this unit, I will ...

- describe animal features.
- describe how animals protect themselves.
- talk about ways animals imitate others.
- write a paragraph of classification.

Tick **T** for *True* or **F** for *False*.

1. This is a plant.

T F

2. It's very soft.

T F

3. It's very small.

T F

4. It's got sharp teeth.

T F

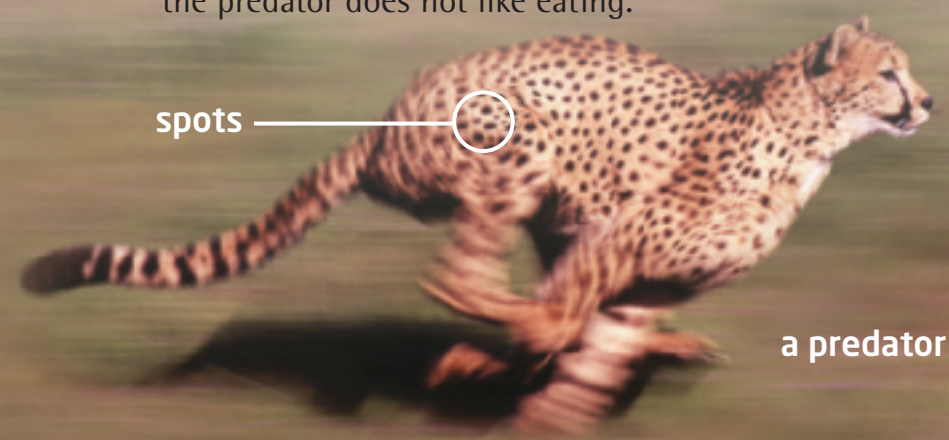


Allied cowrie,
Papua New Guinea

1 Listen and read. TR: A10

2 Listen and repeat. TR: A11

Some animals can look like other animals or even like a plant! These copycats are trying to hide from, or trick, a hungry **predator**. They can look like another more dangerous animal or like another animal the predator does not like eating.

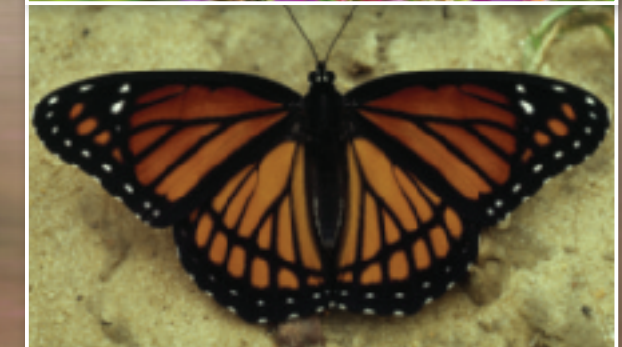


a predator

This cheetah's black **spots** act as **camouflage**. This way, the cheetah does not **frighten** its **prey** when it is time to **hunt**.



prey



These butterflies are not the same **species**, but they **resemble** each other. The top one tastes horrible. The other one **copies** its shape and colours and tastes horrible, too.



a stripe

This colourful frog has **stripes** on its skin. The bright colours tell hungry predators that the frog is **poisonous**.



This **insect** is as green as a leaf. It **imitates** the **characteristics** of colour and shape of leaves to help it **hide** from predators.

3 Work with a friend. What did you learn? Ask and answer.

How do you know which frogs are poisonous?

They've got stripes and bright colours.



4 Listen, read and sing. **TR: A12**

It's a Wild World

*It's a wild world!
It's hard work staying alive.
Animals do amazing things
in order to survive.*

*An insect that looks like a leaf
copies plants to be free.
Predators are everywhere,
and looking for a feast!*

CHORUS

*Camouflage and imitate.
Resemble and escape.
Animals hide in front of our eyes, every day.*

*The hunter and the hunted,
predator and prey,
must hunt or hide to stay alive,
each and every day.*

*A pretty frog can be
as deadly as a poisonous snake.
It's got stripes to tell
its enemies to stay away!*

CHORUS

It's a wild world!

5 Work with a friend. Ask and answer.

1. What predators have you seen?
2. What is their prey?
3. How does the prey avoid the predators?



Lionfish, Indonesia

GRAMMAR TR: A13

That katydid is **as green as** the leaf it sits on.
That butterfly is not **as pretty as** the blue one.
Poison dart frogs are **as dangerous as** some snakes.

6 Read and write. Work with a friend. Take turns. Compare.

1. some insects / thin / sticks

Some insects are as thin as sticks.

2. a polar bear / white / snow

3. king snakes / not dangerous / coral snakes

4. a bee sting / bad / a wasp sting

5. a lion / not loud / a howler monkey

a bee



a wasp

7 Compare the animals. Choose one word from each group.
Make sentences.

fast heavy slow loud small smooth

a jaguar an elephant a seal a donkey

a horse an otter a deer a crocodile a hippo a salamander an alligator a newt

8 Work in a group. Take turns. Make sentences. Use the last word in each sentence to start the next sentence.

The hippo is as big as the car.

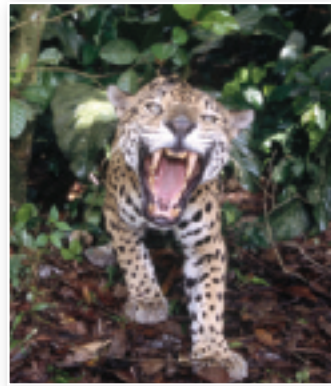
The car is as green as the frog.

The frog is as funny as you. Ha ha!

9 Listen and repeat. Then, read and write. **TR: A14**



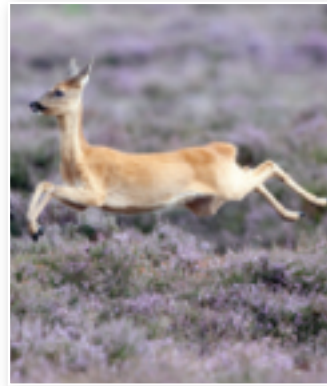
The butterfly fish **confuses** its predators with a spot like an eye.



The jaguar **attacks**.



The cobra **defends** itself. The mongoose **avoids** its bite.



The deer **escapes** by running away.

- All predators attack prey.
- Bluebirds _____ their eggs from predators.
- The tails of Calabar Pythons look like heads. This _____ predators so that they will not know where to strike!
- Some animals use camouflage to _____ predators.
- A rabbit that runs fast can _____ the coyote that chases it.

10 Listen. Stick *True* or *False*. Work with a friend. Compare your answers. **TR: A15**

The spot on the tail looks like an eye. The sentence is true.

You're right! My turn.

1

2

3

4

5

GRAMMAR TR: A16

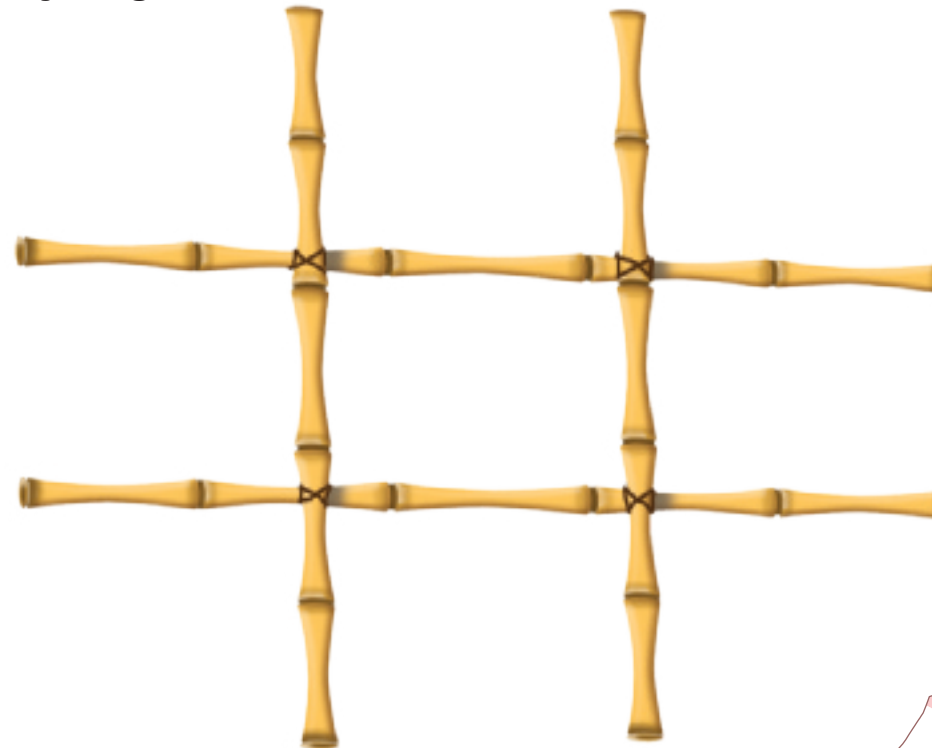
The jaguar **is** dangerous, **isn't it**?
 Those snakes **are** scary, **aren't they**?
 This insect **looks** like a stick, **doesn't it**?
 Giraffes **don't** eat meat, **do they**?
 It's **got** a big nose, **hasn't it**?

That frog **wasn't** poisonous, **was it**?
 The cat **escaped** from the dog, **didn't it**?
 The dogs **were** loud, **weren't they**?
 The cats **weren't** friendly, **were they**?
 They've **got** long ears, **haven't they**?

11 Read. Complete the sentences.

- The katydid is pretending it's a leaf, isn't it _____?
- The donkey doesn't look thirsty, _____?
- That python really confused its predator, _____?
- Cats like sleeping in the sun, _____?
- Baby penguins are so lovely, _____?
- Those weren't copycat animals, _____?
- This lion's got big teeth, _____?

12 Play a game. Cut out the question tags on page 163. Listen. Which tag completes the sentence? Glue nine to complete your game. **TR: A17**



I've got three in a row!



13 Listen and read. TR: A18

Copycat Animals

The leafy sea dragon is a weird but beautiful copycat. From its name you would think it imitates a dragon, wouldn't you? But it only gets that name from its funny shape. The leafy sea dragon imitates what is around it. It lives in seaweed, and so its body looks like a piece of seaweed. The sea dragon imitates the shape and colour of seaweed, and it even looks like floating seaweed when it moves. It doesn't use the parts of its body that look like seaweed to swim. It uses fins that are transparent, so it's hard to see them move.

The leafy sea dragon not only looks like a copycat, it also dances like a copycat. A male and female sea dragon will copy each other's movements for hours!

The mimic octopus is the only sea creature that can imitate many different species. It not only changes its colour, it also changes its shape. It has arms as thick as pencils. When it spreads them wide, they look like the spines of a lionfish. It can hide some of its arms in the sand, and leave two arms out. Then, with its white and brown stripes and the two arms, it looks like a sea snake! It can also pull its arms together and swim on the sea floor so, to a predator, it looks like a poisonous flatfish!

Like other octopuses, the mimic octopus has eight arms and three hearts. It swims by shooting out jets of water through a siphon. It also has a large brain for its size. What a clever octopus!



One kind of spider tricks predators by imitating an ant. It holds two legs up to look more like an ant when it walks.



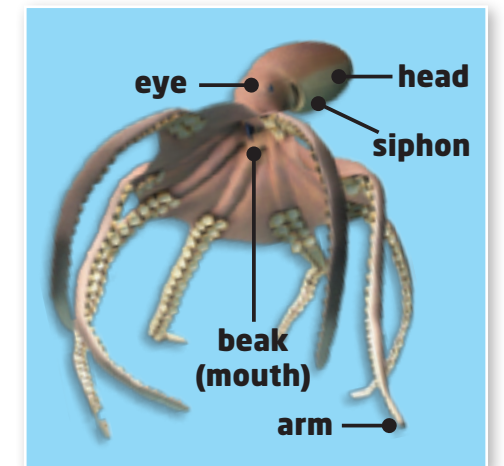
A mimic octopus imitating a poisonous flatfish.

14 Read and write. Work with a friend. Compare your answers.

1. What does the leafy sea dragon imitate? _____
2. What does the leafy sea dragon use to swim? _____
3. What does the mimic octopus look like? _____
4. What does the mimic octopus do with its arms? _____

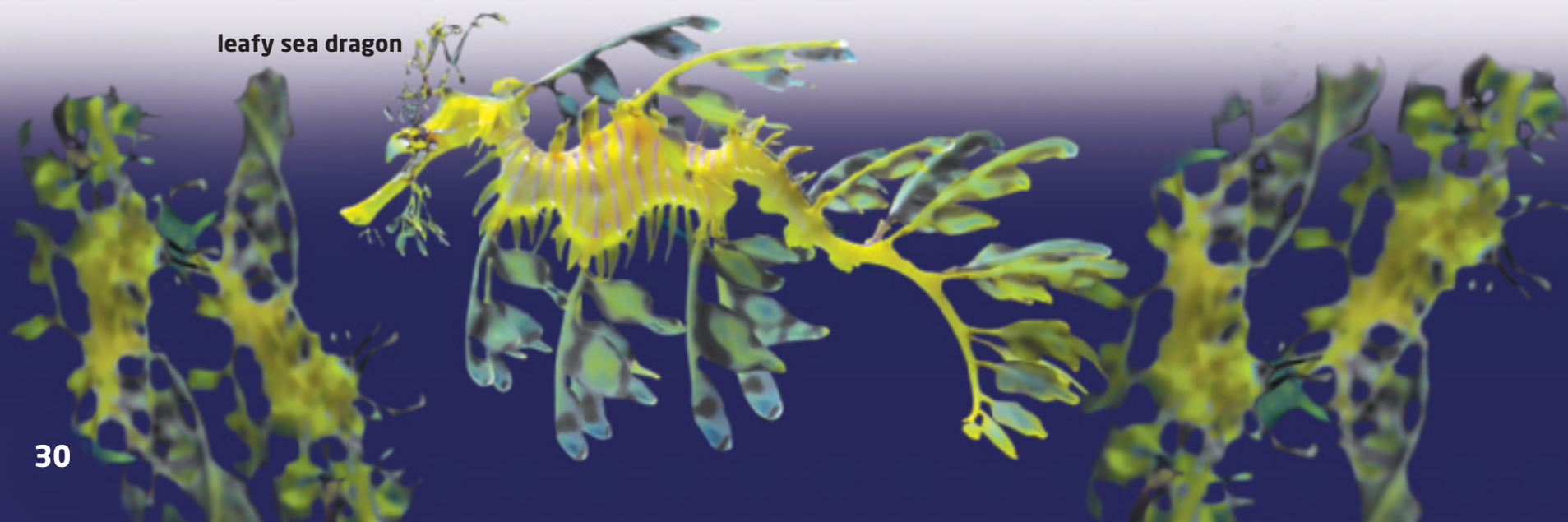
15 Work with a friend. Choose the leafy sea dragon or the mimic octopus to talk about. Your friend will listen and complete the first row. Then listen to your friend and complete the second row.

Habitat	Shape	Colour	Movement



An octopus

16 Work in groups of three. Take turns. Summarise the reading.



leafy sea dragon



Paragraphs of Classification

A paragraph of classification describes characteristics that members of a group share. You can define, compare and contrast details to show how things belong to a group or class. You can use words such as *both*, *each of*, *like*, *but* and *unlike*.

- 17 Read.** Read about two types of copycat animals. How does the writer classify them? What words does the writer use to show their characteristics? Underline the words and expressions.

One or two ways to imitate

Some animals copy other animals to avoid attack. They copy the things that predators avoid, such as a bad taste or a dangerous weapon. Some species copy the appearance of another animal, but not its other characteristics. For example, the viceroy and the soldier butterfly resemble each other. They also both taste horrible to predators. These types of animals imitate in two ways. The ash borer moth looks like a wasp, but it does not have a sting. Predators avoid it, but it can't sting them. The ash borer moth belongs to the class of animals that only copies appearance.



viceroy butterfly



ash borer moth

- 18 Write.** Write about animals that belong to a certain group or class. Describe the characteristics that they share.

- 19 Work in a small group.** Share your writing.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Mission

Protect biodiversity.

- Why is it important to protect diverse species of animals?
- How does biodiversity affect your community?
- Work in a small group. Discuss a local species of animal. Think of ways to protect it. Discuss and write the best ideas in the box.

We can tell people about the animal.

- Work with another group. Share your ideas. Are they the same or different? Which ideas does everyone like best?



'We need to increase people's interest and awareness about wildlife and conservation issues, and reduce the general disconnection from nature.'

Krithi Karanth
Conservation Biologist
Emerging Explorer



A tarsier

20 Make a classroom collage.

1. Work in small groups. Choose a habitat such as a sea, a forest or a desert.
2. Discuss how animals protect themselves in that place.
3. In your part of the collage, show some animals that use camouflage and some that survive in other ways.

There is a leaf-tailed gecko on a tree trunk in the rainforest. It uses camouflage to survive. Can you see it?



Now I can ...

- describe animal features.
- describe how animals protect themselves.
- talk about ways animals imitate other animals.
- write a paragraph of classification.