

BECOME A NON-FICTION AUTHOR

There are all kinds of endangered animals. Some are cuddly and cute, and others are slimy and slithery. Some creep and crawl, and others scuttle with scales.

Get to know two very different endangered animals and decide which most inspires you to pick up your pen.

Purple frog

Scientific name: *Nasikabatrachus sahyadrensis*

Lives: Western Ghats of India

Population: Unknown

Weird and wonderful facts:

- * Lives underground
- * Comes out once a year to breed
- * Digs burrows

ENDANGERED



Pangolin

THREATENED

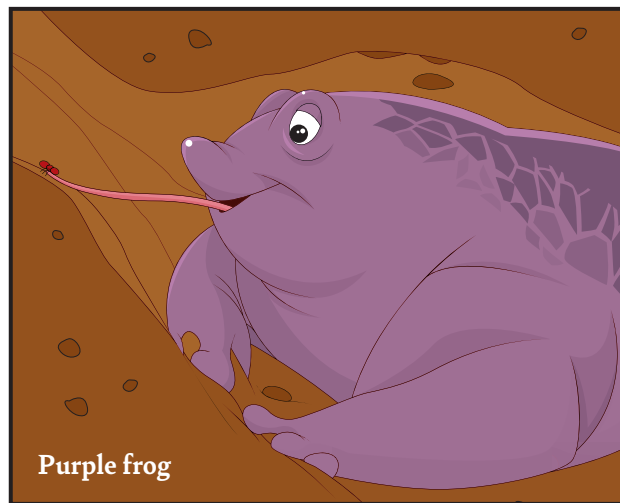
Eight different species

Lives: Parts of Africa and Asia

Population: Falling across all species

Weird and wonderful facts:

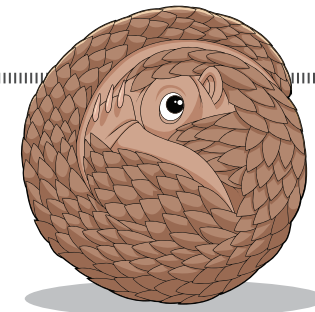
- * Covered in tough scales
- * Sticky tongue can be longer than body
- * Eats stones and sand to help grind up insects in its special stomach



Choose your favourite!

Study the picture and carry out some research of your own to discover **five** reasons to love this endangered species. Use these to **complete your own mini non-fiction book** (pages 2 & 3).

MAKE YOUR MINI BOOK



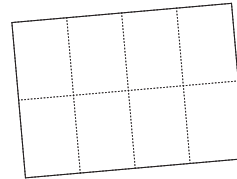
What will you need to write your non-fiction book about this animal?

Circle the correct answers.

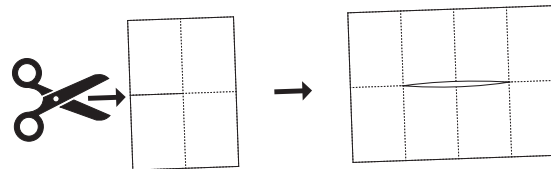
- drawings
- adjectives
- reliable facts
- title
- sentences
- back blurb
- nouns
- lots of characters
- imaginative twists
- full stops
- made up information
- plot
- introduction

How to make your book

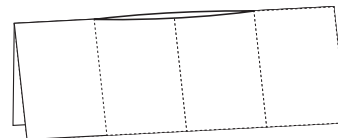
1. Fold the A4 paper on page 3 into 8 sections along the dotted lines and unfold again.



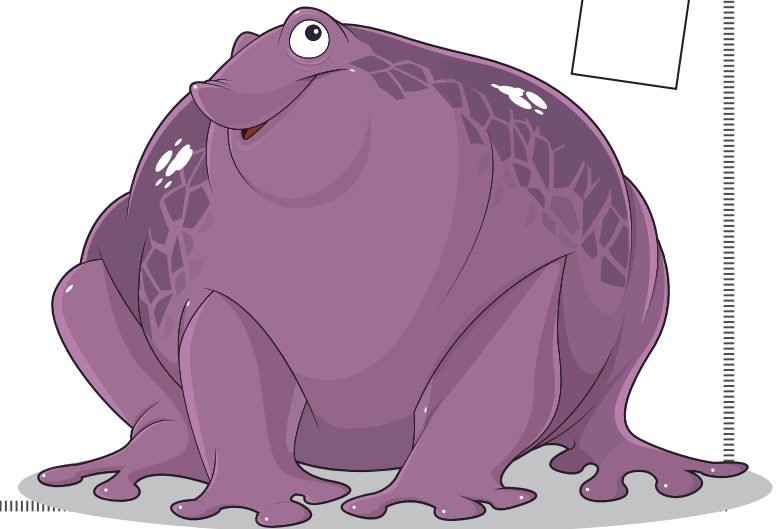
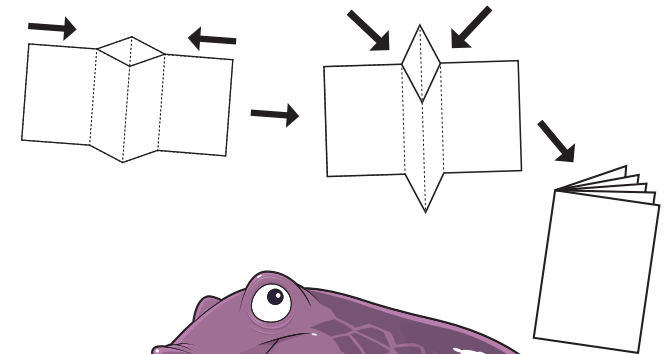
2. Cut a line in the middle of the paper by folding in half widthways and carefully cutting from the centre of the folded edge to the middle.



3. Fold the sheet lengthways, with the printed pages showing on the outside.



4. Hold the edges of the sheet then push together. The centre cut should open into a diamond shape. Keep pushing together until you are able to fold each part to make a mini book.



Handwriting lines for page 3.

Reason 3:

Handwriting lines for page 2.

Reason 2:



Handwriting lines for page 1.

Reason 1:



It looks like this:

Handwriting lines for drawing description.

My book is about:

Reason 4:

Handwriting lines for Reason 4.

Reason 5:

Handwriting lines for Reason 5.

You should read this book because

Handwriting lines for recommendation.

#AnimalEDGEducation

Price: £ ontheedge.org



Five reasons to love the

Handwriting line for book title.

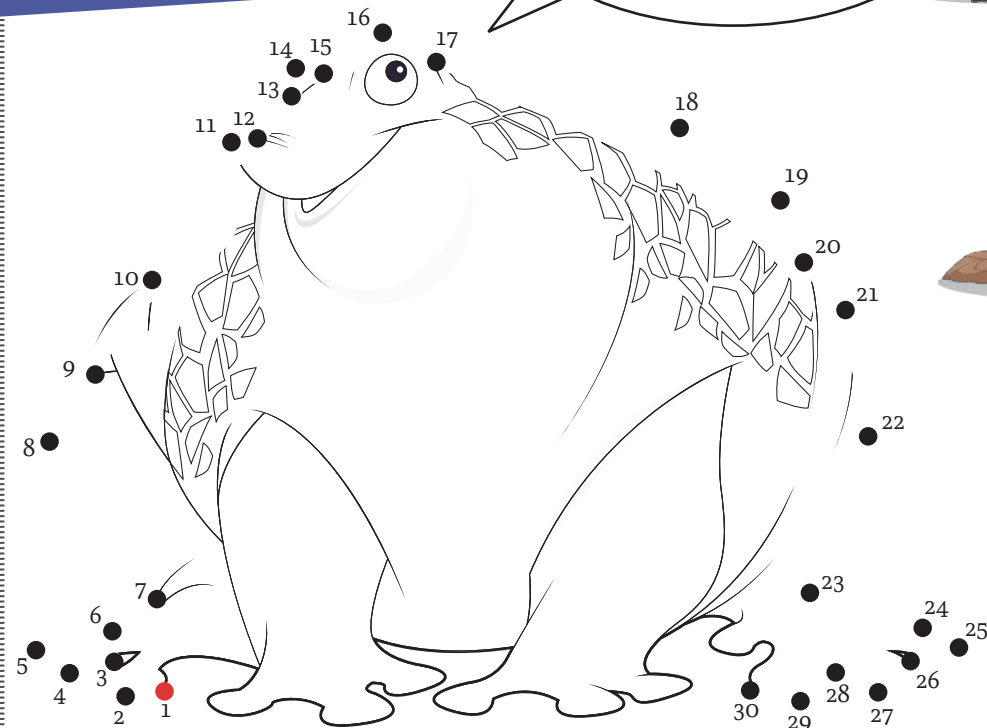
By:

FROG DOT TO DOT

Join the dots to make your very own purple frog to colour, cut out and keep.

Did you know? The purple frog is also called the pig-nosed frog because it has a **nose** like a pig.

I'm a bit of a lump and I won't turn into a prince but please fall in love with me.



Share our stories!

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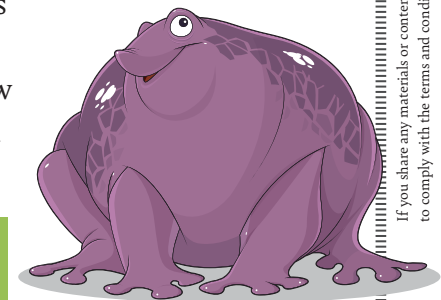
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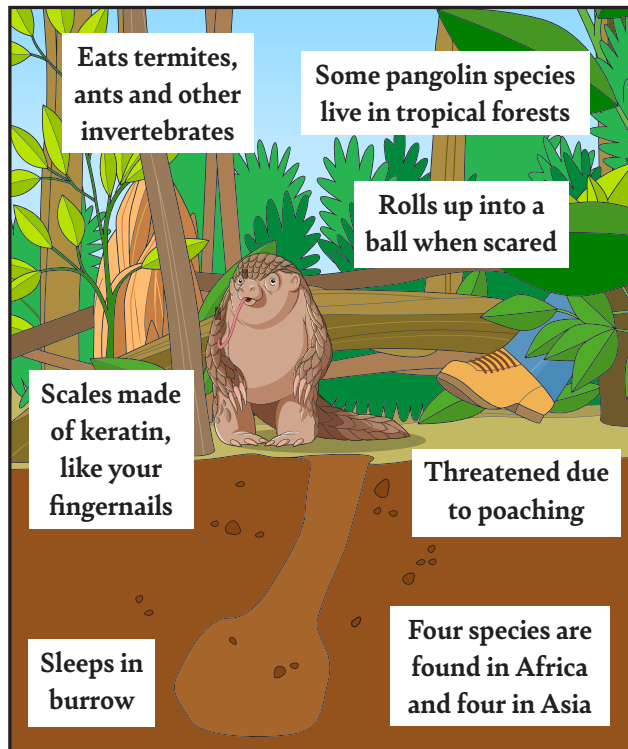


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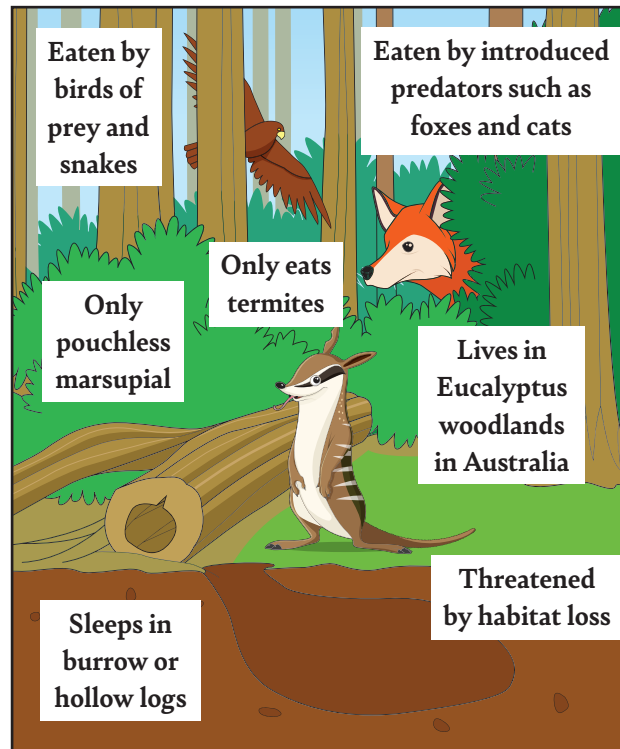
BECOME A POET

The **pangolin** and the **numbat** are very different animals. The pangolin is completely covered in hard scales and the numbat is covered in stripy soft fur. But they also have some similarities – they both eat an extraordinarily large amount of termites using their long sticky tongues, plus they are both little-known endangered species.

Pangolin



Numbat



Which animal will you weave into your poem?

Explore these habitats for clues and eye-popping facts to weave in when you write your poem (page 2).

You can write a rhyming poem, or if you like a challenge - write a riddle, a limerick or a nonsense poem to make your audience laugh!

Write down some words that you will use in your poem. For example, three words that rhyme with numbat.

MY ANIMAL POEM

Use your best handwriting to write your poem here and decorate around the edge, before reading out loud to an audience. You will be helping to make these strange animals popular, by introducing them to your friends and family.

If little-known endangered animals like pangolins and numbats get noticed, more people want to help save them. This is your big chance to help spread the word!

Poem title: _____

Written by: _____

Gather an audience, be brave, and get ready to read out loud! When you've finished (and they have clapped) ask your friends and family if they have learnt anything new. Did you learn something too?



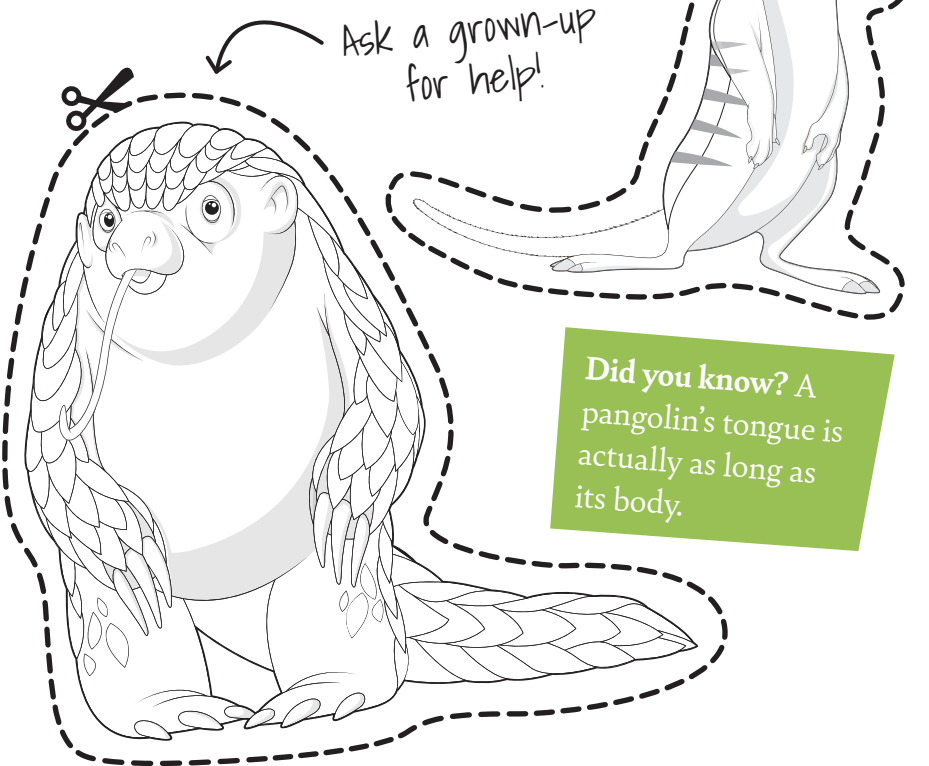
Add decorations along here!



CUT & COLOUR

Cut out and colour the pangolin and numbat.

What will you do with them? Keep them safe in your pocket perhaps, or you could even fix them to lolly sticks and make a puppet show!



Did you know? A pangolin's tongue is actually as long as its body.

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MAKE A NOISE FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES!

Animals make noises to help them find food or mates. The booming **kākāpō**, the clucking **purple frog** and the tap-tapping **aye-aye** make some very strange noises indeed. Let's discover why they make these odd sounds.

Purple frog

I make short, sharp clucks like a chicken!

I spend most of my life underground and cluck from my burrow to find a mate.

Cluck!
Cluck!



Kākāpō

I make a long, deep BOOOOOOOOOOM!

I am the world's only flightless parrot and I need to attract a mate to survive!

BOOM!



Aye-aye

I rap-a-tap-tap like a woodpecker!

I use a long, crooked finger to tap the tree, then I listen for grubs to scoop out and gobble up.

Tap!
Tap!



Set up an endangered animal band (page 1) to wow your audience! Play a game of animal charades with your friends and family (page 2) and learn some fascinating facts about animal noises (page 3)!

Circle the instruments that would sound most like these bizarre animals.



Start your own endangered animal band using instruments like these!

PLAY MUSICAL ANIMAL CHARADES

Fill in the table and play a game of musical charades. If you want to play for longer, add some other animals to the table!

Make up a song to describe why each animal makes its weird noise.

Give your audience some clues. Wiggle, waddle, jump, scratch and scuttle to show how your animal moves.

Animal name	Which instruments?	How will my song go?	How does the animal move?
Kākāpō			
Purple frog			
Aye-aye			

DID YOU KNOW?

Male kākāpōs fill themselves up with air and boom to attract females, who can hear this strange, low-pitched noise from as far as three miles away!



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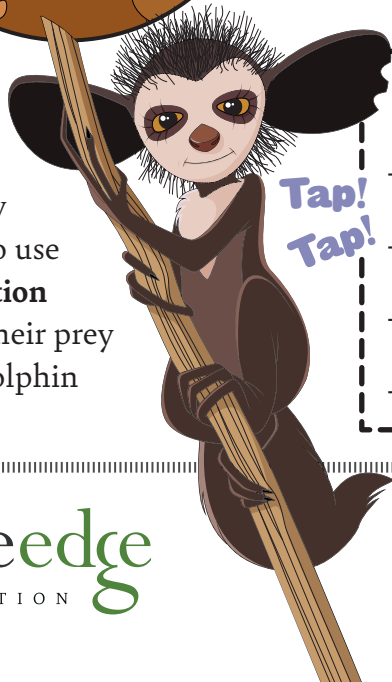


Unlike any other frog, scientists think that purple frogs call from below ground, deep in the mud.



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The aye-aye is the only primate to use **echo location** to catch their prey – like a dolphin or a bat!



Tap!
Tap!

What is echo location?

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BRING NATURE TO LIFE!

If you look closely, you'll notice that each of these threatened animals has very different skin. With some careful sketching, plenty of creativity and a splash of colour, you can bring them to life in your own drawings! First, let's investigate what clues their skin reveals about how they survive and why they risk extinction.

My slippery skin helps me to squelch through my muddy home but hiding in the mud also means I am difficult for scientists to study.

When I'm scared, I roll up into a tight, scaly ball. It might protect me from other animals but poachers can just pick me up.

My hairy coat is thin so it is easy for me to stay cool during the summer days while I'm out hunting for termites. Unfortunately, I am easy to spot in the sun, which makes me prey for foxes.

Circle the correct answers:

1. Rolling up in a ball protects a pangolin from **predators** .
bad weather .
2. Purple frogs spend most of their time **playing in the river** .
squelching through the mud .
3. Numbats hunt for termites during the **day** **night** .

Create your own animal art

(page 2) using materials from around your house or school and **learn some amazing facts about the endangered animals (page 3).**

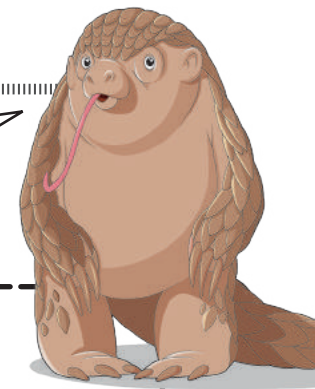
YOUR ANIMAL ART

1. Choose your subject (what you are going to draw): a pangolin, a purple frog or a numbat. Draw the whole animal.
2. Hunt around for a material that looks and feels like its skin: scaly, smooth or hairy. The possibilities are endless! Found feathers, old plastic bags, cotton wool, recycled wrapping paper...
3. Stick on your material and colour in the rest of your animal!

Super challenge! Search safely online for real photographs and videos of your animal. Study them closely. Label some details, perhaps sharp claws or long, sticky tongues.

Grown-ups! Share your child's work using **#AnimalEDGEducation**

Ask permission before using any materials you find.



Gold Star Activity

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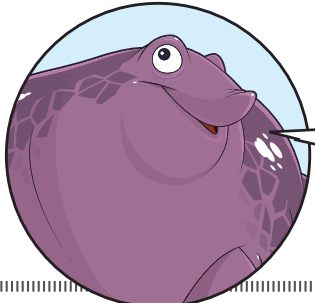
DID YOU KNOW?



My scales are made of the same material as your finger nails!

Curling up in a ball might protect me from predators, but my unique scales are also one of the reasons why poachers are hunting for me!

My stripes help to camouflage me but they don't hide me from sharp-eyed foxes and cats.



Female purple frogs are much bigger than male ones.



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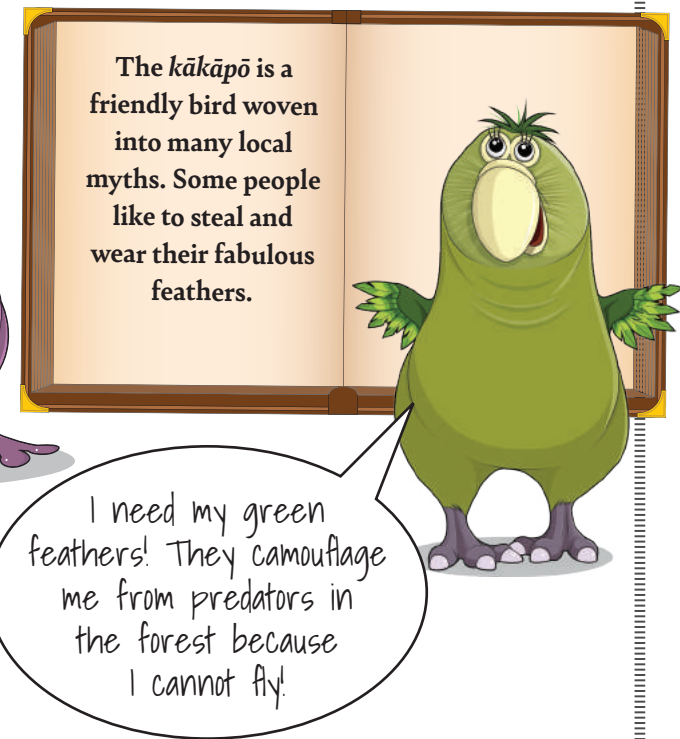
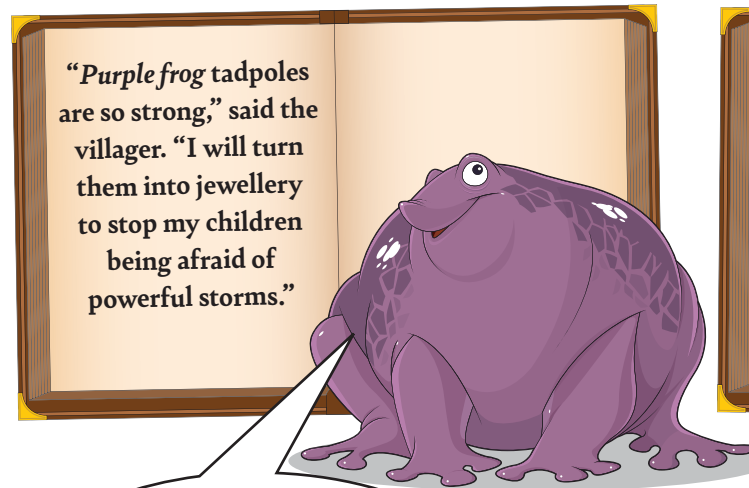
TELL A MASKED FAIRY TALE

People have always been fascinated by and fearful of strange creatures. Meet three endangered animals whose bizarre looks and behaviour have inspired fairy stories and myths. The animals are given imagined powers of evil, wisdom and healing.

Be warned! Mythical beliefs can threaten the survival of some animals, who are an important part of the wonderful biodiversity of life on Earth.

Learn how myths and legends can endanger animals (page 1) before writing your own fairy tale with a happy end (page 2). Then, create your own animal mask for a dramatic performance of your story (page 3)!

Eyeball an aye-aye, slip-slide into the world of the purple frog and hop along with a kākāpō to discover how myth and legend have got them into trouble.



WRITE YOUR OWN FAIRY STORY

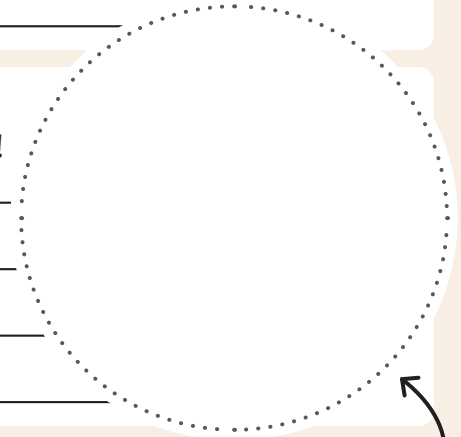
Choose one of the endangered animals – the aye-aye, the purple frog or the kākāpō – and write your own fairy story.

Gold Star Activity

Introduce your setting and character(s).

Write about a dramatic event or an adventure.

Give your fairy tale a happy ending to help save the animals!



Add an illustration to bring your story to life!

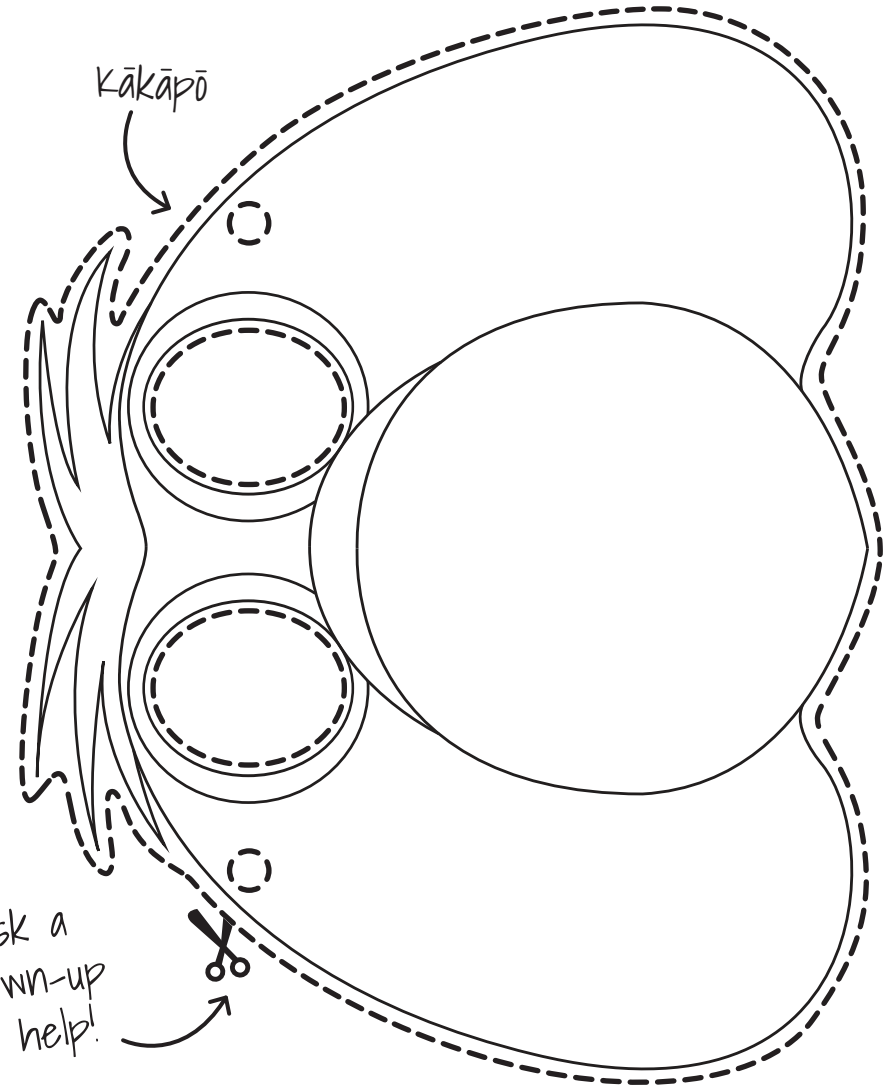
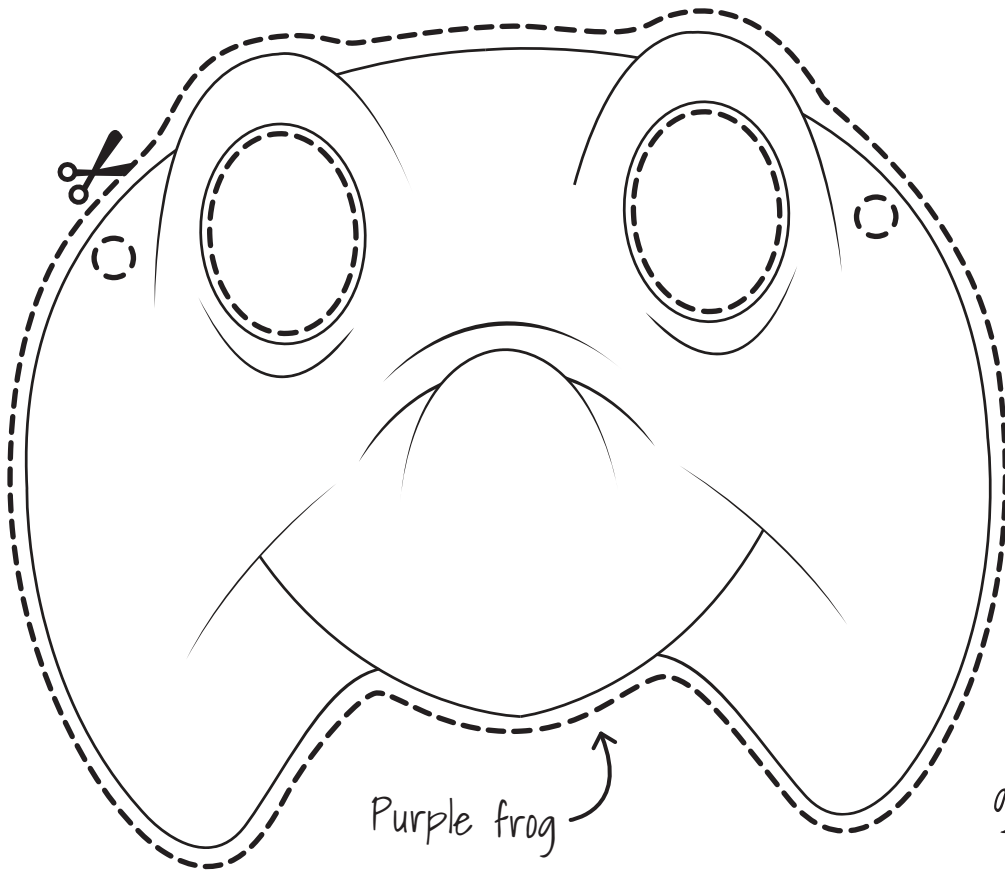
Did you know? The endangered aye-aye has a very useful long finger that it uses to find and dig out grubby meals.

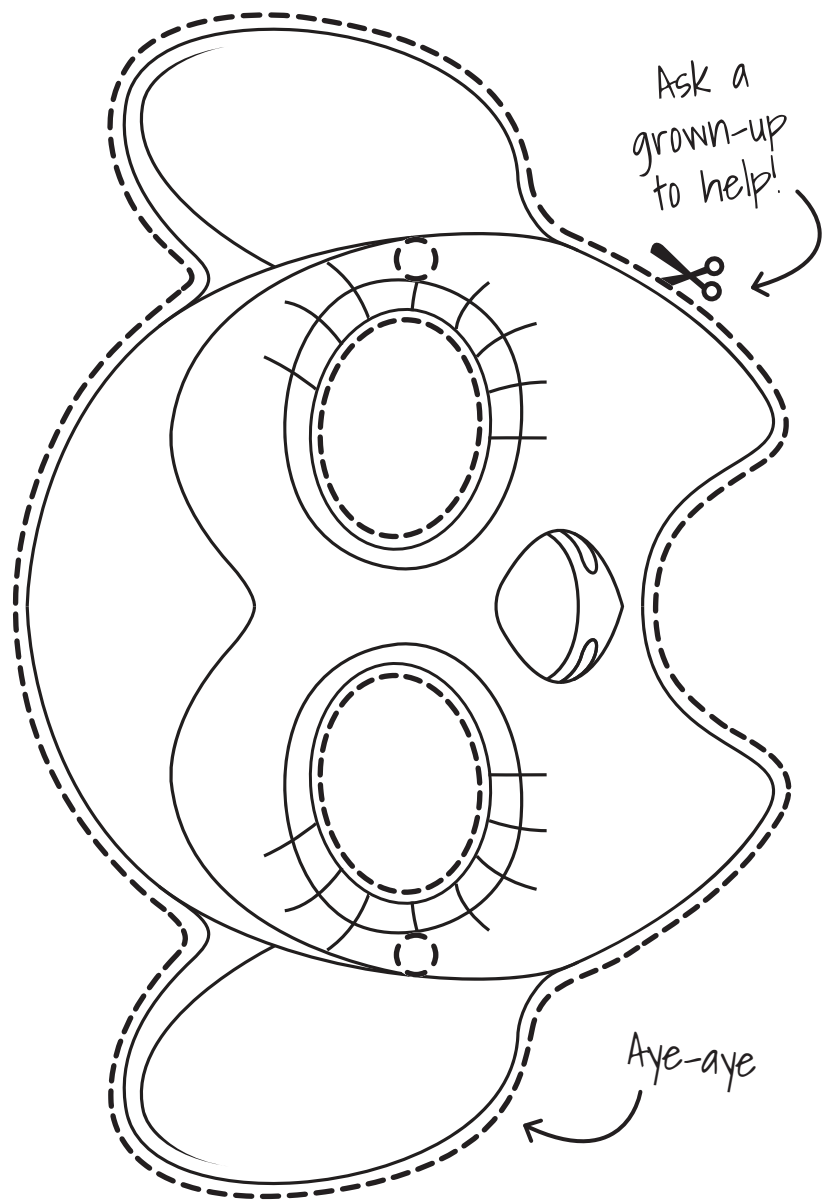
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MAKE A MASK TO TELL YOUR STORY

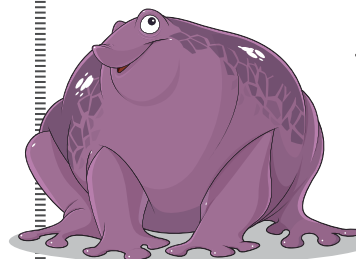
Create your own mask to wear as you read your story to family and friends. It will grab your audience's attention and they will never forget the purple frog, the kākāpō or the aye-aye!





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