

Dog

The **dog** or **domestic dog** (*Canis familiaris*^{[4][5]} or *Canis lupus familiaris*^[5]) is a domesticated descendant of the wolf which is characterized by an upturning tail. The dog is derived from an ancient, extinct wolf,^{[6][7]} and the modern wolf is the dog's nearest living relative.^[8] The dog was the first species to be domesticated,^{[9][8]} by hunter-gatherers over 15,000 years ago,^[7] before the development of agriculture.^[1] Due to their long association with humans, dogs have expanded to a large number of domestic individuals^[10] and gained the ability to thrive on a starch-rich diet that would be inadequate for other canids.^[11]



Parrot

Parrots, also known as psittacines ([/'sitəsainz/](#))^{[1][2]} are [birds](#) of the roughly 398 [species](#)^[3] in 92 [genera](#) comprising the [order Psittaciformes](#) ([/'sitəfɔːrmiːz/](#)), found mostly in [tropical](#) and [subtropical](#) regions. The order is subdivided into three superfamilies: the [Psittacoidea](#) ("true" parrots), the [Cacatuoidea](#) (cockatoos), and the [Strigopoidea](#) (New Zealand parrots). One-third of all parrot species are threatened by [extinction](#), with higher aggregate extinction risk ([IUCN Red List Index](#)) than any other comparable bird group.^[4] Parrots have a generally [pantropical](#) distribution with several species inhabiting [temperate](#) regions in the [Southern Hemisphere](#), as well. The greatest [diversity](#) of parrots is in [South America](#) and [Australasia](#).



Monkey

Monkey is a common name that may refer to most mammals of the [infraorder Simiiformes](#), also known as the simians. Traditionally, all animals in the group now known as simians are counted as monkeys except the [apes](#), a grouping known as [paraphyletic](#); however in the broader sense based on [cladistics](#), apes (Hominoidea) are also included, making the terms *monkeys* and *simians* synonyms in regard of their scope. Monkeys are divided into the families of [New World monkeys](#) (Platyrrhini) and [Old World monkeys](#) (Cercopithecidae in the strict sense; [Catarrhini](#) in the broad sense, which again includes apes).

Many monkey species are tree-dwelling ([arboreal](#)), although there are species that live primarily on the ground, such as [baboons](#). Most species are mainly active during the day ([diurnal](#)). Monkeys are generally [considered to be intelligent](#), especially the Old World monkeys.



Cat

The **cat** (*Felis catus*) is a [domestic species](#) of small [carnivorous mammal](#).^{[1][2]} It is the only domesticated species in the family [Felidae](#) and is often referred to as the **domestic cat** to distinguish it from the wild members of the family.^[4] A cat can either be a **house cat**, a [farm cat](#) or a [feral cat](#); the latter ranges freely and avoids human contact.^[5] Domestic cats are valued by humans for companionship and their ability to kill [rodents](#). About 60 [cat breeds](#) are recognized by various [cat registries](#).^[6]

The cat is similar in [anatomy](#) to the other felid species: it has a strong flexible body, quick [reflexes](#), sharp teeth and [retractable claws](#) adapted to killing small prey. Its [night vision](#) and sense of smell are well developed. [Cat communication](#) includes [vocalizations](#) like [meowing](#), [purring](#), trilling, hissing, [growling](#) and grunting as well as [cat-specific body language](#). A [predator](#) that is most active at dawn and dusk ([crepuscular](#)), the cat is a solitary hunter but a [social species](#). It can hear



Tiger

The **tiger** (*Panthera tigris*) is the largest [living cat species](#) and a member of the [genus *Panthera*](#). It is most recognisable for its dark vertical stripes on orange fur with a white underside. An [apex predator](#), it primarily preys on [ungulates](#) such as [deer](#) and [wild boar](#). It is territorial and generally a [solitary but social](#) predator, requiring large contiguous areas of [habitat](#), which support its requirements for [prey](#) and rearing of its offspring. Tiger cubs stay with their mother for about two years, then become independent and leave their mother's [home range](#) to establish their own.

The tiger was first [scientifically described](#) in 1758 and once ranged widely from the [Eastern Anatolia Region](#) in the west to the [Amur River](#) basin in the east, and in the south from the foothills of the [Himalayas](#) to [Bali](#) in the [Sunda Islands](#). Since the early 20th century, tiger populations have lost at least 93% of their historic range and have been [extirpated](#) from [Western](#) and [Central Asia](#), the islands of [Java](#) and Bali, and in large areas of [Southeast](#) and [South Asia](#) and [China](#).



Shark

Sharks are a group of [elasmobranch fish](#) characterized by a [cartilaginous skeleton](#), five to seven [gill slits](#) on the sides of the [head](#), and [pectoral fins](#) that are not fused to the head. Modern sharks are classified within the [clade Selachimorpha](#) (or **Selachii**) and are the [sister group](#) to the [rays](#). However, the term "shark" has also been (incorrectly^[2]) used to refer to extinct members of the subclass [Elasmobranchii](#), which are technically outside the Selachimorpha clade. Notable examples of improper classification include [Cladosepiche](#), [Xenacanthus](#), and various other members of the [Chondrichthyes](#) class like the [holocephalid eugenedontidans](#).

Under this broader definition, the earliest known sharks date back to more than 420 million years ago.^[3] [Acanthodians](#) are often referred to as "spiny sharks"; though they are not part of Chondrichthyes proper, they are a paraphyletic assemblage leading to cartilaginous fish as a whole. Since then, sharks have diversified into [over 500 species](#).



Bear

Bears are [carnivoran mammals](#) of the [family Ursidae](#). They are classified as [caniforms](#), or doglike carnivorans. Although only eight [species](#) of bears are extant, they are widespread, appearing in a wide variety of [habitats](#) throughout the Northern Hemisphere and partially in the Southern Hemisphere. Bears are found on the continents of North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. Common characteristics of modern bears include large bodies with stocky legs, long snouts, small rounded ears, shaggy hair, [plantigrade](#) paws with five nonretractile claws, and short tails.

While the [polar bear](#) is mostly [carnivorous](#), and the [giant panda](#) feeds almost entirely on [bamboo](#), the remaining six species are [omnivorous](#) with varied diets. With the exception of [courting](#) individuals and mothers with their young, bears are typically [solitary animals](#).



Wolf

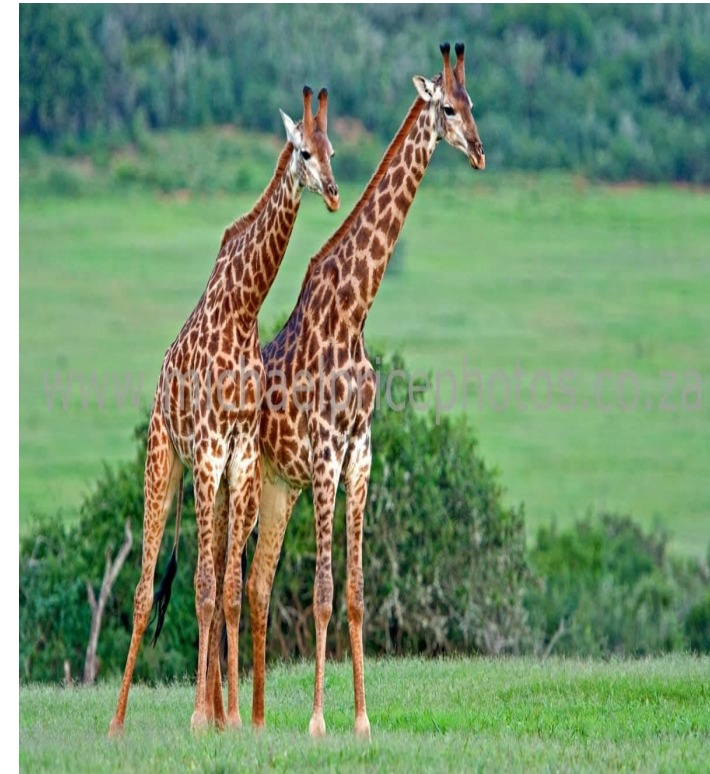
The **wolf** (*Canis lupus*^[b]), also known as the **gray wolf** or **grey wolf**, is a large [canine](#) native to [Eurasia](#) and [North America](#). More than thirty [subspecies of *Canis lupus*](#) have been recognized, and gray wolves, as popularly understood, comprise wild subspecies. The wolf is the largest [extant](#) member of the family [Canidae](#). It is also distinguished from other [Canis](#) species by its less pointed ears and muzzle, as well as a shorter torso and a longer tail. The wolf is nonetheless related closely enough to smaller *Canis* species, such as the [coyote](#) and the [golden jackal](#), to produce fertile [hybrids](#) with them. The [banded](#) fur of a wolf is usually mottled white, brown, gray, and black, although subspecies in the arctic region may be nearly all white.



Giraffe

The **giraffe** is a tall African [hoofed mammal](#) belonging to the genus ***Giraffa***. It is the [tallest](#) living terrestrial animal and the largest [ruminant](#) on Earth. Traditionally, giraffes were thought to be one [species](#), [*Giraffa camelopardalis*](#), with nine [subspecies](#). Most recently, researchers proposed dividing them into up to eight [extant](#) species due to new research into their [mitochondrial](#) and [nuclear DNA](#), as well as morphological measurements. Seven other extinct species of *Giraffa* are known from the fossil record.

The giraffe's chief distinguishing characteristics are its extremely long neck and legs, its horn-like [ossicones](#), and its spotted [coat](#) patterns. It is classified under the [family Giraffidae](#), along with its closest extant relative, the [okapi](#). Its scattered range extends from [Chad](#) in the north to [South Africa](#) in the south, and from [Niger](#) in the west to [Somalia](#) in the east. Giraffes usually inhabit [savannahs](#) and [woodlands](#).



Elephant

Elephants are the largest existing land animals. Three living [species](#) are currently recognised: the [African bush elephant](#), the [African forest elephant](#), and the [Asian elephant](#). They are an [informal grouping](#) within the [proboscidean family Elephantidae](#). Elephantidae is the only surviving family of proboscideans; extinct members include the [mastodons](#). Elephantidae also contains several extinct groups, including the [mammoths](#) and [straight-tusked elephants](#). [African elephants](#) have larger ears and concave backs, whereas Asian elephants have smaller ears, and convex or level backs. The distinctive features of all elephants include a long [proboscis](#) called a trunk, tusks, large ear flaps, massive legs, and tough but sensitive skin. The trunk is used for breathing, bringing food and water to the mouth, and grasping objects.

