LOVE BETWEEN ANIMALS

## WHY CROCODILES MAKE WAYES



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## PRAIRIE DOG 4

Green prairies teem with these sand-coloured furry animals. The prairie dog may be small, but he is a fearless ruler around here. Every prairie dog likes to meet others and kiss them. When a prairie dog meets his great-aunt, for instance, he will place his muzzle against hers and give her a smacker in an affectionate, family greeting. But when a prairie dog from a different colony dares give Aunty a kiss, such a row kicks off that the fur starts flying!





## POLAR BEAR

Meetings are rare in the icy wilderness of the Arctic zone. So when a he-bear catches the scent of a beautiful shebear, he wastes no time in following her trail. And glory be! One week later, they meet at last – and a lot of sniffing goes on as they get to know each other. As a mummy bear looks after the cubs on her own, she must be sure of her prospective husband. She needs to know how far he can walk, how good his somersaults are, and – most important of all – which style he chooses when sliding down a hill! HEDGEHOG

Are you asking yourself how two spiny, grumpy, naturally solitary animals can even get close to each other? Hedgehogs' courtship begins in early spring, and the truth is, it is more like a fight than affectionate cooing. The male and female exchange opinions, puff and pant a lot, hiss and bare their teeth; sometimes they even shove each other. When the girl hedgehog is finally convinced this is the boy for her, she draws her spines firmly against her body, so as not to prick her suitor's soft belly.



## CROCODilE

MAYDAY!

MAYDAY!

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Squelch. Plop. Splash. Watch out, a great wave is rolling this way! But that's not a wave... It's just a boy crocodile looking for a girl crocodile. How does he do it? He grunts and gurgles, and he rattles and shakes the whole of his long body. The rippling of the water conveys this message: Ladies, I'm a real hunk, and I'm available. Period. Plop! Which girl will be on his wavelength?



A WHALE SUITOR HAS JUST ASKED FOR THE HAND OF HIS CHOSEN ONE ... EVERYONE LONGS FOR LOVE, AND IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM, LOVE CAN TAKE MANY FORMS. THE BOWERBIRD, FOR INSTANCE, TRIES TO WOO THE LADY OF HIS HEART WITH A ROMANTIC HOME. THE PEACOCK ADVERTISES HIMSELF, WHILE THE HOODED SEAL ATTRACTS THE GIRL WITH A RED BALLOON. COME AND LOOK WITH US AT THE MOMENTS OF GREATEST AFFECTION IN THE LIVES OF ANIMALS. YOU WILL SEE AMOROUS PIROUETTES, A FIGHT BETWEEN JEALOUS HARES AND HOW ALL ENDS HAPPILY IN A WEDDING.

