



By Jana Sedláčková & Ana Miminoshvili

Wild and Tame Animals



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## Wild goose

In winter, they fly off in a big flock for holidays in warm lands. A little sunshine and sea water does their goose feathers the world of good. Wild geese have a lot to tell each other during the long-distance flight – the flight instructions and all the latest gossip are communicated in loud honking noises.

SEASONED  
TRAVELLER

## Domestic goose

Goose on a farmland in its white coat looks kind of modest and innocent. Even though it cannot fly very far, the domestic goose is certainly not lacking in courage. At one time in history, it was a favoured watchdog. Anyone who tried to steal the little goslings from the farm at night would feel the sharp pecking of its alert beak.

VIGILANT  
WATCHDOG





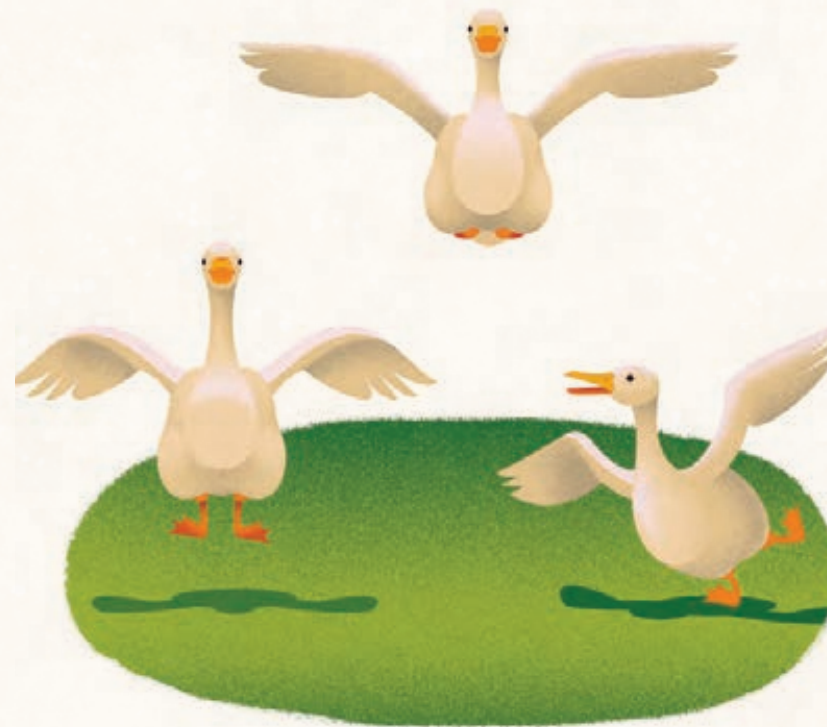


## 1 Keeping them white

The domestic goose has striking pure white feathers. And it likes to take a good care of them. It carefully pulls out the old feathers and plumps up the new ones. Goose feathers are very sturdy and, thanks to their oily coating, don't get dirty easily. You don't often see a goose in a muddy coat!

## 2 Heated room

The nests of domestic geese are made for them by the farmer, usually in a wooden shed. Fresh straw is put down and the geese line it with soft, fluffy feathers. It keeps them warm and cosy at night.



## 3 Home sweet home

A domestic goose may be up to twice as heavy as a wild goose. Often, it only manages to stay up in the air for a few seconds, before coming back down to earth with a bump. It wouldn't be able to fly long-distance over the sea - but that doesn't matter. It can snuggle up with the other geese in the warm shed.







## 1 Feathered giants

The greylag goose is one of the largest water birds. Yet, it spends most of its time on land. Its grey-brown feathers, which are darker on its head and lighter on its tummy, help it hide in bushes and long grass.

## 2 A home that floats

These geese build their nests from anything they find around them - little twigs, stalks of grass, and bits of roots, moss and mud. They line it with their own feathers, so that their eggs keep nice and warm. You will find the nest hidden in reeds or floating on water like a little boat.



## 3 Journey to distant lands

In autumn, wild geese fly to warmer lands to avoid the cold winter. The whole flock soars high into the sky in the shape of an arrow. In this formation, every goose is almost touching the wing of another one. This helps them keep track of one another. And thanks to the reduced air resistance, it also makes it easier for them to fly.





#### 4 Feeding the goose family

Domestic geese can lay up to 50 eggs each year. Several geese and one gander look after a gaggle of yellow goslings. They lead them to pasture every day to graze upon fresh, juicy grass. On top of that, the farmer sometimes treats them to some freshly cut nettles or grain. A hearty meal like that needs to be washed down with water from the watering hole.

#### 5 Don't annoy a goose!

You wouldn't want to make a goose angry! As with wild geese, domestic geese are valiant defenders of their nests. Because they are so fearless, geese can make just as good guards as dogs. They can scare off any potential thief with their loud honking - and if the thief doesn't run, they can chase him off with their angry, pecking beaks!



#### 4 Swimming and diving lessons

Wild geese form pairs which stay together for life. The mother goose lays 4 to 6 large eggs each spring, from which grey-yellow goslings emerge. On the very first day they hatch, they all go for a walk to the water, where they learn to swim and dive. They also drink water from the lake or pond and forage for shoots of underwater plants and small insects.

#### 5 Talkative travellers

Whoever dares approach the nest of a wild goose will be chased away with a furious hissing and honking. The geese also use loud honking noises to communicate while flying - encouraging each other to flap their wings to the same rhythm. One, two, three:  
honk - honk - honk!





A stylized illustration of a wild boar and a domestic pig. The boar is on the left, dark brown with a large, dark mane, set against a red background. The pig is on the right, pink with a large, red ear, set against a green background. Both animals are looking towards the center.

## Wild boar

When it rolls through the forest undergrowth, you know at once that this is an animal with wild blood in its veins. All around it can be heard a loud cacophony of stomping, grunting and snorting. It will nestle in a thicket in the middle of a forest and rest there after a hearty meal of berries, chestnuts and acorns.

SNORTING  
GRUBBER

## Domestic pig

This plump, pink porker is not what you'd call a champion runner or long jumper, but it is one of the smartest animals in the farmyard! What's more, the pig has an excellent sense of smell and can find rare truffles by the roots of trees. Apart from that, it very much likes eating, and, when the opportunity arises, it likes having a bath.

TRUFFLE  
SEEKER





## 1 Pink or spotted?

The domestic pig is noticeably different from its wild ancestors. It is light pink or spotted and has short or even no hair. It is shorter in height than a boar, but longer, and it has a funny little curly tail. Some believe it's shaped like that to make it harder for the pigs to bite each other's tail during fights.

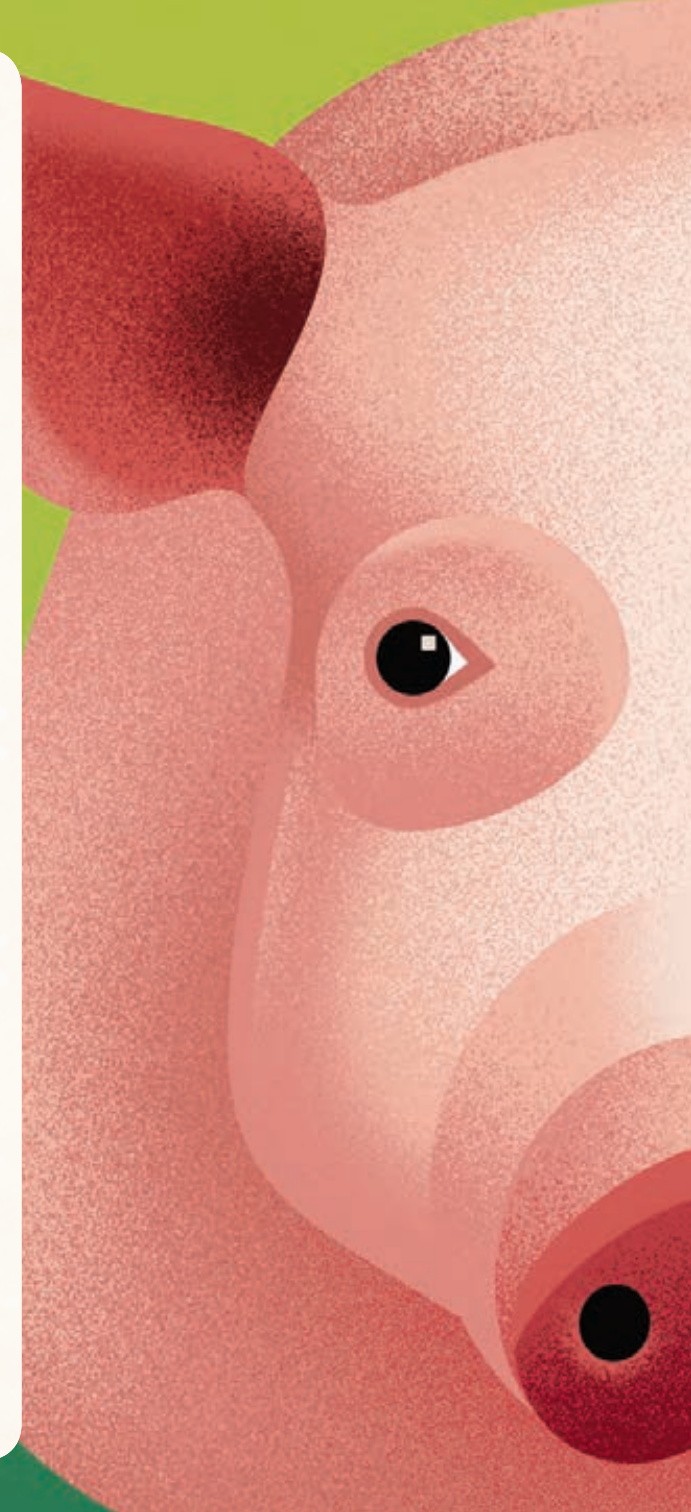
## 2 Friends from the sty

A pig is happiest when it has enough space to move around, either outside in a pen with its friends or in a cosy sty. Pigs are very sociable animals and so it's good to make sure they have at least one friend. Pigs, which live in pairs or in groups are happier, healthier and get along with everyone around them.



## 3 Playful egghead

It may come as a surprise, but a pig can be a very clever and affectionate pet! If it is trained from a young age, it loves playing with a ball and it is able to run quite briskly after it. It also likes to play chase. But when a pig is bored, it begins to quietly destroy everything around it. A bowl full of pebbles or earth for it to happily root around in can help calm it down.







### 1 Follow the snorting and grunting

Have you ever encountered a wild boar in a forest? It looks like a big, snorting and grunting heap of thick brown hair. It also has a layer of soft, downy hair underneath, which keeps it warm when it's very cold.

### 2 Night wanderer from the marsh

It likes to spend its time in old leafy and marshy forests. When you are walking in such forests, if one is nearby, you may hear the trampling sound of its short legs in the distance. But it comes out more often at night. During the day, it prefers to rest in a big nest of branches, leaves and long grass.



### 3 Family with little striped piglets

Even though wild boars are generally peaceful forest creatures, if something bothers them, they can fly into a rage. You may be wondering what might bother a big, hefty boar, armed with long curved teeth. Well, one example is when another boar tries to steal his female partner. And, of course, mothers are always ready to defend their little striped piglets against any kind of threat.



#### 4 I love eating, it's no secret!

As with wild boar, pigs have an excellent sense of smell. They can be trained to find truffles – as long as they don't eat them! Truffles are rare mushrooms hidden under the roots of trees, which are used, for example, in spaghetti sauces. Generally speaking, pigs are good eaters, who enjoy eating almost anything and refuse very little. They enjoy boiled potatoes, corn and grain. As they like to eat a lot, they can get very porky after a while.



#### 5 Cleanliness above all else

And so, are pigs dirty and smelly by nature, as people say? In truth, it is just the opposite – they're very clean! They never go to the toilet anywhere near the place they eat or sleep. And if they are given a pool of clean water in their pen, they love bathing and cooling down in it!

#### 4 Diet of a wild boar

Wild boars have an excellent sense of smell. With their soft, sensitive snout, they forage close to the ground and below its surface for food. They grub out tasty roots and tubers from the earth. But they also enjoy eating acorns, chestnuts, nuts, twigs, leaves, berries, lizards, mice, worms, insect or eggs.



#### 5 You can't beat a mud bath

There is nothing a wild boar enjoys more than a good mud bath. It is a boar's way of taking care of its body. A layer of cooling mud gives it relief from the burning sun and effective protection against annoying insects such as ticks, fleas and mosquitoes.







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Have you ever noticed that there is a beast of prey hiding in every cute little kitten? Or that dogs have the same keen sense of smell as their wild relatives, the wolves? Even elegant horses are related to zebras roaming the plains of Africa. Take a close look at the portraits of well-known wild and tame animals. Can you guess what they have in common and what makes them different? Just open the fold-outs and you will learn that there are many peculiar differences as well as surprising similarities between these two groups. Maybe you'll realize there is a little wolf or lion living in your house and you'll understand their language and souls even more!



**Folding sides full  
of facts**

**18 wild and  
tame animals**

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