



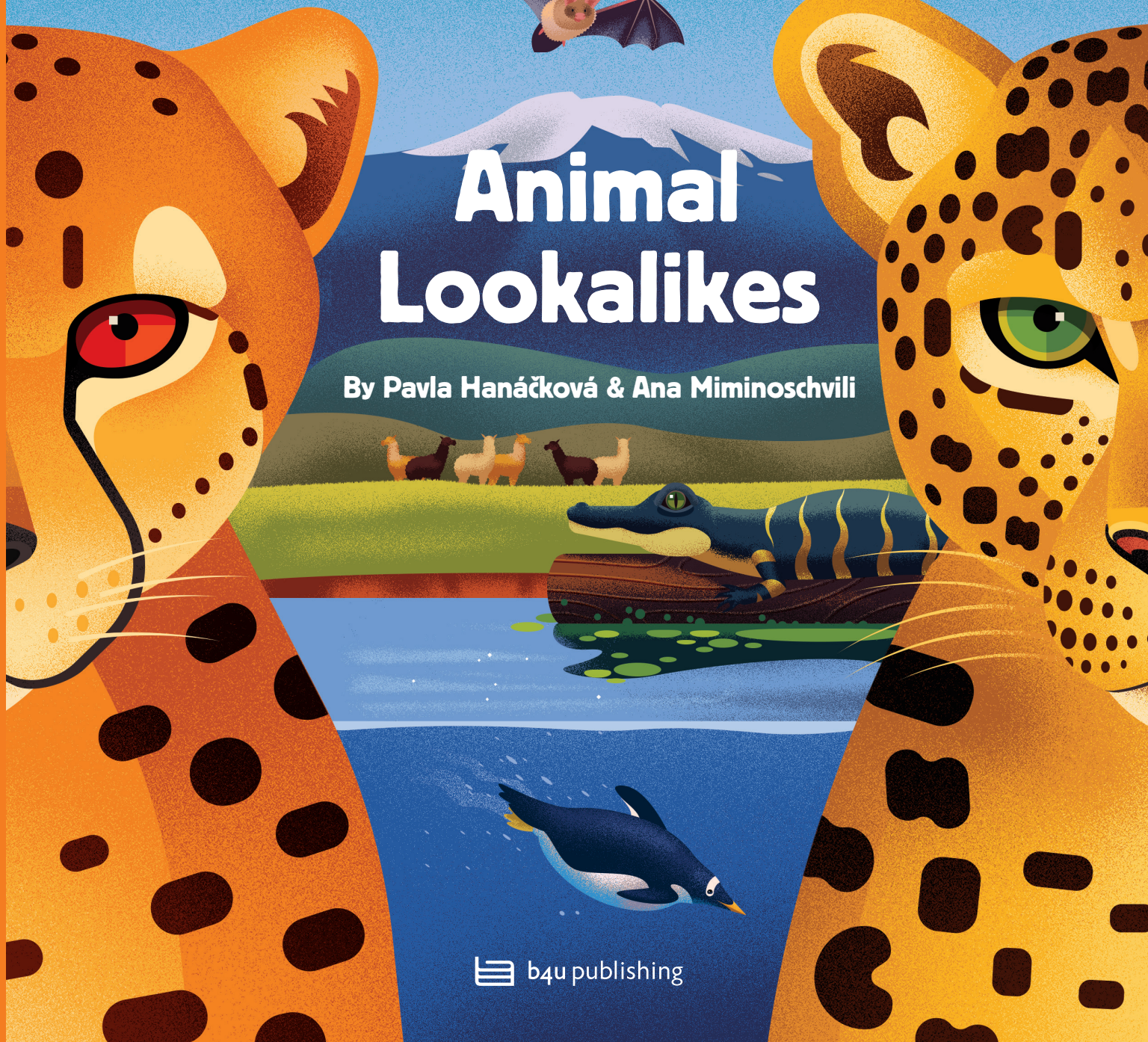
By Pavla Hanáčková & Ana Mimoschvili

# Animal Lookalikes



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## Cheetah

You've almost certainly heard a lot about this super sprinter. The cheetah hunts during the day, roaming the African savannahs and chasing down its prey. In this way, it avoids its competitors who prefer to hunt at night. When they're not hunting, cheetahs gather into small groups. Although they are large, spotted, felines, they differ from other big cats in the wild.

SPOTTED  
RUNNER





## Leopard

If you want to catch a glimpse of this big cat on the African savannah, you'll need to have very sharp eyes. That's because leopards prefer to hunt at night and like places that are good for hiding, such as, in trees or dense undergrowth. They are proficient hunters and are very strong. So it's no trouble for them to drag their prey up into a tree.

**DISGUISED  
HUNTER**



### 1 Born hunter

The leopard has a lean body, but it is bulkier and more muscular than a cheetah. A leopard doesn't need to be as fast, because it has different hunting techniques. Therefore, it can afford to carry little extra weight. The leopard's tubular tail helps it to keep its balance, especially when it is moving about in the trees.



### 2 In hiding

The leopard is an adaptable animal that can thrive in various environments. Many leopard subspecies live in deserts or high mountains. They use the advantages the terrain offers to hunt effectively. For example, they can hide undetected in dense vegetation. Leopards often rest in the branches of trees, which they are able to climb and jump from skilfully.



### 3 Hunting lessons

When it comes to hunting, the leopard's forte is creeping out from cover and pouncing. It first stalks its prey, then creeps up on it. Finally, when it's close enough, it pounces. Leopard often has to crouch close to the ground, so it has very strong shoulder and neck muscles. It prefers to hunt at night and its eyes are adapted for night vision.



### 2 Home country

The cheetah is at home in open spaces, such as the savannah, where it can display its sprinting prowess in its full splendour. Only there, where there aren't many obstacles, can it reach speeds of over 100km / h.



### 1 Born to run

The cheetah's body has a lot of special features which make it the fastest land animal on earth. It is an animal designed for speed. It has a slender, elongated body, a small head, and a special, flexible spine. Its long tail acts as a rudder when it's running, helping it hold its course. But it's no marathon runner, it prefers sprinting.



### 3 Hunting technique

The cheetah hunts its prey, for example, an antelope or a gazelle, by chasing it down. Thanks to the design of its body, particularly the flexible spine, it can change direction quickly when it's running. It doesn't pounce on its prey, but trips it up. The animal then falls into its clutches.



#### 4 Designer suit

A leopard's coat is decorated with oddly-shaped spots, so-called rosettes. These are original for each individual and can be used to tell them apart - just like our fingerprints. Thanks to this colouring, a leopard can perfectly vanish in a jungle full of shadows.



#### 5 Paws

A leopard's front paws are larger than its back ones, due to the size of its large head and neck, which allows it to drag its prey into a tree. Its claws are retractable and they are used only in certain cases, such as, climbing a tree, pouncing on prey, or fighting.

#### 4 Coat colour

The cheetah's coat is adorned with black dots or spots. These help it blend into the tall grasses that grow on the savannah. It has also black tear-like streaks running down from its eyes, which most probably act as a kind of screen reflecting the glare of the sun away from its eyes.



#### 5 Equipment

The cheetah is able to achieve such remarkable feats of sprinting because it is equipped with very powerful hind legs. They allow it to accelerate to high speeds very quickly. To further boost its power, it has unretractable claws on its feet.



# Llama

Although it's related to camels, the llama doesn't have a hump on its back. Llamas are undemanding and like grazing on the grass of the high plains of South America. The Llama and the Alpaca were domesticated over 5000 years ago. It's hardly surprising, as they are very useful to people. This animal has helped lighten the load of many South American families.

AUDACIOUS  
HELPER







## Alpaca

The alpaca is often mistaken for a llama, as well as for its wild relatives, the guanaco and vicuna! Remember: the alpaca is smaller than a llama and has a woolly coat that helps it survive in the harsh environment of the South American Andes. It has the most wool of all its relatives, which is made into traditional colourful ponchos.

FLUFFY  
COMPANION



### 1 Cute and cuddly

Compared to a llama, the alpaca has a smaller head and straighter ears that look like spears. Unlike a llama, the alpaca's head is covered with shaggy hair, giving it the appearance of a cute, cuddly toy animal.



### 2 Small but useful

Alpacas are smaller animals than llamas, but what they lack in size, they make up for with their beautiful, thick woolly coat. They can't work as pack animals due to their size, so they are bred for the quality of their wool.



### 3 A woolly coat

Life in the freezing cold mountains is no picnic, and that's why alpacas have a really warm coat. This didn't escape the attention of humans, who have long used their wool to produce warm clothes.



### 1 Smooth looks

The llama has an elongated head topped off with long, curved, funny-shaped ears that resemble bananas. There isn't much hair on llama's head, so it looks neat and tidy.

### 2 Giant

The llama is no midget, as it has a robust body and long, slender legs. Of the four kinds of llama, the domestic llama is certainly the largest. And because it's the strongest, it's not surprising that it's mostly used as a pack animal.



### 3 Great stamina

Llamas are animals with great stamina that help people transport various loads over long distances. A male llama can carry up to a quarter of its own weight! On the underside of their toes, they have soft pads that allow them to move safely along narrow paths and rock ledges.





#### 4 The finest wool

The alpaca has very fine, fleecy wool. This is even available in a multitude of colours, since alpaca coats come in a great variety of shades – from white and yellow, through to brown and black. Alpaca wool is extremely thick and grows very quickly.



#### 5 Friendly pet

Compared to their cousins, alpacas are shy, but friendlier. They like being in the company of their herd, which makes them feel safe. Because alpacas have an easy-going nature, they are bred widely, in the same way, for example, as goats.



#### 4 Coarser wool

The llama's warm coat has two layers which protect these high-altitude dwellers from inclement weather. The outer layer is coarser, while the inner one is a bit softer. Even so, its hair is not suitable for making fine wool, it's better for making rope or carpets.



#### 5 On guard

Even though they are herd animals, llamas are quite independent and don't need to socialize much. They are often used to guard livestock, such as sheep or alpaca. When a llama feels threatened, it will spit at its enemy without hesitation.





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There are many lookalikes in the animal kingdom. Do you call that skilled hunter in green armour an alligator or crocodile? Both puffins and penguins like to wear black-and-white jackets, but can you tell them apart? In some cases, these animals are distant relatives, but most of them closely resemble each other. No wonder people tend to confuse them! So how to distinguish between them on the spot? Just open this book, browse through the pairs of lookalikes, open the fold-outs and you'll learn everything you need to know – be it the differences or similarities they share. You'll never confuse them again!



Folding sides full  
of facts

18 commonly  
confused animals

EAN + ISBN

