

# Habitats

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#### 1 Scarlet macaw ··



Scarlet macaws rely on their rainforest habitat for survival. They nest in the tree canopy at night, and then, early morning, fly long distances in search of food. Macaws use their powerful beaks to crush nuts and seeds, and have strong, flexible toes to grab and examine objects.

### ·····►2 Linnaeus's two-toed sloth ·······

Why rush? Sloths are slow-moving, nocturnal creatures that spend almost their entire lives upside down. They have curved, sharp claws for hanging onto tree branches and for climbing. Sloths' slowness helps them to conserve energy and to avoid being detected by predators.

## Snowy owl ····

Snowy owls are well adapted to their Arctic habitat. They can survive extreme, cold temperatures because of the thick layer of feathers all over their bodies, including their feet! Their pale feathers help them to camouflage in the snow, and trap air to keep them warm.

#### • 4 Reindeer fur ·



Caribou or reindeer (domesticated caribou) have two layers of fur to keep them warm. The air trapped inside the fur's hollow hairs acts as insulation, and keeps-in the caribou's body heat. Caribou are also excellent swimmers; their hollow hairs keep them afloat in the water.



#### Scorpions often hunt at night and use their pincers to quickly grab their prey and crush it. Then they can whip their poisonous 'tail' stinger over to kill or paralyze their prey. All scorpions have venom, but only about 25 species are life threatening to humans.

# Brain coral ······

8 Tiger shark .....

6 Scorpion ···

Brain coral is an animal found in the shallow, warm water coral reefs of the world's oceans. Brain corals extend their tentacles to catch food at night. During the day, they wrap their tentacles over the grooves on the surface of their body to protect themselves.

Tiger sharks use their excellent sense of sight and smell to locate their prey. They have sharp, serrated teeth and powerful jaws for biting. They get their name from the tiger-like stripes on their skin, which fade when they become adults.

Have you ever spotted a stag beetle? Despite being the UK's largest beetle, their numbers have recently declined due to the loss of their habitat: woodland and hedgerows. Could you create a stag beetle home from a log pile or by leaving an area of garden to grow wild?

🕞 🔟 Red squirrel

Stag beetle

►5 Thorny devil (moloch).....

Thorny devils are small lizards covered in spikes. Their thorns protect them from predators such as snakes and birds. Between their scales, narrow channels allow droplets of dew or rain to roll towards the lizards' mouths. This enables them to survive in their desert habitat with very little water.

Red squirrels' bushy tails help them to balance when climbing and jumping. They spend much of their time up in trees away from predators, and in their nests (dreys). They hoard food to prepare for the winter months, when supplies are low.

