

1 READING

- a**  Work in pairs. Match the photographs (A–D) with the facts (1–4).
- 1 It goes fishing with a 'fishing rod'.
 - 2 It's possible that its skin protects it.
 - 3 It smells like a cow.
 - 4 It changes colour when it's angry.
- b** Read the article on page 43 and check your answers in 1a.



BETTER READING: FINDING INFORMATION QUICKLY

It is often important to find information quickly. To do this you should:

- Scan the text for key words and important information,
- Find the key word.
- Read the sentence with the key word.

Work in pairs. Find the following information in the text. Who can find all the information the fastest?

Which animal ...

- 1 has scales?
- 2 lives at the bottom of the ocean?
- 3 has a blue face?
- 4 lives in Suriname?
- 5 can live in shallow water?

- c** Scan the text to answer questions 1–5. Try to find the information in one minute.

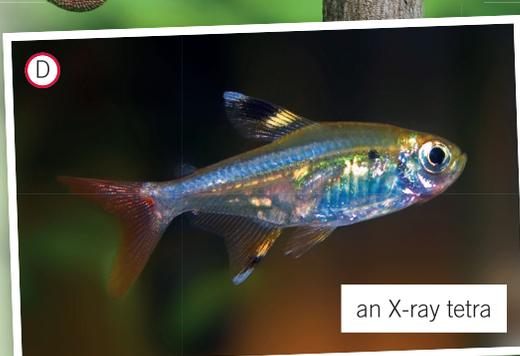
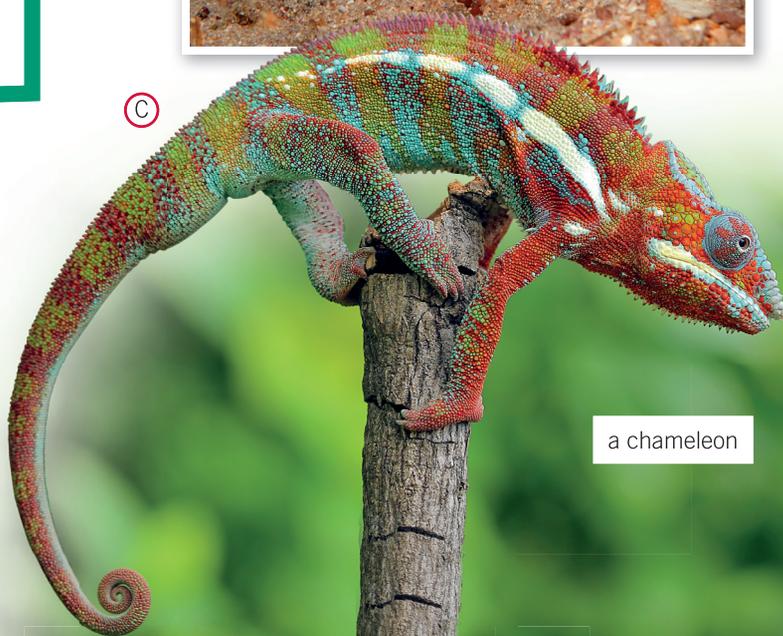
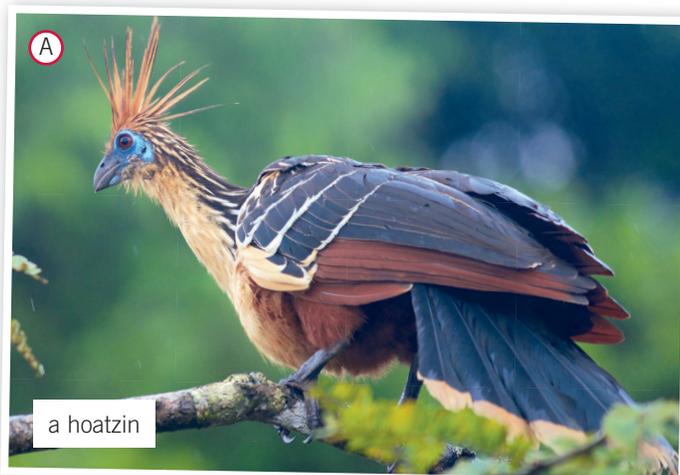
- 1 Which animal has claws?
- 2 Which animal jumps in water?
- 3 Which animal has special eyes?
- 4 Which animal has a long tongue?
- 5 Which animal is a popular pet?

- d** Read the text again more carefully. Answer questions 1–5.

- 1 How are the claws used?
- 2 Why does the animal jump in water?
- 3 Why are the eyes mentioned in the text special?
- 4 How do chameleons use their tongues?
- 5 Why are tetras a popular pet?

2 SPEAKING

- a**  Work in pairs and answer the questions.
- 1 Which animal in the text would you most like to see? Why?
 - 2 Do you think it's right to keep exotic animals as pets? Why / Why not?
 - 3 Many people think that it's important to protect animals, even if it costs huge amounts of money. Do you agree?



A Bird or a DINOSAUR?

The World's Strangest Animals and Where to See Them

1 Hoatzin

If you like strange birds, you'll love the hoatzin. This dinosaur-like creature has a blue face, brown feathers and claws in its wings, which it uses to climb trees. But the strangest thing about the hoatzin is its smell, which has been described as rather like a cow. This could be because they digest the vegetation they eat in much the same way. Like cows, the hoatzin sits around a lot – for a bird it can't fly very well. If attacked, they often jump in water and try to swim away.

Where can you find them?

If you like adventure holidays, you'll enjoy trying to find hoatzins as they live in the Amazon jungle in South America.

2 Red-lipped batfish

This fish looks like it's wearing makeup, with bright red lips, as if it has just applied some lipstick. Yet that's not all that is strange about the batfish. It moves in a strange way, too. While most fish use their fins to turn or stop, the batfish, which lives at the bottom of the ocean, actually walks on its fins.

Its feeding habits are very unusual for a fish, too. The batfish has a nose like a fishing rod, and it goes fishing with it. The end of the rod attracts fish, which think it's food. When these come close, the batfish uses its lipstick-red lips to full effect.

Where can you find them?

Living in both shallow and deeper water, the batfish can be found off the east coast of South America.

3 Chameleon

Chameleons are most famous for their ability to change the colour of their scales. But if you think they do it to match their surroundings, you're wrong. Their colour changes for different reasons, such as light and temperature. But it can also change according to how the chameleon is feeling. If they are feeling angry, for example, they go dark. If they want to attract the opposite sex, they might have lighter colours.

Chameleons also have some other curious behaviour. Their eyes move independently – while their right eye looks up, their left eye can look down. They also possess extremely long tongues that can be twice as long as their bodies. Since these tongues are sticky, they use them to catch their prey.

Where can you find them?

Madagascar, the world's fourth-largest island, is famous for its lemurs, and is also home to more than half of the world's chameleons.

4 X-ray tetra

If you're interested in anatomy, you'll love the X-ray tetra. It has translucent skin which means you can see its insides. Some people believe their skin is a form of protection as it makes the fish more difficult to see. But for everyone else, it offers an amazing sight. It's possible to see the tetra's bones and some of its internal organs. You can even see through some parts of the fish to the other side.

Where can you find them?

In the wild these fish can be found in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and northern Brazil. But you don't have to look far to find them. They are a very popular pet in many countries as they are easy to keep. All you need is a small tropical aquarium and you can see (through) them every day.

