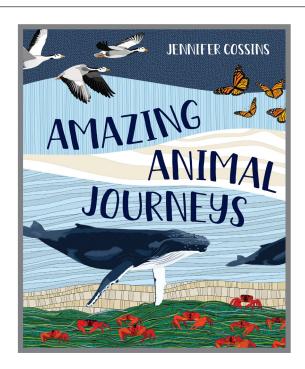
# **Amazing Animal Journeys**

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR
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**SCIS:** 5420674

ISBN: 9780734421432

**RECOMMENDED FOR:** Lower to Upper Primary



### **SYNOPSIS**

Did you know that Arctic terns have the longest migration of all birds, flying from the Arctic to Antarctica and back each year? Or that the wildebeest migration in east Africa is so vast it can be seen from outer space?

Come along on these amazing animal journeys! Perfect for readers who delight in learning about the animal kingdom and the world around them.

#### **ABOUT THE CREATOR**

Jennifer Cossins is a CBCA award-winning artist and writer with a passion for nature, the animal kingdom and all things bright and colourful. A born and bred Tasmanian, Jennifer also designs homewares, textiles and stationery, which she stocks in her store in Hobart, Red Parka. Jennifer's other books include *Book of Curious Birds*, *A–Z of Endangered Animals*, *101 Collective Nouns*, *The Baby Animal Book*, *A–Z of Australian Animals*, *The Ultimate Animal Counting Book*, *A Flamboyance of Flamingos*, *The Mummy Animal Book*, *The Daddy Animal Book*, *The Ultimate Animal Alphabet Book*, and *Book of Curious Birds*. Find out more about Jennifer at: <a href="https://redparka.com.au/pages/about-me">https://redparka.com.au/pages/about-me</a>.

# SCIENCE

- What are the main reasons that animals migrate?
- Study the migratory patterns of some of the animals listed in this book and mark their journey on a map.
- Study the survival skills that animals employ in order to journey such long distances, which often involves surviving
  harsh conditions, for example, some build up reserves of fat before they depart on incredible distances at amazing
  speeds. Research these and other skills some of the animals in this book have. Which animal's survival skills did you
  find particularly interesting?
  - Some migratory animals use camouflage as a survival skill, eg. There are four main types of camouflage:
     Concealing Colouration, Disruptive Colouration, Disguise and Mimicry. Research this topic and how some migratory animals employ camouflage.
- Some animals do not live to complete their journeys since their offspring continue the journey after they die. What was the most unusual migration pattern you observed in this book?
- Which of the animals in this book are endangered?
- What do the animals in this book eat? What was the most unusual food source you discovered in this book?
- There are three types of animal defined by their feeding sources:

- herbivores
- carnivores
- omnivores.

Research these different types of animals and their food sources.

## **HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (HASS)**

- Research the decline or endangered status of any species from the book (eg. Andean flamingo or saiga antelope) and what scientists say about the impact climate change or environmental pollution is having on that animal.
- International cooperation is needed to protect the habitats of migratory animals since they move between different countries. What are governments doing to combat climate change and environmental pollution?

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERACY**

- Discover the collective nouns of the following animals from the book:
  - Arctic terns (Colony)
  - wildebeest (Confusion)
  - Pacific bluefin tuna (Float)
  - black-necked cranes (Sedge, siege, herd)
  - humpback whales (Pod)
  - caribou (Herd)
  - zebra (Dazzle)
  - bar-tailed godwits (Omniscience, pantheon and prayer)
  - emperor penguins (Colony, rookery or a waddle)
  - leatherback sea turtles (Bale or turn)

#### Comprehension

- What makes the Arctic tern so special? ('...record for longest migration of all the birds in the world' p 2)
- What is the largest obstacle the wildebeest faces in its circular migration of the Serengeti National Park, in Tanzania, East Africa? ('...the crocodile-infested Mara River.' p 5)
- The Pacific bluefin tuna is one of the few warm-blooded fish which allows them to cope with what extremes? ('They can cope with the icy cold waters in the north Pacific Ocean just as well as the tropical waters of Mexico.' p 7)
- What is remarkable about the swift parrot's migration? ('...the world's fastest parrot, and one of only three parrots on Earth that migrate.' p 18)
- How does the sockeye salmon change during its migration? (Change colour to attract a mate. Their bodies turn bright red and their heads an olive green' p 27)
- Why is the bar-tailed godwit considered 'a migration champion'? (longest non-stop migration of any bird. p 32)
- Why are Andean flamingos an endangered species? (habitat loss and water contamination from farming and mining p 37)
- The great snipe is known for what major feat? ('...fastest migratory bird on the planet!' p 42)
- The rufous hummingbird travels around 78 million times its body length one way. What is distinct about the company they keep on the journey? (migrate alone p 47)
- The leatherback sea turtle is the largest turtle on earth. What is the name of the group of eggs laid by the females? (A clutch p 49)
- Bogong moths migrate for what different reason to most migratory animals which travel to breed or for food. (...'to find somewhere cool and sheltered from the harsh Australian summer.' p 51)

## VISUAL LITERACY

• The cover of the book depicts the humpback whale journeying majestically in the depths of the sea, with the Christmas Island red crabs scrambling to the ocean, and the monarch butterflies wheeling, and the bar-headed goose soaring above in the sky. What does this cover suggest to you about the book's content and emotional impact?

- The endpapers contain drawn lines detailing the migrations of animals throughout the world. Design your own endpapers for the book by drawing six animals, then copying them to create a grid of repeated images.
- The title page contains text with monarch butterflies as a decorative device, and the imprint page and contents page contain the swift parrot. Design another appropriate title page.
- Create a collage image of one of the animals from this book.
- Students might be encouraged to use critical literacy skills to unearth further meaning in this text. Encourage them to look closely at the images, to explain what they see, and then what the text says, and how these two elements add meaning to each other.