

Nature's Greatest Moments Animal Antics - Wildlife (Series 4)

7 x 5 MINUTES

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Bushbaby

As the sun sets and most animals retire into dens and safe (relatively) havens, a large eyed, furry, insect eating animal emerges, awaking in the dusk ready to start its day of survival in the African veld. The bushbaby, spending the daylight hours in the hollows of trees and nests high above the forest floor, has an almost ghostlike screech as it leaps from tree to tree in search of juicy insects and tree dwelling bugs. Problem is some insects have defense mechanisms of their own and bite back.

2. Zebra

The stripes on a Zebra are not just a slight of nature but have a real function in its ongoing endeavor to survive. Its black and white coat is the perfect camouflage for its favored habitat the savannah grasslands and helps the Zebra avoid persistent predators who strive to prey on this handsome horse. While you might be wondering how black and white blends in with yellow grass remember its main predator, lions, are color blind. Not only this but when in a large group the many stripes tend to confuse an attacker. The same stripes are unique to each zebra and are used, like fingerprints, to identify each individual animal.

3. Camouflage: Crab Spider

Crab Spider – Just like the chameleons famous ability to change colour to suit their environment so is the Crab Spider that blends in with its flower of choice and waits for nectar loving insects to come along. The crab Spider takes hunt and pursuit to another level.

4. Seal Story

Living among a family group of up to ½ a million is hard enough but when each year about 90 000 new seal pups are born in a rookery life just gets harder especially if you are one of the new born pups. To make matters worse mum keeps popping off to swim and hunt for fish leaving a new born pup alone to discover the many challenges faced in its desert environment. Getting a drink is hard enough but the pups are also faced with the added adventure of learning to swim, not to mention avoiding being squashed by a large bull.

5. African Bullfrog

One of the ugliest species around with its warty skin a massive head and horny tubercles on its hind feet used for digging, the African Bullfrog is viciously territorial and will attack any intruder on his patch no matter what the size. When fighting one another bullfrogs grip onto each other with their strong jaws and sharp teeth and hurl the opponent, judo like, away from themselves.

6. Ostrich Mating

A male ostrich definitely lives by the creed he who tries harder will succeed and this is shown as an eager bird tries desperately to lure a female into his clutches. At first he is ignored by most but eventually a female shows some interest and the chase is on, literally.

7. Giraffe - Stand & Deliver (not Lemur)